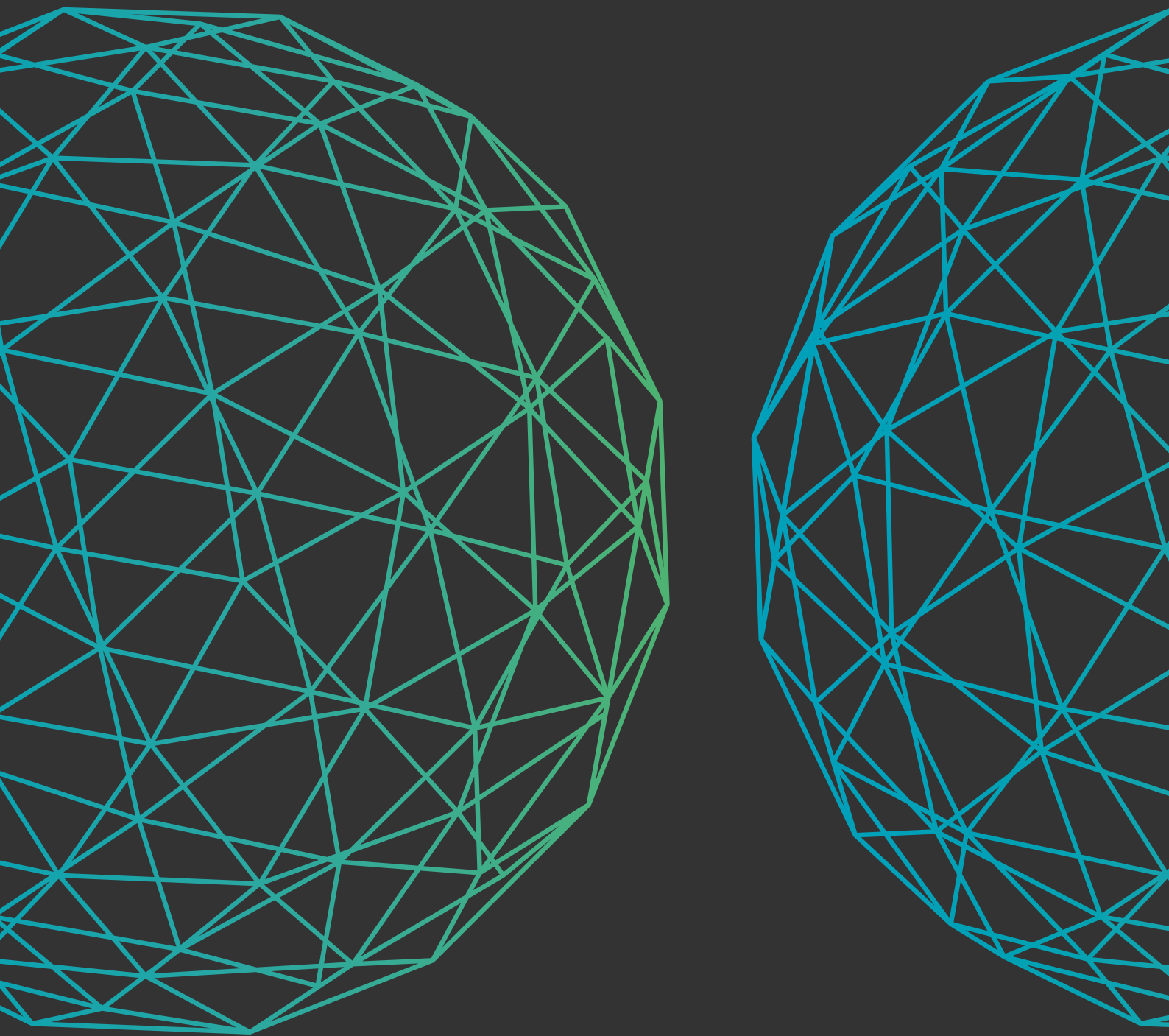


Empowering Data-Driven Health Care Decisions

Annual Report 2019-20



BioGrid
Connecting health information

BioGrid Facts



42

Number of Members at 30 June 2020

representing
82 institutions



273

Journal publications
reported to date
that have utilised
BioGrid for their
research.



124

active research projects during 2019-20,
represented across all states and the ACT

Thirty-eight



Current Institution Ethics Approvals
at 30 June 2020

Contents

02

Members and Collaborators

04

Chair's Report

06

Chief Executive Officer's Report

08

About BioGrid

11

Projects

- Australasian Diabetes Data Network (ADDN)
- Australian Rare Cancer (ARC) Portal
- Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre (VCCC) Data Driven Research Hub
- PURPLE
- Melbourne Academic Centre for Health (MACH) Indigenous Cardiovascular Health Services Research Project
- National genitourinary cancer registry studies shedding light on cancer treatments - ePAD, iTestis, BLADDA, KRAB
- Australian Psoriasis Registry

22

Directors' Report

25

Financial Report

32

Directors' Declaration

Members and Collaborators

BioGrid Australia Ltd is a not for profit company limited by guarantee. Its members are health services, universities and research institutes. At the time of this report, BioGrid's overarching evergreen collaboration agreement has been executed with 41 institutions (representing 82 sites across Australia) covering the management of governance, intellectual property, data access, undertaking projects, commercialisation and publications.



ACT Health
Canberra Hospital

AlfredHealth

Alfred Health
The Alfred
Caulfield Hospital
Sandringham Hospital



Austin Health
Austin Hospital
Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital



Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute



Ballarat Health Services
Ballarat Base Hospital
Queen Elizabeth Centre



Barwon Health
Geelong Hospital



Bendigo Health
Bendigo Hospital



Central Adelaide Local Health Network
Royal Adelaide Hospital
The Queen Elizabeth Hospital



Eastern Health
Angliss Hospital
Box Hill Hospital
Healesville Hospital
Maroondah Hospital



Fiona Stanley Hospital
Perth



Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service*
Gold Coast University Hospital
Robina Hospital



Goulburn Valley Health
Goulburn Valley Hospital



Hudson Institute of Medical Research



Latrobe Regional Hospital



Mater Health Services
Brisbane



Melbourne Health
The Royal Melbourne Hospital



Metro North Hospital and Health Service
Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital
Prince Charles Hospital



Metro South Hospital and Health Service*
Princess Alexandra Hospital



Monash Health
Monash Medical Centre, Clayton
Monash Medical Centre, Moorabbin
Casey Hospital
Dandenong Hospital



Monash University*

* Non-Member Collaborator of BioGrid Australia



**Murdoch Childrens
Research Institute**



**Northern Adelaide
Local Health Network**
Lyell McEwin Hospital
Modbury Hospital



Northern Health
The Northern Hospital



Peninsula Health
Frankston Hospital
Rosebud Hospital



**Peter MacCallum
Cancer Centre**



**Radiation Oncology
Victoria**



**St Vincent's Hospital,
Melbourne**



**South Western Sydney
Local Health District**
Campbelltown Hospital
Liverpool Hospital
Bankstown Hospital



**St John of God
Health Care**
Ballarat, Bendigo, Berwick, Bunbury,
Burwood, Geelong, Geraldton, Midland,
Murdoch, Mt Lawley, Richmond,
Subiaco and Warrnambool Hospitals



**Tasmanian Government
Department of Health
and Human Services**
Royal Hobart Hospital
Launceston General Hospital



**The Royal
Children's Hospital**



**The Royal Women's
Hospital**



**The University of
New South Wales**



**The University of
Melbourne**



**The University of
Western Australia**



**The Walter and Eliza Hall
Institute of Medical
Research**



**Victorian Comprehensive
Cancer Centre**



Western Health
Footscray Hospital
Sunshine Hospital
The Williamstown Hospital

West Moreton Health

**West Moreton Hospital
and Health Service**
Ipswich Hospital, Brisbane

* Non-Member Collaborator of BioGrid Australia

Chair's Report



The 2019-20 financial year started on a very positive note. At the end of the last financial year, BioGrid signed a major contract for hosting and managing the Australian Cancer Genomics Medicine Centre (AGCMC) Rare Cancer Portal, now called ARC Portal. The \$3.77 million commitment over 5 years will fund the web portal and also support the research fellows who respond to patient referrals, coordinate expert responses and help to maintain a database designed to improve the understanding of rare cancer in Australia.

This financial year was also the final year of increased financial support from BioGrid's original six Premium members, WEHI, University of Melbourne, VCCC, Austin Health, Melbourne Health, Western Health, and this year the Murdoch Children's Research Institute and the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre joined with the Premium members to provide additional financial support. I cannot overstate the value of that support to BioGrid and our members. As a not-for-profit company that is committed to keeping costs low for our members, it is always a challenge to fund the necessary strategic and structural work that ensures we continue to provide the most current and relevant technology, systems and processes. I am confident the work our eight Premium members have enabled us to do has secured our ability to remain sustainable well into the future.

BioGrid achieved a business surplus of \$239,000 early in the financial year, \$56,000 more than budgeted. By July of this financial year, we had already achieved our goal of contracting 16% more income in 2019-20 than in 2018-19, with \$1.4 million committed by July 2019. In fact, 71% of the income forecast in our 2019-20 budget had been contracted by August 2019. Clearly, the work we had done in the previous financial years to reposition BioGrid and move to a business model that was more sustainable in the long term was paying off.

Unfortunately, the second half of our financial year was not so rosy, though we would feel appreciative of that solid financial position. COVID-19 emerged in early 2020, and in March 2020 the World Health Organisation had declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic. Victoria, where BioGrid is based, had a state of emergency declared and at the end of March the first lockdown commenced.

Clearly this had an impact on the operations of BioGrid and our member organisations. While our staff were able to work from home, not being able to meet in person made client engagement more difficult, and I must acknowledge the work our team did to ensure our members and clients continued to enjoy the excellent service they have come to expect from BioGrid.

BioGrid ended the 2019-20 financial year with a \$42,907 deficit. Governance and business development initiatives commenced in the 2018-19 financial year continued to run despite the difficulties of this year, and we were able to maintain a positive net cash flow position.

My BioGrid Board co-directors and I believe that while the 2019-20 financial year was a difficult one for us (as for everyone else in the Australian community), the work we have done in recent years to improve BioGrid's resilience and sustainability was an important part of our ability to persevere. We are on the right track for continued growth and further establishment of our place as a valued partner to Australian clinical researchers and we are looking forward to more positive times ahead.

One important output of the work done was a refresh of our branding identity. BioGrid's new tag line *Connecting health information*, reflects our strength and value. This branding is being phased in across our communication channels over the coming months.



On a brighter note, I'm pleased to report that we welcomed Professor Clare Scott to the Board in March 2020 at what was our last in-person Board meeting before the COVID-19 lockdowns commenced. Professor Scott is a valued addition to our team, with extensive experience in breast and ovarian cancer treatment and in clinical cancer genetics. She is also the Principal Investigator for CART-WHEEL, the Centre for Analysis of Rare Tumours, and the co-Principal Investigator of the Australian Rare Cancer (ARC) Portal, both of which are supported by BioGrid.

I would like to extend the appreciation of the Board to Maureen Turner, BioGrid's CEO, for her steady hand during a very difficult year. With her executive team's support, she ensured that morale was maintained and that BioGrid's team members were taken care of while they continued their essential work.

Sincere thanks to our members and collaborators, who have continued to support BioGrid while they too were grappling with the effects of the pandemic. With the research community continuing to support each other and work together for a healthier future for our society, I'm confident we are in good hands.

Robert Grenfell

Chair, BioGrid Australia Board

Chief Executive Officer's Report



2019-20 was certainly a year of two halves. In the first 6 months, we continued the fundamental work started in 2018-19 on BioGrid's maturation as a service provider for the medical research community in Australia. This work was designed to review our business model, in particular our pricing model, and ensure that we had the right structure in place for future growth and sustainability.

This was happening in the context of a strong financial position and business growth. The contract for hosting and managing the ARC Portal was signed in June 2019 after a long period of negotiation and was a significant achievement for BioGrid. The \$3.77 million commitment over 5 years will fund the development of the web portal and the research fellows who prepare reports for doctors referring their patients through researching the literature and coordinating expert responses.

At the end of 2018-19 we also signed another important agreement, for the Melbourne Academic Centre for Health (MACH) Indigenous Cardiovascular Health Services Research Project, which aimed to build Australia's first comprehensive cardiovascular health services dataset by linking clinical data collected by general practice clinics, hospitals, and government agencies. The program will identify factors influencing the likelihood of receiving evidence-based cardiovascular care and to quantify differences in cardiovascular risk distribution and outcomes for Indigenous vs non-Indigenous Australians.

This economic activity positioned us with confidence for 2019-20. Given the emergence of COVID-19, the declaration of a worldwide pandemic and the resulting restrictions that were implemented, we were grateful that we had started this year in such a strong position.

The impact was pronounced for the research teams who are our clients, and it was no surprise that a number of programs were put on hold until the restrictions on meeting and working together in person were lifted. BioGrid's ability to weather the COVID-19 impacts financially has been largely the result of the extensive work we have done in the previous two financial years on our business model, our governance structure, and our strategic objectives. All of this work revolved around our vision of becoming the preferred health data-exchange/

connectivity platform for national initiatives that enables growth nationally and internationally.

It was also due to the efforts of the BioGrid team to find a new way of working in response to the lockdowns. We had to quickly develop effective ways to keep delivering for our members. I am proud of the way the BioGrid executive team was able to pivot the way our staff interacted and solved problems in this new online world, and at the same time maintained healthy morale. BioGrid has always valued its people, and we felt it was important to support work-life balance and wellbeing during times our team's lives were predominantly spent within their homes.

This meant we ensured people maintained boundaries between work and home life, for example by taking leave during lockdown periods, and 'met' regularly for check-ins and fun times designed to keep up staff morale. It was also important to provide opportunities to continue the type of socialising that would normally occur in the office, so that people continued to feel connected and were able to reach out when they needed support. I'm pleased to say that this worked well, and the experience, while less than ideal for everyone, brought our whole team even closer together.

I would like to extend our deep appreciation to the eight Premium members for the support they have provided. Without it, as a not-for-profit company BioGrid would not have been able to make the necessary steps to assure our future capability to service the Australian medical research community. More than just financial support for the company, it was in fact a generous contribution to all of our members, enabling BioGrid to successfully implement our new strategy and our essential business development initiatives. This transitional funding will benefit our whole medical research community by ensuring BioGrid can continue to grow and innovate in response to the community's future needs,



especially in areas of most need where clinical research and service quality analysis is difficult due to challenges accessing data.

Since our premium members approved the new business and governance model in June 2018, we've successfully achieved most of the targets we set and are on track to complete our strategy. The timeframes for the remainder of the targets are under review, however, given the impacts of the current COVID-19 pandemic.

The new pricing model developed by consultant Dr Henry De Aizpurua was approved by the Board on 23 July 2019 and reviewed for approval by the members in September 2019. While the implementation was due to commence in January 2020 the onset of COVID-19 and related pressures on member organisations prompted a review of the timing and we have subsequently elected to delay implementation.

You may have also noticed new BioGrid branding being rolled out in the past few months. To reflect the maturation of our business model, this year we commenced a rebranding project to reposition BioGrid in the market, with a particular focus on updating the BioGrid website and communication channels including social media.

We partnered with Taylor & Grace branding and creative agency for this work, and the result was a fresh new colour palette and an updated, more modern three-dimensional logo that positions us as an established and professional services provider.

During early 2020 we implemented a new website featuring the new branding, introducing a modern, fresh look aligned to our brand model and representing our aspirations of expanding and maturing our business while maintaining the values that have always guided us. While rebranding the

website we also took the opportunity to review its structure and content and we now have a website that better serves as a marketing tool for our organisation. Going forward, a key priority will be to create content that reflects the value BioGrid provides by focusing on case studies and news stories, which will be particularly helpful in educating prospective clients about our services.

Meanwhile, we are committed to continuing to fulfill our commitments to contracted projects while the world waits to see the progression of COVID-19 and the measures in place to control and combat it.

On behalf of the BioGrid Directors and Executive Team, I would like to sincerely thank the eight premium members for your invaluable support, enabling BioGrid to progress with governance and business changes that have significantly contributed to positioning BioGrid for business growth.

I would also like to acknowledge the tremendous support of our Board and our members during a very challenging year. Finally a very sincere thank you to our team for their commitment to keeping BioGrid's operations running as close to 'business as usual' as was possible under extremely stressful circumstances. The work we have all done to foster a culture of cooperation and mutual support has stood us in good stead.

Maureen Turner
CEO, BioGrid Australia

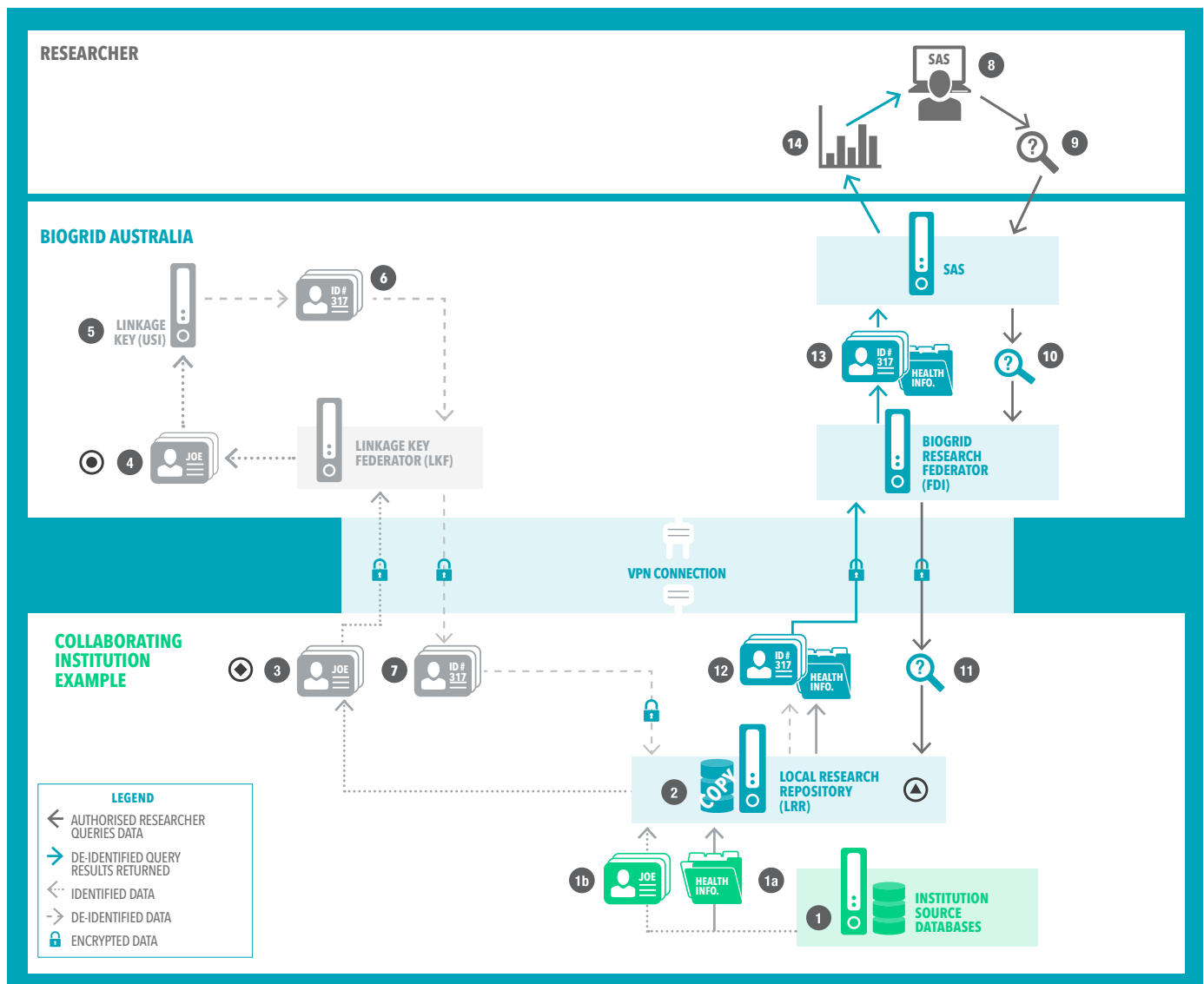
About BioGrid

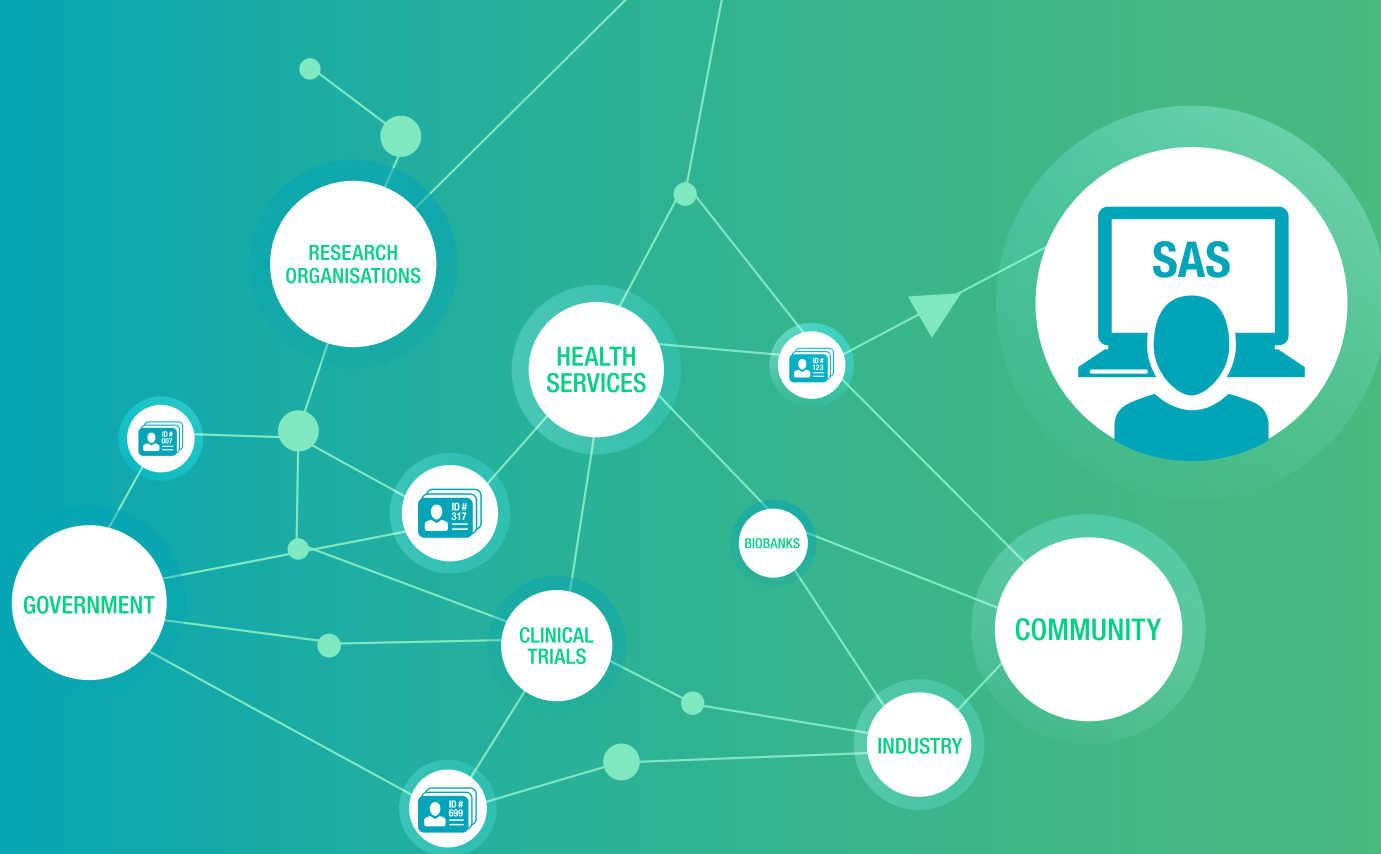
Data governance, security and ethics are at the core of BioGrid's federated data sharing platform that securely links patient level clinical, biospecimen, genetic and imaging data sets across multiple sites and diseases for the purpose of medical research.

BioGrid's infrastructure and data management strategies address the increasing need by authorised researchers to dynamically extract and analyse data from multiple sources whilst protecting patient privacy.

In the health sector, BioGrid is a trusted independent virtual real-time data repository. Investment in BioGrid has facilitated a combination of technology, collaboration and ethics approval processes for data sharing that exist nowhere else in the world.

For more information on how BioGrid works, what data is linked to BioGrid and how to access data, go to www.biogrid.org.au.





1. Patient information is recorded in one or more data sources (i.e. databases, spreadsheets), which are stored on a collaborating institution's computer network. This information comprises clinical health information data and identifiers.
- 1a. Clinical health information data are the collection of facts and opinions about an individual's health and wellbeing. Treatment details are an example of clinical health information data.
- 1b. Identifiers are the data items, which identify the individual who is described within a patient record. A patient's name is an example of an identifier.
2. The patient information is copied into replica data sources, which are stored on the collaborating institution's Local Research Repository (LRR), on a nightly basis or frequency agreed by the collaborating institution.
3. A limited set of identifiers from each new patient record are sent from the replica data sources to BioGrid Australia's Linkage Key Federator (LKF) via a secure encrypted Virtual Private Network (VPN) connection.
4. The Linkage Key Federator (LKF) forwards the identifiers to BioGrid Australia's Linkage Key server. This server hosts the Unique Subject Identifier (USI) database.
5. The identifiers are compared with the USI database's records to establish whether data about the patient already exists within a BioGrid-linked data source.
If a match is found for a patient's data, the patient has previously been allocated a USI. If no match is found for a patient's data, the patient's set of identifiers and a new USI are written to the USI database.
6. The USIs for the matching and non-matching patients are sent back to the LKF.
7. The USIs are sent back to the LRR via a secure encrypted VPN connection and stored with their associated clinical health information data.

8. Once authorised access via the BioGrid Australia Data Access Application System has been provided to the researcher, they can commence querying the de-identified data they have approval to access.
9. The researcher submits a data query to BioGrid Australia's statistical analysis (SAS) computer via the Internet.
10. The SAS computer forwards the query to the FDI.
11. The FDI requests the specified data from each of the relevant LRRs via a secure encrypted VPN connection.
12. The clinical health information data and USIs from applicable patient records are sent to the FDI via a secure encrypted VPN connection. These data are combined into a temporary table. The table is removed from the FDI upon completion of the query.
13. The SAS computer reads and processes data from the temporary table.
14. The SAS computer presents the results of the query to the researcher.

BioGrid provides alternative matching methodology referred to as exact matching using a cryptographic hashing function when individual identifiers cannot be brought together in one place for comparison.

- ⬆ Highly secure hash generating software is installed at collaborating institution. The hashing algorithm is run at collaborating institution's site on the replica data sources. A unique hash value is created for each set of identifying patient data. No identifying information ever leaves the source site.
- ⬇ Unique hash value from each new patient record is sent from the replica data source to BioGrid Australia's Linkage Key Federator (LKF) via a secure encrypted Virtual Private Network (VPN) connection. No identifying information ever leaves the source site.
- ⦿ The LKF synchronises its matches with the BioGrid Australia's Linkage Key server. This server hosts the Unique Subject Identifier (USI) database.

Operations

In June 2018, BioGrid engaged Thompson Information Security to conduct an Information Security Compliance Audit focused on data and controls within the BioGrid system. BioGrid was found to be 'Generally compliant' or 'Partially compliant' against the ISO27002 Code of Practice, the Australian Signals Directorate (ASD) Essential 8 criteria, and the Centre for Internet Security (CIS) Top 20 security controls.

The final report resulted in a set of recommendations to improve information security, and BioGrid has been progressively implementing the recommendations pertaining to BioGrid's areas of control over the past 24 months. As BioGrid also falls under Melbourne's Health's IT framework for on-premise infrastructure and corporate systems such as email, internet access, HR and Finance Systems, Melbourne Health is also completing a number of actions to support BioGrid's information security.

Business Development

In the last financial year, Dr Henry De Aizpurua completed a three-month engagement as a business development consultant to help develop BioGrid's value proposition, case studies and marketing collateral.

In July 2019 the Business Advisory Committee comprising James Dromey (Murdoch Children's Research Institute), Paul Barrett (University of Melbourne), Peter Gibbs (Western Health), Maarten IJzerman (Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre) and Ray Van Kuyk (Austin Health) approved the extension of Dr De Aizpurua's consultancy with a specific focus on developing the sales pipeline and assisting the CEO with relevant materials and sales leads to increase targeted business development activity.

The new branding developed at the beginning of the last financial year was a key element of the new BioGrid website, which was launched at the end of the last financial year, and of the new marketing collateral finalised early this financial year for researchers and industry with Dr De Aizpurua's assistance. The new marketing collateral included brochures and presentations targeted at researchers, industry and academia, addressing the main interests of each audience.

Projects

Australasian Diabetes Data Network (ADDN)

The ADDN project commenced in 2012 as a joint initiative between the Australia and New Zealand Society for Paediatric Endocrinology and Diabetes (ANZSPED) and Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) Australia. The overall aim of the ADDN project was to facilitate research and improve the health of people with diabetes.

The first phase of ADDN established a secure and centralised data repository hosted by the University of Melbourne, holding de-identified longitudinal demographic and clinical data for more than 5,000 children and adolescents with Type 1 diabetes.

In 2016 the Australian Diabetes Society (ADS) joined ANZSPED and JDRF Australia for the second phase of ADDN which expanded the number of paediatric centres and extended recruitment to include adult centres. With this, ADDN increased its data capture to provide richer and more complete information about the natural history, clinical progression and most effective treatment regimens for all people living with Type 1 diabetes.

In 2018 the JDRF received federal funding to provide an evaluation of the government-funded Continuous Glucose Monitoring (CGM) program, which provided subsidised CGM products for eligible Type 1 diabetes patients via the National Diabetes Services Scheme (NDSS).

The CGM program held significant potential to provide a more convenient way for Type 1 diabetes patients to manage their blood glucose levels through 24/7 and trending glucose monitoring. CGM devices allow users to measure their HBA1c levels with fewer blood glucose finger pricks, by taking readings from the interstitial fluid just below the skin.

As a result of taking regular readings, the CGM devices can detect trends in glucose levels so users can take action before levels become too high or too low, and provide information that predicts glucose changes and patterns over time.

The Australian government engaged the JDRF to evaluate how successful the CGM program was in helping Type 1 diabetes patients manage their HBA1c levels, which required linking NDSS enrolled CGM program patient data with the clinical data, including HBA1c data, collected by ADDN.

To do this, the JDRF researchers had to be sure that the data being linked from the two sources was related to the same patient, without compromising patient confidentiality. The complicating factor was that the ADDN was not collecting any patient identifying data. BioGrid contracted with the NDSS and JDRF to provide the independent secure record linkage service required for the evaluation of the CGM program. The record matching between the ADDN and CGM data sets conducted by BioGrid enabled the JDRF researchers to complete statistical analyses and evaluation reports for government.

The data analysis revealed that the CGM program was indeed working as anticipated, improving patients' ability to manage their HBA1c levels independently, minimising situations where levels went too far either up or down and reducing the requirement for more advanced treatment. This demonstrated that the CGM devices, properly used, improved the quality of life for patients and reduced their need to engage with the healthcare system.

As a result of this successful evaluation, the Australian government now has a permanent CGM program in place, providing subsidised CGMs for eligible patients with Type 1 diabetes.

Projects

Australian Rare Cancer (ARC) Portal

The Australian Rare Cancer (ARC) Portal is an online referral service that aims to improve outcomes and access to research for Australians diagnosed with a rare cancer.

People with rare cancers and their doctors face extra challenges compared to those with more common cancers.

In a population the size of Australia's dispersed over such a large continent, it can be challenging for patients with rare cancers, and the doctors who treat them, to find information on how to treat their condition or access specialists who have the knowledge of their particular cancer and can treat them.

Access to molecular testing or specific treatments may not be available or when available may not be reimbursed for their rare cancer types, and access to clinical trials or research programs is more likely to be limited.

Established with a grant from the Australian Federal Government, the ARC Portal was conceived as an innovative way to help boost the ability of doctors to find rare cancer testing, clinical trials, and specialist expertise – all in one location.

This is particularly valuable in rural, regional and remote areas, where the closest specialist expertise in a specific rare cancer could be thousands of kilometres away.

BioGrid will be providing and maintaining the online platform for ARC Portal, including the website, web application and database, and the overarching governance and data security, enabling clinicians to connect with each other.

BioGrid will also facilitate the collection of clinical information by researchers from consenting participating patients.

Find out more about [ARC Portal here](#).

Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre (VCCC) Data Driven Research Hub

BioGrid signed an agreement in the 2018-19 financial year with the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre (VCCC) to support its Data Driven Research Hub, which aims to make better use of existing health data by testing and validating ways to utilise retrospective health data that is already collected and stored electronically. It will be the first time in Australian cancer research that GP and hospital clinical data will be linked.

The type of data collected from GPs and hospitals will include information about reasons for visiting the GP, prescribed medicines, current and long-term illnesses, test results, height, weight and blood pressure, and lifestyle factors, like smoking. Data from hospitals and clinical registries will include information about treatments, cancer stage and survival.

Key elements of this program include:

1. A platform that facilitates sharing of, and access to, VCCC and external cancer health data for research
2. Building cancer health services research and data-driven clinical research
3. Bringing together data sciences and clinical expertise

The large-scale data platform will combine software designed by the University of Melbourne to unlock

GP (primary care) data with BioGrid Australia's existing infrastructure which is able to link data that is privacy protected and ethically approved.

BioGrid has done extensive work with the VCCC over a number of years to develop a proof of concept for the Data Driven Research Hub and work commenced in 2018 on the development of the final product.

During the 2019-20 financial year work continued on the Data Driven Research Hub, connecting primary care data from two primary care databases, hospital data from hospital admissions, emergency department presentations and outpatient care. The anticipated completion date of September 2020 has been delayed due to resource pressures at participating organisations as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

PURPLE

The PURPLE translational registry for pancreatic cancer patients has been driving world leading research since 2016. This multi-site, multi-disciplinary translational pancreatic cancer registry is the first of its kind and aims to increase data sharing and collaboration across cancer centres and research laboratories to relocate novel research findings from "bench-to-bedside".

Although currently the 5th most common cause of cancer death in Australia, pancreatic cancer is predicted to become the 2nd leading cause of cancer deaths globally by 2030. PURPLE was developed to combat this alarming trend. Major issues being tackled include improving existing detection methods and developing more effective therapies.

PURPLE is powered by BioGrid Australia technology, which ensures data protection, site privacy and patient confidentiality.

Find out more about [PURPLE](#).

Projects

Melbourne Academic Centre for Health (MACH) Indigenous Cardiovascular Health Services Research Project

Project Lead: A/Prof Luke Burchill

Lead partner: University of Melbourne

MACH partners: Melbourne Health; Northern Health; Western Health

The Indigenous Cardiovascular Health Services Research Project is a collaboration that partners Indigenous health researchers and clinicians with data scientists, biostatisticians and health economists. The project links clinical data collected by Australian general practices, hospitals, and government agencies to determine how variation in CV risk, clinical events and treatment influences Indigenous and non-Indigenous health outcomes.

The project aims to answer several important questions including:

- What factors place Indigenous Australians at increased risk of CV disease?
- Are existing risk assessment scores accurate and, if not, can we create a new score that more accurately predicts CV risk among Indigenous Australians?
- How does current implementation of evidence-based CV care differ for Indigenous vs non-Indigenous Australians?
- Does evidence-based CV care improve health outcomes among Indigenous Australians and, if so, by what magnitude?
- How can administrative health services data be used to advance Victorian Aboriginal nation building efforts?

This will be achieved through activities including the recovery of Indigenous status from linked data from primary care and hospital data, a description of the capture of cardiovascular (CV) risk factors in primary care patients and the type of CV presentations to study hospitals, assessment of whether primary care patients at high risk of a CV event were receiving medication to reduce their risk, and an attempt to recalibrate existing CV risk models for Indigenous Australians residing in Victoria.

The findings of this research will be shared with stakeholders including peak Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander health organizations, primary health care organizations and health agencies at the state and federal level. Working with these stakeholders the research team will devise strategies for improving implementation of evidence-based-care for Indigenous Australians with a focus on short- to medium-term improvements in cardiovascular care.

Expansion activities include introducing new sites to capture additional Aboriginal communities to increase diversity and generalisability of the study results; and increasing dissemination of the results across a larger number of Aboriginal health and research organisations through community engagement.

This project is supported by the Australian Government's Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) as part of the Rapid Applied Research Translation program.

All data linkage for the study is being conducted by BioGrid. Patients are assigned Unique Subject Identifiers (USIs) based on probabilistic matching to enable linked across sources. No directly identifiable patient information (e.g., name, address) was supplied to HealthGap biostatisticians for analysis.

BioGrid was contracted to generate record linkage keys to enable linkage across these datasets:

- Royal Melbourne Hospital Admission & Emergency Data
- Western Hospital Admission & Emergency Data
- Northern Hospital Admission & Emergency Data
- MedicineInsight GP dataset (NPS)
- Australian Institute of Health and Welfare National Death Index (AIHW NDI)



Where legally and ethically possible, BioGrid generates unique record linkage keys via probabilistic identify matching algorithms to enable linkage of patients across de-identified datasets for research. For this project, the hospital admissions and emergency datasets provided the data required to BioGrid to generate unique record linkage keys.

Cryptographic hashing via GRHANITE™, a University of Melbourne deterministic record linkage tool, is utilised by BioGrid when BioGrid is unable to receive personal identifiers. For this project, the NPS dataset provided GRHANITE™ hashes to BioGrid to generate USIs. The hospital admission and emergency datasets are also ingested into GRHANITE™ as part of the process, to enable linkage of individuals' records across the multiple datasets; this allows a matching patient in NPS to have a USI if there is match with the hospital data or a GUSI if there is no match with the hospital data.

This project was originally scheduled for completion in December 2020 but is now scheduled for completion in 2021.

Find out more about the [MACH Indigenous Cardiovascular Health Services Research Project](#).

Projects

National genitourinary cancer registry studies shedding light on cancer treatments – ePAD, iTestis, BLADDA, KRAB

BioGrid is working with the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute on a number of registries covering genitourinary cancers, helping clinicians better understand how cancer treatments are used in real world settings, and whether improved outcomes translate from trials into the real world. These registries, containing treatment data prospectively supplied by clinicians, are a valuable tool for collecting data, especially when the clinical locations or patient populations are dispersed or small in number.

BioGrid provided the software development services required to create these registries, working closely with clinicians to ensure data collection applications match the clinic workflow for ease of use. Once created, the registries are connected to BioGrid's data linkage platform.

ePAD

ePAD (Electronic Prostate cancer Australian Database) was developed in 2016 to support clinicians by collecting real world information about patients with advanced prostate cancer. The program evaluates the impact of age, cardiovascular co-morbidity and performance status on treatment recommendations, as well as interactions with other treatments where co-morbidities exist. It maps survival outcomes and investigates the role of novel hormonal therapies in changing tumour biology.

KRAB

Kidney cancerR Australian registry and Biobank (KRAB) is Australia's first prospective mRCC Registry, bringing together genitourinary clinicians from around Australia and facilitating collaboration in the RCC space, beginning with data, but with potential for translational research too. KRAB is a large, multi-site national mRCC database allowing Australian investigators to provide insight into Australian treatment practices, facilitates translational research and opens up the opportunity to conduct registry-based trials.

Data collection for the KRAB registry commenced in 2018 and BioGrid continues to support this registry, including updates as treatments change.

BioGrid's secure infrastructure, data linkage and curation is underpinned by BioGrid's ethical and governance framework, enabling data to be used for approved collaborative clinical audit and research projects.

BLADDA

The BLADDA project is a multi-centre, non-interventional study that aims to collect data and biospecimens in patients with muscle invasive and advanced bladder cancer in Australia to determine patterns of treatment, facilitate translational research and be used as a platform from which registry based trials can be conducted.

BLADDA commenced in January 2018 and will continue for up to 10 years. This timeframe will allow for data collection to occur and evolve as the treatments for bladder cancer change. BioGrid continues to provide updates to the registry as treatments evolve.

iTestis

Germ cell tumours (GCTs) are rare compared to other cancers, but are still the most common type of cancer in young men, formed from reproductive cells and mostly occurring in the testicles. These cancers are highly treatable, but determining the most appropriate treatment for each patient relies on a good foundation of clinical data.

iTestis was developed to fill the gap in detailed national clinical data to help clinicians to assess treatment options and resulting outcomes for their GCT patients. Data collection started in 2019.

Find out more about [ePAD](#), [KRAB](#), [BLADDA](#), [iTestis](#)

Australian Psoriasis Registry

Hosting of the Skin and Cancer Foundation's Australian Psoriasis Registry and managing the integration of data from hospital databases to the Registry to facilitate more comprehensive data for research

In mid-March 2019, the Australasian Psoriasis Registry entered into a collaboration with BioGrid to provide a more efficient mechanism of simultaneously entering data into the Australasian Psoriasis Registry and contributing sites' electronic patient records.

The first stage of the project was completed in May 2020. This stage of the project involved moving the database that stores the Australasian Psoriasis Registry data and the application server that houses the web-based Registry forms from a commercial hosting site to a virtual server hosted by BioGrid.

Transferring the Australasian Psoriasis Registry to BioGrid's servers provides access to SAS Visual Analytics and locates the database within the BioGrid domain. Locating the Australasian Psoriasis Registry on a BioGrid server allows the later stages of the project to be completed more easily. The SAS analysis tools Enterprise Guide and Visual Reports allow us to perform ad hoc querying and to receive regular reporting of the Australasian Psoriasis Registry data.

The next stage of the project, which commenced this year, involves linking the BioGrid Dermatology and Clinical Research Database to the Australasian Psoriasis Registry, using an extraction, transformation and loading (ETL) methodology. This will allow patient data from the Royal Melbourne Hospital entered into the Dermatology and Clinical Research Database using a set of web-based data entry forms to be extracted, transformed and loaded into the Australasian Psoriasis Registry without requiring any further input of data or duplication of data entry.

When completed, this phase of the project will demonstrate the feasibility of the entering data into the Australasian Psoriasis Registry directly from a contributing site's electronic medical record.

Once the entry of data from the BioGrid Dermatology and Clinical Research Database into the Australasian Psoriasis Registry has been achieved, the next stage of the project involves using similar techniques to transfer data to the Australasian Psoriasis Registry from other contributing sites' electronic medical records.

This stage will involve linking an additional four Australasian Psoriasis Registry sites; most likely initially St. Vincent's Hospital Melbourne and the Skin Health Institute, followed by additional sites that are yet to be finalised.

The potential benefit from this initial project will be the ability for sites to enter their psoriasis patient's demographic and consultation data into both the Australasian Psoriasis Registry and their electronic medical record from a single source, thus avoiding duplication of data entry and ensuring greater reliability of the data that has been entered.

The upside of this work will hopefully be an increase in the level of data entry into the Australasian Psoriasis Registry, especially from smaller sites, where data entry into the Australasian Psoriasis Registry places an additional burden on nursing and clinician resources.

Directors' Report



Dr Robert Grenfell

MBBS, MPH, FAFPHM, MAICD

**Director since October 2017;
Chair since September 2018**

Director - Health and Biosecurity, CSIRO, (2015 - present)
Director, Grenfell Health Consulting (1997 - present)
Director, Maree Stopes Health (2011 - 2016)
Chair, General Practice Victoria (2007 - 2010)
Director, General Practice Victoria (1998 - 2007)



Associate Professor Paul Cooper

BSc, PhD, GradDip Bus, FACHI,
CHIA, GAICD

**Director since August 2018 and Deputy Chair since
September 2018**

Director, Calliston Consultants Pty Ltd, (2016 - present)
Secretary, Australasian Institute of Digital Health, Victorian
Branch (2017 - present)
Associate Professor, Health Informatics Management,
Faculty Health, School of Medicine, Deakin University
(2016 - present)
Director, Victorian Continence Resource Centre
(2015 - present)
Director, Digital Health, Department of Health and Human
Services, Victorian Government (2017 - 2018)



Mr Christopher Arnold

B Comm, MBA, FCPA, FAICD, AFACHSE

Director since March 2014

Principal, Hodgson Associates, (2010 – present)
Director, Australian World Orchestra (2019 – present)
Director, Melba Opera Trust (2017 – 2020)
Director, Christ Church Grammar Foundation (2012 – 2019)
Director, Skin & Cancer Foundation Inc (2009 – 2019)
Chair, Telediagnosics Pty Ltd (2010 – 2016)
Chair, Human Variome Project International Ltd (2014 – 2017)
Director, Human Variome Project International Ltd (2008 – 2017)
Director, Philanthropy Australia (2003 – 2009)
Director, Australian Communities Foundation (1999 – 2007)



Mr David Polonsky

B Bus, CA, TIA, MAICD

Director since January 2015

Director, DRP Consulting Pty Ltd, (1996 – present)
Director, Moore Stephens (Vic) Pty Ltd (formerly Nexia Melbourne Pty Ltd), (2011 – 2017)
Director, Private Ancillary Funds (various to present)
Director, Spirit of Australia Foundation (2018 to present)

Directors' Report



Professor Karin Verspoor

BA, MSc, PhD, GCUT

Director since August 2016

Professor, School of Computing and Information Systems, University of Melbourne, (2017 – present)

Fellow, Australasian Institute for Digital Health (2020 – present)

Director of Health Technologies, Melbourne School of Engineering, University of Melbourne (2020 – present)

Deputy Director, ARC Industrial Transformation Training Centre in Cognitive Computing for Medical Technologies (2018 – present)

Deputy Director, Centre for Digital Transformation of Health, University of Melbourne (2019 – present)

Fellow, Centre for Business Analytics, Melbourne Business School (2015 – present)

Deputy Head of School (Research), School of Computing and Information Systems, University of Melbourne (2019 – 2020)

Deputy Head of Department (Operations), Department of Computing and Information Systems, University of Melbourne (2015 – 2019)

Deputy Director, Health and Biomedical Informatics Centre, University of Melbourne (2014 – 2019)

Associate Professor, School of Computing and Information Systems, University of Melbourne (2014 – 2016)

President, Australasian Language Technology Association (ALTA) (2013 – 2014)

Scientific Director, Health and Life Sciences, National ICT Australia (NICTA) (2012 – 2014)



Dr James Dromey

BSc PhD

Director since August 2018

Chief Operating Officer, Murdoch Children's Research Institute, (2016 – present)

Director, Raising Children's Network (2020 – present)

Director, Prota Therapeutics, September (2016 – present)

Director, GI Therapies, September (2012 – present)



Professor Clare Scott

MBBS, PhD, FRACP, FAHMS

Director since March 2020

Joint Division Head, Clinical Translation Centre, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, (2019 – present)

Head, Ovarian and Rare Cancers Laboratory, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, (2010 – present)

Consultant Medical Oncologist, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre (2016 – present), Royal Women's Hospital (2010 – present), Royal

Melbourne Hospital (2006 – present)

Chair, International Rare Cancer Initiative (IRCI) Board (2020 – present)

Chair, Gynaecological Cancer, University of Melbourne (2018 – present)

Co-Chair, Gynaecologic Cancer Inter-Group (GCIG) Rare Tumour Committee (2016 – present)

Chair, Clinical Oncology Society of Australia (COSA) Rare Cancers Group (2015 – present)

Director, Australia New Zealand Gynaecology Oncology Group (ANZGOG) (2014 – present)

Member, International Rare Cancer Initiative (IRCI) Board (2015 – 2020)

Directors' Report

Meetings attended

The following outlines meetings held and attended by each of the Directors in 2019-20.

Director	Board of Directors		Finance, Audit & Risk Committee		Business Advisory Committee	
	Held	Attended	Held	Attended	Held	Attended
Chris Arnold	5	4	5	5		
Paul Cooper	5	5				
James Dromey	5	4			2	2
Rob Grenfell	5	5				
David Polonsky	5	4	5	4		
Claire Scott	2	2				
Karin Verspoor	5	4				

Member Representatives on Committees

Glenn Murphy (Melbourne Health)			5	5		
Paul Barrett (University of Melbourne)					2	2
Peter Gibbs (Western Health)					2	2
Maarten Ijzerman (Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre)					2	1
Ray Van Kuyk (Austin Health)					2	2

Contribution in winding up

The entity is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 and is a company limited by guarantee. As such, no shares are issued or held by directors. If the entity is wound up, the constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$10 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the entity. At 30 June 2020 the amount the members of the Company are liable to contribute if the Company wound up is \$350 (the number of members was 35).

Principal activities

The principal activities of the Company are data sharing that advances health research by linking privacy-protected and ethically approved clinical, imaging, biospecimen and genetic data among a wide network of health collaborators. During the year there was no significant change in the nature of those activities.

Company's objectives

The company's objectives are to:

- Facilitate internationally competitive medical research into the causes of ill health and disease;
- Provide an ethically approved privacy-protected service to connect data sources;
- Invest in technology development to ensure ongoing alignment with leading technology that supports privacy-protected data connection; and
- Be sustainable in order to fulfill the company's vision and mission and to service the needs of its' members.

To achieve these objectives, the Company:

- Supported major research program initiatives by providing data linkage and data management services for state and federal funded cancer research projects;
- Worked with key stakeholders in the health sector to facilitate major research projects in Victoria and Australia;
- Provided ongoing training and support for quality specialist staff committed to providing a technology platform that supports medical research through privacy-protected data connection; and
- Redeveloped the business development model for members and industry to support the long-term viability of the company.

Key performance measures

The company measures its own performance through the use of both quantitative and qualitative benchmarks. The benchmarks are used by the directors to assess whether the company's short-term and long-term objectives are being achieved.

	2020		2019	
	Actual	Benchmark	Actual	Benchmark
Total Number of Members/Collaborators	42*	43	41	43
Current Institution Ethics Approvals	38	40	38	40
Approved Active Research Projects	124	108**	156	153
Journal Publications to Date	273	295	256	272
% Income from Membership Subscriptions	29%	25%	36%	20%

*At 30 June 2020 there are 35 member and 7 non-member collaborator institutions, a total of 42 BioGrid Australia collaborators.

** From July 2020 project counts do not include data custodian audit projects

Dividends

The Company Constitution forbids the payment or distribution of any profits, income or assets to the members.

Directors' Remuneration

The directors did not receive remuneration from the company with the exception of expenses relating to their director role.

Indemnification of officers and auditors

During the year the Company paid a premium in respect of a contract insuring the directors of the Company, the Company secretary and all executive officers of the Company and of any related body corporate against a liability incurred as such a director, secretary or executive officer to the extent permitted by the Corporations Act 2001. The Company has not otherwise, during or since the year, indemnified or agreed to indemnify an officer or auditor of the Company or of any related body corporate against a liability incurred as such an officer or auditor.

Critical accounting estimates and judgements

The company recorded a deficit of \$42,907 for the year ended 30 June 2020 (2019 Surplus: 234,515). The directors are pleased to report that the governance and business development initiatives continuing to be undertaken during the year has allowed the Company to continue to operate with a positive net cash flow position which has allowed the Company to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

The directors continue to work closely with key stakeholders who have and continue to show their support for the Company and its future operations.

The Company remains the only collaboration network in Australia with the legal and ethical framework to enable the sharing of realtime health and medical data for research. Accordingly, it is well positioned to take advantage of opportunities as they arise nationally and internationally.

The Company continues to develop and improve its national data linkage platform in collaboration with key suppliers using global vendor hardware and software.

Having considered the above factors, the directors have concluded that there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due. Should the Company be unable to continue as a going concern, it may be appropriate to realise its assets and discharge its liabilities at amounts different to those stated in the financial report.

Events subsequent to balance date

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected, or may significantly affect, the operations of the Company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Company in future financial years.

Likely developments in the operations of the Company, and the expected results of those operations in future financial years, have not been included in this report as the inclusion of such information is likely to result in unreasonable prejudice to the Company.

Auditor's Independence Declaration

The lead auditor's independence declaration for the year ended 30 June 2020 has been received and can be found on page 5 of this report.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

On behalf of the Directors



Rob Grenfell, Director



David Polonsky, Director

Melbourne 5 October, 2020

BioGrid Australia Limited
31 136 185 647

Auditor's Independence Declaration

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2020 there have been:

- a) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in Section 60.40 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and
- b) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



Saward Dawson



Jeffrey Tulk
Partner

Blackburn, Victoria 3130
Dated: 5 October 2020

20 Albert St, Blackburn VIC 3130
T +61 3 9894 2500 F +61 3 9894 1622
contact@sawarddawson.com.au
sawarddawson.com.au

Financial Report

Statement of Income and Expenditure and Other Comprehensive Income For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
Revenue	2	2,026,632	1,966,185
Consultant expenses	3	(1,761,483)	(1,491,408)
License fees		(110,566)	(113,267)
Operational Expenses		(84,620)	(85,725)
Professional fees		(55,677)	(40,520)
Doubtful debt recovery / (expense)		–	26,859
Depreciation and amortisation		(41,756)	(22,832)
Bank charges		(570)	(948)
Other expenses		(14,867)	(3,829)
Surplus from ordinary activities		(42,907)	234,515
Other comprehensive income:			
Items that will be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss when specific conditions are met		–	–
Total other comprehensive income for the year		–	–
Total comprehensive income for the year		(42,907)	234,515

Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	441,898	33,554
Trade and other receivables	5	92,578	1,023,152
Other assets	6	94,561	6,476
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		629,037	1,063,182
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	7	67,994	42,955
Intangible assets	8	136,895	74,294
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		204,889	117,249
TOTAL ASSETS		833,926	1,180,431
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	9	346,631	292,494
Borrowings	10	–	75,000
Other liabilities	11	223,115	557,648
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		569,746	925,142
TOTAL LIABILITIES		569,746	925,142
NET ASSETS		264,180	255,289
EQUITY			
Accumulated surpluses		264,180	255,289
TOTAL EQUITY		264,180	255,289

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

2020	Accumulated Surpluses \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2019	255,289	255,289
Cumulative adjustment upon adoption of new accounting standards	51,798	51,798
Deficit for the year	(42,907)	(42,907)
Balance at 30 June 2020	255,289	255,289

2019

	Accumulated Surpluses \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2018	20,774	20,774
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	234,515	234,515
Balance at 30 June 2019	255,289	255,289

Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
CASH FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:			
- Receipts from customers		2,860,993	1,807,386
- Payments to suppliers and employees		(2,248,347)	(1,925,159)
- Interest received		94	-
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	12	612,740	(117,773)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:			
- Acquisition of property, plant and equipment		(43,006)	(47,347)
- Payment for intangible asset		(86,390)	(51,203)
Net cash used by investing activities		(129,396)	(98,550)
CASH FLOWS FROM OTHER ACTIVITIES:			
- Repayment of borrowings		(75,000)	-
- Proceeds from borrowings		-	75,000
Net cash used in other activities		(75,000)	75,000
Net cash increase (decreases) in cash and cash equivalents		408,344	(141,323)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		33,554	174,877
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	4	441,898	33,554

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

Note 1 Accounting policies

(a) Financial Reporting Framework

BioGrid Australia Limited is a Company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. The directors have prepared the financial reports on the basis that the company is a non-reporting entity because there are no users who are dependent on its general purpose financial reports. These financial reports are therefore special purpose financial reports that have been prepared in order to meet the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. The company is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the mandatory Australian Accounting Standards applicable to entities reporting under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and the significant accounting policies disclosed below, which the directors have determined are appropriate to meet the needs of members. Such accounting policies are consistent with those of previous years unless stated otherwise.

(b) Statement of Compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the mandatory Australian Accounting Standards applicable to entities reporting under *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, the basis of accounting specified by all Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations, and the disclosure requirements of Accounting Standards AASB 101: *Presentation of Financial Statements*, AASB 107: *Cash Flow Statements*, AASB 108: *Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors* and AASB 1054: *Australian Additional Disclosures*.

The company has concluded that the requirements set out in AASB 10 and AASB 128 are not applicable as the initial assessment on its interests in other entities indicates that it does not have any subsidiaries, associates or joint ventures.

The company complies with measurement and recognition of all Australian accounting standards except AASB 16: *Leases*

(c) Basis of preparation

The financial reports, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs unless otherwise stated in notes. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

(d) Revenue

Revenue Recognition

The company has applied AASB 15: *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* (AASB 15) and AASB 1058: *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities* (AASB 1058) using the cumulative effective method of initially applying AASB 15 and AASB 1058 as an adjustment to the opening balance of equity at 1 July 2019. Therefore, the comparative information has not been restated and continues to be presented under AASB 118: *Revenue* and AASB 1004: *Contributions*. The impact of changes is disclosed in Note 1(n).

Operating Grants, Donations and Bequests

When the company receives operating grant revenue, donations or bequests, it assesses whether the contract is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15.

When both these conditions are satisfied, the company:

- identifies each performance obligation relating to the grant;
- recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement; and
- recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations.

Where the contract is not enforceable or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations, the company:

- recognises the asset received in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards (for example AASB 9, AASB 16, AASB 116 and AASB 138);
- recognises related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer); and
- recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between the initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

If a contract liability is recognised as a related amount above, the company recognises income in profit or loss when or as it satisfies its obligations under the contract.

Donations and bequests without enforceable contract are recognised as revenue when received. Revenue from the rendering of a service is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customer.

Interest Income

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest rate method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

(e) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within short-term borrowings in current liabilities in the statement of financial position.

(f) Leases

Lease payments are charged as expenses on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease term.

(g) Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables include outstanding funds invoiced to customers for membership fees and completed projects or milestones. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets.

Note 1 Accounting policies continued

(h) Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis less depreciation and impairment losses. Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the asset.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all plant and equipment is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life to BioGrid Australia Limited commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

(i) Intangibles

Amortisation

Amortisation is recognised in profit or loss on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of intangible assets, from the date that they are available for use.

Amortisation methods, useful lives and residual values are reviewed at each reporting date and adjusted if appropriate.

Software

Software has a finite life and is carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and impairment losses. It has an estimated useful life of between three and five years.

(j) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

(k) Income taxes

No current or deferred income tax assets or liabilities have been raised by the company as it is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997. The company is a registered charity under the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission.

(l) Trade and other payables

Trade and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the Company during the reporting period which remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

(m) Going concern

The company recorded a deficit of \$42,907 for the year ended 30 June 2020 (2019: \$234,515 surplus). Despite the deficit for the year, the company operated with a positive net cash flow position which has allowed the Company to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

The directors continue to work closely with key stakeholders who have, and continue to, show their support for the Company and its future operations. The Company remains the only collaboration network in Australia with the legal and ethical framework to enable the sharing of real-time health and medical data for research. Accordingly, it is well positioned to take advantage of opportunities as they arise nationally and internationally.

The Company continues to develop and improve its national data linkage platform in collaboration with key suppliers using global vendor hardware and software.

Having considered the above factors, the directors have concluded that there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due. Should the Company be unable to continue as a going concern, it may be appropriate to realise its assets and discharge its liabilities at amounts different to those stated in the financial report.

(n) Adoption of new and revised accounting standards

Initial application of AASB 15 and AASB 1058

The Company has applied AASB 15: Revenue from Contracts with Customers and AASB 1058: Income of Not-for-Profit Entities using the cumulative effective method of initially applying AASB 15 and AASB 1058 as an adjustment to the opening balance of equity at 1 July 2019. Therefore, the comparative information has not been restated and continues to be presented under AASB 118: Revenue and AASB 1004: Contributions.

The effect of the changes as at the date of adoption is an adjustment to opening accumulated surplus on 1 July 2019 was an increase of \$51,798 with a corresponding decrease in grant income received in advance.

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Note 2 Revenue		
Operating revenue		
– Commercial-led projects	141,992	240,820
– Member subscriptions	612,078	708,298
– Investigator-led projects	81,447	458,471
– Researcher user fees	10,000	–
– Donations	–	7,602
– Grants	1,171,326	537,994
– Interest received	94	–
– Other income	9,695	13,000
Total Revenue	2,026,632	1,966,185
Note 3 Consultant expenses		
Consultant expenses include payments to Melbourne Health who provide staff contract and payroll services to BioGrid.		
Note 4 Cash and cash equivalents		
Cash at bank	441,898	33,554
	441,898	33,554
Note 5 Trade and other receivables		
CURRENT		
Accounts receivable	82,010	1,023,152
GST receivable	10,568	–
	92,578	1,023,152
Note 6 Other assets		
CURRENT		
Prepayments	94,561	6,476
	94,561	6,476
Note 7 Plant and equipment		
Plant and equipment		
At cost	131,721	88,714
Less accumulated depreciation	(63,727)	(45,759)
Total plant and equipment	67,994	42,955
Note 8 Intangible assets		
Computer software		
At cost	121,570	52,000
Less accumulated amortisation	(33,308)	(22,908)
Net carrying value	88,262	29,092
Website Development		
At cost	68,023	51,203
Less accumulated amortisation	(19,390)	(6,001)
Net carrying value	48,633	45,202
Total Intangibles	136,895	74,294

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Note 9 Trade and other payables		
CURRENT		
Trade payables	183,861	174,927
Accruals	162,770	37,484
GST payable	–	80,083
	346,631	292,494

Note 10 Borrowings

CURRENT		
Short term interest-free loan	–	75,000
	–	75,000

Note 11 Other Liabilities

CURRENT		
Industry project income received in advance	113,750	–
Grant income received in advance	109,365	557,648
	223,115	557,648

Note 12 Cash flow information

Reconciliation of cash flow from operations with net current year deficit		
Net result for the year	(42,907)	234,515
Cash flows excluded from surplus attributable to operating activities		
– Depreciation and amortisation	41,756	22,832
– Provision for doubtful debts	–	(29,545)
Changes in assets and liabilities		
– (Increase)/decrease in trade and term receivables	941,142	(675,275)
– (Increase)/decrease in other assets	(88,085)	89,023
– (Increase)/decrease in trade payables	43,569	(44,239)
– Increase/(decrease) in other liabilities	(282,735)	284,916
	612,740	(117,773)

Note 13 Events after the end of the Reporting Period

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the company was required to make some changes to working arrangements. Although the company is unable to determine the full extent of the financial impact of this crisis on the organisation at the time of signing, the board are currently satisfied that the short term implications will not adversely affect the Company's ability to continue to operate as a going concern.

Except for the above, no other matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or could significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company in future financial years.

Note 14 Company Details

The registered office of the Company is:

BioGrid Australia Limited
Level 8, CMR Building
Royal Melbourne Hospital
300 Grattan St, Parkville Victoria 3052

BioGrid Australia Limited

31 136 185 647

Directors' Declaration

The Directors have determined that the Company is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

The Directors of the Company declare that:

- (a) the financial report and notes are prepared in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, and;
- (b) In the Directors' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15 (2) of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.



Robert Grenfell
Director

Date: 5 October 2020



David Polonsky
Director

Independent Audit Report to the members of BioGrid Australia Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of BioGrid Australia Limited (the Company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020, the statement of income and expenditure and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Company is in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- a. giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2020 and of its financial performance for the year ended; and

- b. complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

Basis of Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

20 Albert St, Blackburn VIC 3130
T +61 3 9894 2500 F +61 3 9894 1622
contact@sawarddawson.com.au
sawarddawson.com.au



 **Russell Bedford**
taking you further
Member of Russell Bedford International

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

Emphasis of Matter

Basis of Accounting

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report is prepared to assist BioGrid Australia Limited to meet the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

Responsibilities of Directors for the Financial Report

The Directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



Seward Dawson



Jeffrey Tulk
Partner

Blackburn, Victoria
Dated: 5 October 2020

20 Albert St, Blackburn VIC 3130
T +61 3 9894 2500 F +61 3 9894 1622
contact@sawarddawson.com.au
sawarddawson.com.au



Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

BioGrid Australia

ABN: 31 136 185 647

Level 8, CMR Building
Royal Melbourne Hospital
300 Grattan Street,
Parkville 3052 Victoria

T +61 (0)3 9342 2690

F +61 (0)3 9342 8548

enquiries@biogrid.org.au
www.biogrid.org.au

Design: Taylor & Grace



BioGrid
Connecting health information