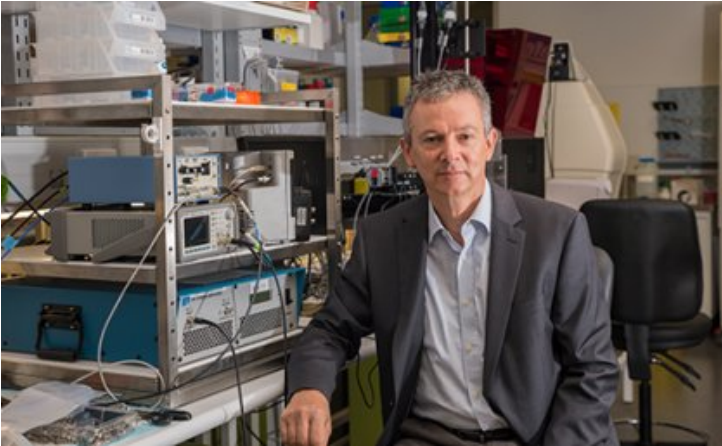


Australian researchers to start clinical trials for dementia ultrasound treatment

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Federal Minister for Health Greg Hunt MP has announced \$10 million in funding.



Safety testing of a pioneering ultrasound technique that could delay the effects of dementia will begin in Brisbane late next year, led by University of Queensland researchers.

Federal Minister for Health Greg Hunt MP has announced \$10 million in funding, which along with philanthropic donations brings UQ closer to its \$30 million goal to commence clinical trials and further progress the associated research.

The phase 1 trial involving a small number of patients will explore whether the technique developed at UQ's Queensland Brain Institute (QBI) in 2015 is safe to use in the fight against the degenerative condition.

UQ QBI Director Professor Pankaj Sah said government and philanthropic funding would help researchers accelerate the development of the technique, understand the underlying mechanisms and how it might be used to more effectively treat dementia.

The funding will support the 90-strong team of researchers at QBI's Clem Jones Centre for Ageing Dementia Research (CJCADR) over the next five years.