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26 November 2018

Dear

**Re: Open letter of support for continued funding of \$50m for the JDRF Type 1 Diabetes Clinical Research Network**

We, the undersigned, are writing to impress upon you the value and importance of continued support by the Federal Government for the Type 1 Diabetes Clinical Research Network (CRN).

The CRN plays an integral role in ensuring world class research into the cure, prevention and treatment of type 1 diabetes takes place here in Australia. The presence of the CRN and associated research has a direct benefit on the 120,000 Australians living with type 1 diabetes.

The CRN has been set up to fill a gap in the type 1 diabetes (t1d) research landscape to boost long-term capability in of clinical research and its translation to novel t1d therapies. CRN provides benefits beyond traditional measures by placing patient benefit in the centre, supporting initiatives overlooked by current funding schemes and heavily leveraging the government investment.

As a research community, we strongly believe in the value of the CRN and can see its impact on a daily basis. Work to date has established a network that is now globally well-regarded, has generated substantial leveraged funding, and most importantly has hosted a number of novel and globally impactful trials and programmes.

In partnership with JDRF Australia, the research community has made significant progress since the initiation of the CRN. However, research is a cumulative endeavour. It is only through continued support and sustained focus that research can make ongoing progress. We ask that you consider the importance of momentum and the connections that have been built and commit to ongoing funding of the CRN beyond June 2019.

Evidence of the strength of our support can be seen in the volume and diversity of roles of the over 90 signatories to this letter, representing 7 countries, 6 states and territories of Australia, over 50 institutions and research institutes, and an estimated 2000 years of combined experience.

Yours sincerely,

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