

Health and Medical Life Sciences Industry Advisory Group

Communique

April 2026

I am pleased to provide the third Communique of the Health and Medical Life Sciences (HMLS) Industry Advisory Group following its April 2026 meeting.

Workforce development

We received updates highlighting the performance of the new Jobs and Skills WA microsite focusing on biomedical careers, as well as a successful biomedical careers evening hosted by WA Life Sciences Innovation Hub in partnership with the Department of Energy and Economic Development during the BioInnovation Festival. We also heard about the strong uptake of the Virtual Global Expert Program, co-ordinated by WA Life Sciences Innovation Hub with support from the WA Government. As a group, we consider that future initiatives for workforce development could focus on expanding outreach, strengthening industry participation, improving data visibility, and building sustainable workforce pipelines.

Procurement

We discussed considerations for unlocking Government procurement opportunities. As a group, we consider enabling local procurement to demonstrate confidence in our innovations and accelerate procurement in other jurisdictions is critical. The Office of Medical Research and Innovation and the Future Health Research and Innovation Fund are driving initiatives to support piloting products to derisk procurement. Engaging industry with government procurement networks was discussed.

Future Health Research and Innovation (FHRI) Fund

We received an update on current FHRI Fund programs, including the Innovation Seed Fund, Major Research and Innovation Application Support (MRIAS), Distinguished Fellows Program and Golden Ticket program.

Shared infrastructure and capabilities

During our meeting and out of session we discussed industry needs in relation to shared infrastructure for the sector. To drive translation, shared infrastructure across basic

capabilities, specialised analysis techniques, and equipment and space for pilot manufacturing were considered. The members are developing a list of needs representing WA industry to drive further strategy development.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sharath Sriram', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Professor Sharath Sriram *FIEAust*

CHIEF SCIENTIST OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA