JDRF Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation

dedicated to finding a cure

Research Funding

The mission of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation is to find a cure for type 1 diabetes and its complications through the support of research.

JDRF is committed to developing new and better treatments that improve the lives of people with type 1 diabetes in the near term and keep them healthy on the advance toward a cure.

- Since its founding in 1970 in the US and in 1982 in Australia by parents of children with type 1 diabetes, JDRF has funded more than US$ 1.4 billion in research.
- In 2009-10 JDRF funded nearly US$101 million globally, more than $42 million of which represented new scientific projects.
- More than 80 percent of JDRF's expenditures directly support research and research-related education.
- In 2009-10, JDRF funded research projects in 22 countries, including more than 40 human clinical trials.
- More than 40 research projects are supported by JDRF in Australia.

Australian Excellence

Australian scientists deliver world-class breakthroughs in type 1 diabetes research. JDRF plays a leading role in funding, managing, and influencing this progress.

Each year JDRF directly funds more Australian research, while working closely with the research community, other funding bodies and Governments to increase the overall volume and impact of research conducted in Australia.

Australian scientists attract the highest per capita allocation of competitive research investment by JDRF International, a direct reflection on the quality of Australian diabetes research.

2009-10 International Research Funding

Immune Therapies	US $33 million
Beta Cell Therapies	US $39.8 million
Glucose Control	US $5.9 million
Complications Therapies	US $22.1 million

Total US $100.8 million

Research Strategy – four targets

Immune Therapies

Stopping the immune system attack on the body's insulin-producing beta cells that causes type 1 diabetes.

Focus: antigen-specific therapies that would reverse the immune attack in type 1 diabetes without suppressing the entire immune system, which is important for protecting against infection.

Beta Cell Therapies

Restoring the body's ability to make insulin through:

- Regeneration of insulin-producing beta cells, where the body is triggered to re-grow beta cells
- Replacement of the beta cells lost to diabetes

Focus: regeneration because of its potential to restore beta cell function in the largest number of people living with type 1 diabetes.

Glucose Control

Dramatically improving blood glucose control while avoiding dangerous highs and lows in people at all stages of type 1 diabetes.

Focus: the development of a closed loop artificial pancreas, a device combining glucose monitors and insulin pumps, to enable people to achieve tight blood glucose control and reduce their risk of complications. JDRF is also prioritising the development of novel insulins that are glucose-responsive, faster-acting, easier to use, and more effective.

Complications Therapies

Freeing people from the devastating long-term complications that can accompany diabetes, including diseases of the eyes, nerves, and kidneys.

Focus: research in complications protection, or new approaches to assess risk and block complications from developing and progressing.