

Melbourne has one of the world's largest life science clusters and is home to more than 40 per cent of Australia's biomedical researchers. It boasts a vibrant biotechnology commercial sector, key research and development (R&D) infrastructure and advanced manufacturing expertise.

Melbourne is a highly sought-after destination by global companies. We have a low-risk, high quality and competitive business environment with a rich legacy of commercial success, advanced manufacturing expertise, key R&D infrastructure and a talented, skilled workforce.



53%

of all ASX-listed life sciences companies are based in Melbourne



40%

of Australia's funding for medical research is based in Melbourne



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Melbourne universities are in the global top 20 Biomedicine rankings

CANCER CARE, CLINICAL RESEARCH AND THERAPEUTICS

Melbourne is a leading location for cancer care, research and the development of innovative new therapies. Built on outstanding infrastructure for drug discovery, international cancer experts and a vibrant collaborative culture, Melbourne is connected to the world in advancing oncology cures and treatments.

The Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre brings together the world-recognised Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, the University of Melbourne, several health services and research institutes in a new A\$1 billion purpose built facility in Melbourne's Biomedical Precinct. The Olivia Newton-John Cancer Wellness & Research Centre provides high quality medical treatment and supportive care for cancer patients and their families.

The Australian Cancer Research Fund Translational Proteomic Facility determines how a patient's tumour will respond to targeted drugs. The Melbourne Genomics Health Alliance uses genomic sequencing to speed up, more accurately detect and diagnose patients with selected advanced cancer.

BIOMEDICAL PRECINCT

The Melbourne Biomedical Precinct is located at the edge of the Melbourne city centre and delivers outstanding clinical care, education and world-class research. It is Australia's most important life science cluster and there are only five of its calibre in the world. Collectively the Precinct partners employ over 28,000 people including 10,000 researchers in 30 exceptional technology, engineering and medical facilities, all within walking distance of each other. More information and a full list of the partners is available here.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DIAGNOSTIC TESTING

Victoria is a key location for innovation and development in the control of infectious diseases. Melbourne scientists receive more than 50 per cent of Australia's health and medical research funding for infection and immunity research.

Australian Animal Health Laboratories, one of the most sophisticated high containment laboratories in the world, together with CSIRO first identified the deadly Hendra virus – one of the most dangerous viruses in the world.

The Burnet Institute's point-of-care VISITECT*CD4 test enables CD4+ T-cell levels to be determined quickly and conveniently using a finger-prick blood sample.

CLINICAL TRIALS

Melbourne offers an exciting environment for clinical trials with its combination of leading medical professionals, world class facilities, strong regulatory system and Government support. Trials conducted in Melbourne benefit from a simple and efficient regulatory regime, including the Clinical Trials Notification scheme, where trials can begin within a week of registration.

Government support for clinical trials includes R&D tax and cash rebates. Clinical trials data generated in Australia are acceptable for regulatory approval by the FDA, EU and other regulatory agencies.

COST COMPARISON: AUSTRALIA VS USA





DRUG DISCOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT

Melbourne has proven expertise across many stages of the drug discovery process and is well regarded and highly sought after by global pharmaceutical companies. About 200 clinical and preclinical programs are currently being run across Melbourne.

Melbourne's new drug development accelerator, a partnership between Monash University and the University of Melbourne, will deliver new investment opportunities for biotechnology companies and venture capital funds.



Melbourne is home to over 22 pharmaceutical manufacturers producing a variety of products for international markets using advanced manufacturing technologies

NEUROSCIENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The Melbourne Brain Centre, with new purpose-built facilities in Parkville and at the Austin Hospital, is home to Australia's largest brain research collaboration. It includes a wide range of leading institutes covering key aspects of neuroscience, including mental health, sensory disorders and medical bionics.

Melbourne neuroscientists, leading medical radiation physicists and chemists work with companies like Siemens to advance MRI and PET imaging technologies.

Researchers from the University of Melbourne and the Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health developed the revolutionary "Stentrode", a matchstick-sized stent that can be inserted through a vein in a patient's neck and measure real time continuous brain activity to benefit people with Parkinson's disease, motor neurone disease, obsessive compulsive disorder, depression and could even predict and manage seizures in epileptic patients.

REGENERATIVE MEDICINE

Melbourne is known for its collaborative capability to deliver transformative treatments. It is a leader in stem cell research and regenerative medicine. Melbourne's capabilities in the field have been demonstrated through a number of recent achievements. Researchers at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute were the first to identify and isolate breast stem cells, and show how they may be the potential cell of origin for breast cancer.

Melbourne is home of the cochlear implant and bionic eye



MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES

More than 250 medical technology companies play a key role in the success story of Melbourne as leading biotechnology clusters. Melbourne's design and engineering companies are recognised for their excellence in translating ideas into cutting edge solutions.

Mesoblast is a world leader in developing innovative cellular medicines who have developed the industry's most clinically advanced and diverse portfolio of cell-based products, with three programs in active Phase 3 clinical studies.

CSL has grown to become one of the world's largest biotherapeutics companies, employing more than 10,000 employees in 27 countries.

Dorsavi has developed a FDA cleared wearable sensor system used by sporting teams and organisations to measure movement and posture to reduce injuries while Medical Developments International manufactures Penthrox®, a device which allows the inhalation of safe pain relief for use in emergency situations.

Melbourne is also home to Starpharma, the world leading developer of dendrimer products for pharmaceutical, life sciences and other applications. The company is developing a number of products including its VivaGel® portfolio and DEP® drug delivery technology.

The development of the breakthrough cancer therapy Venetoclax (Venclexta®) is the result of a successful research collaboration between the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, Genentech and AbbVie. The Institute recently announced a landmark US\$325 million deal for the partial sale of the rights for Venetoclax, the outcome of 30 years research.

