

Enabling Australian medical researchers to fast-track their discoveries into new medicines

The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research has expanded its early stage drug discovery capacity to create the National Drug Discovery Centre (NDDC). Thanks to generous investments from the Australian and Victorian Governments and leveraging the Institute's own contribution and philanthropic gifts, the NDDC will increase Australian medical researchers' access to the latest in advanced robotic ultra-high throughput screening, addressing a critical early challenge in the drug discovery pipeline.

What we offer

We provide researchers with an affordable pathway to conduct a high-throughput screening campaign. Your assay will be modified by specialist staff to take full advantage of an industry gold-standard robotic drug discovery platform.

We offer:

- Cutting-edge automation, enabling rapid and reproducible testing of large compound libraries
- Access to more than 300,000 high-quality and diverse lead-like small molecules
- Acoustic dispensing technology for accurate volume measurement
- Miniaturisation to 1536-well format, ensuring the most efficient use of assay components such as purified proteins or precious cell lines
- Full ownership rights to new intellectual property that is generated from the screening results
- Work performed by experienced specialists using stringent and effective quality control standards

Our facilities

Our facilities are equipped with two ultra-high throughput robotic platforms, providing capability for both biochemical and cell-based assays. The platforms support a wide variety of detection modalities including:

- absorbance
- fluorescence
- fluorescence polarisation
- FRET
- time-resolved fluorescence
- luminescence
- high-throughput flow cytometry
- high-content imaging.



Applications open

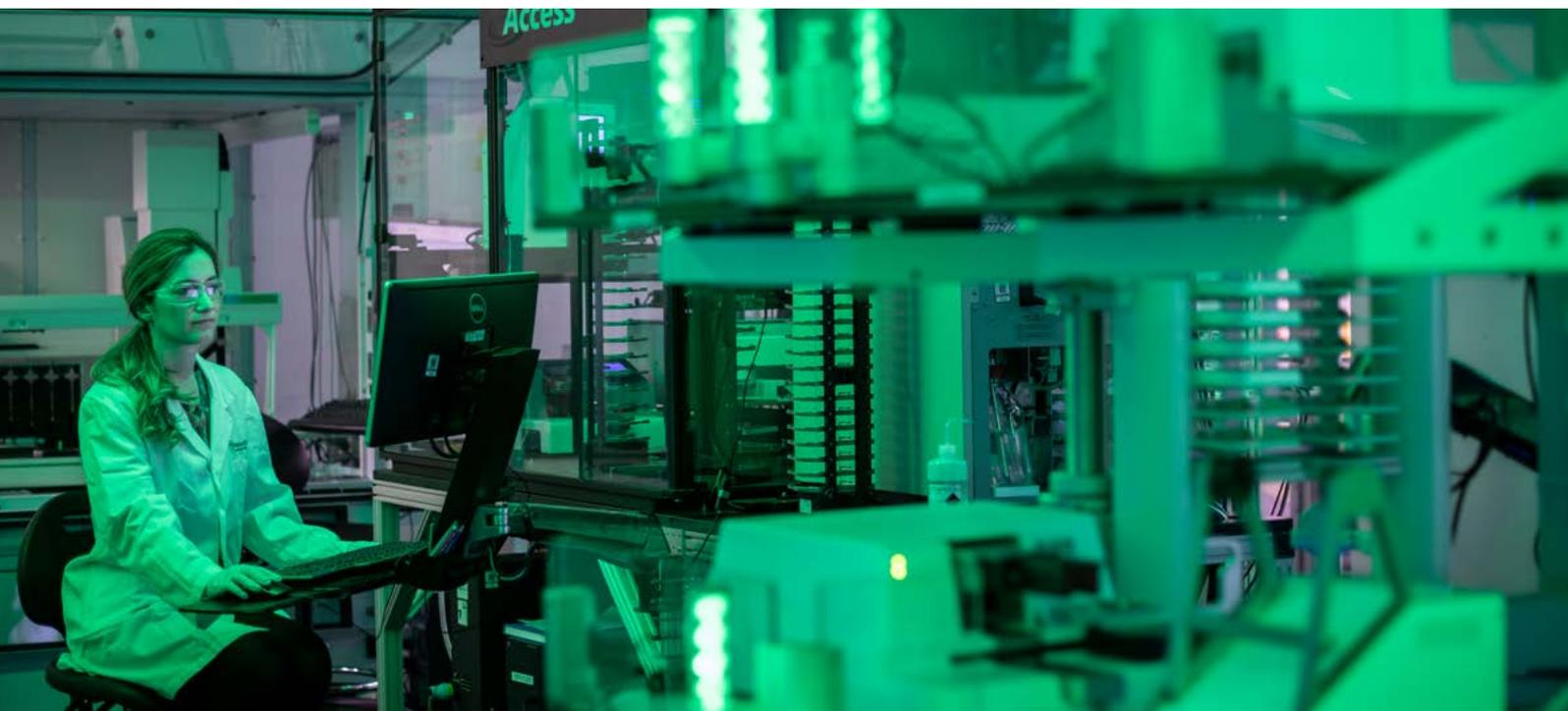
We invite applications from medical researchers looking to translate their discoveries into medicines for patients. Successful applicants from Australian research institutes and universities will benefit from testing their breakthroughs at a highly subsidised rate of 90 per cent off actual costs. As an indicative guide, the full cost to perform a 300,000-compound screen is typically in the range of \$1.00 to \$1.50 per compound, depending on the assay. Total costs are generally from \$300,000 to \$450,000. This cost is subsidised by the Australian Government, reducing the price to around \$30,000 to \$45,000, with 50% of this fee to be paid upfront and the closing 50% balance upon project conclusion.

How to take the next steps?

Access to a subsidised screen is via a submission process designed to select the most promising Australian research projects. If you are interested in screening opportunities, you can contact the NDDC team to discuss your drug target and associated screening assay.

Your assay must be demonstrated in 96-well format and satisfy other criteria, such as minimum robustness, signal-to-background and component-stability requirements.

Further information about the NDDC and application process is available at: nddc.wehi.edu.au.



About the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute

The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute is one of Australia's leading biomedical institutions with more than 1100 staff and students dedicated to enriching society through biomedical discovery and education. We have been making impactful discoveries and translating these into improved health outcomes for more than 100 years.

Contact us

National Drug Discovery Centre

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