



# AHRA

AUSTRALIAN HEALTH  
RESEARCH ALLIANCE

## Technology for the Future of General Practice

### What is the problem?

Nearly half of all Australians have at least one chronic disease such as diabetes, heart disease and chronic kidney disease, and most of these people will attend general practice. Early diagnosis and management is critical to ensure optimal health outcomes and technology has the capacity to facilitate this.

### About this research translation project

This project has two main aims.

1. Use health professional and consumer co-design to develop a technology platform ("Future Health Today") which will be used in general practice for a quality improvement program consisting of audit, feedback and clinical decision support for chronic disease screening, diagnosis and management.
2. Implement and evaluate Future Health Today in 'real world' general practice.

The goal of FHT is to create a new standard-of-care in primary care for patients at risk, or diagnosed with chronic diseases, focused on chronic kidney disease (CKD), type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease. It will do this by designing and testing an e-technology prototype, a novel platform to extract primary care performance data for clinical audit and decision support to facilitate chronic disease prevention, management and quality improvement. FHT e-technology will translate learnings from our previous projects EMAP-CKD (2012-2014) and CD IMPACT programs (first pilot 2016-2018), which resulted in improvements in documented disease diagnosis

and management utilising small scale delivery methods. FHT will adapt these programs to enable our quality improvement programs to be delivered at scale into the healthcare system, driving systemic and cultural changes to clinical practice, through an implementation science approach. The initial prototype development and testing will focus on CKD detection and management as a proof of concept.

### What will be the impact?

This study will produce a scalable technology which will enable general practices to provide evidence-based, timely management to people at risk of, or who have, chronic disease in order to optimise health and improve quality of life.



Melbourne Academic  
Centre for Health

### For more information on this project, contact:

**Professor Craig Nelson**  
(Western Health)

**E: [craig.nelson@wh.org.au](mailto:craig.nelson@wh.org.au)**

*This research is supported by the Medical Research Future Fund's Applied Research Translation program in conjunction with the Melbourne Academic Centre for Health.*

