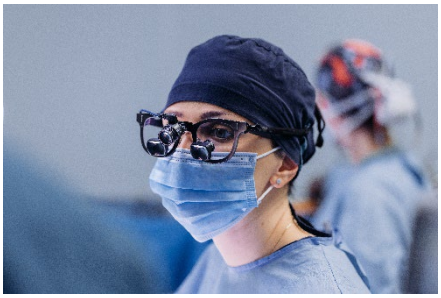
Australian Clinical Trials Alliance

ANNUAL REPORT

2025 – 2026








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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ACTA acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands and waters on which we live and rely. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

ACTA acknowledge all consumer advocates and representatives, carers and clinical trial participants who continue to inspire and shape our work.

ACTA sincerely thank our members, consumers, and the investigator-initiated clinical trial sector community for their valuable interactions, insights, inputs, and support during the reporting period.

ABOUT ACTA

ACTA is the national peak body supporting and representing more than 10,000 individuals who conduct and support the delivery and effectiveness of clinical trials in Australia.

We ensure the voice of our members is included in Government decision making, policy development and sector reforms.

OUR VISION

Better health through best evidence

OUR MISSION

To promote effective and cost-effective healthcare in Australia through investigator-initiated clinical trials and Clinical Quality Registries that generate evidence to support decisions made by health practitioners, policy-makers and consumers.

WHO WE REPRESENT

Australian Clinical Trials Alliance

CLINICAL TRIAL NETWORKS

Clinical Trial Networks (CTNs) are a collaborative network of clinician researchers that identify critical clinical questions and design large trials to answer them.

CLINICAL QUALITY REGISTRIES

Clinical Quality Registries (CQRs) monitor the quality of health care within specific domains by routine collection, analyses and reporting of health-related information for a self-improving health system.

COORDINATING TRIAL CENTRES (CTCS)

Undertake trial design, analysis and methodology research, while providing direct project management for trial conduct.

SITE RESEARCH ORGANISATIONS (SROS)

(PRIMARY, SECONDARY AND TERTIARY)

Are embedded in health services and provide direct patient care in both public and private settings across all Australian Jurisdictions.

CONSUMERS

Provide important lived-experience insights into the development of clinical trials and/or participate in trials as part of their health care journey.

GOVERNMENTS AND AGENCIES

Support Australia's position as a destination of choice for clinical trials through effective reforms, funding programs, and safety and quality accreditation.

INDUSTRY

Connect with CTNs, CTCs, and SROs to develop and deliver clinical trials.

OUR MEMBERS

- Adaptive Health Intelligence
- AKESA
- ALCOA Clinical Research Organisation
- ASPREE National Coordinating & Clinical Trial Centre
- Australasian Kidney Trials Network
- Australasian Leukaemia and Lymphoma Group
- Australasian Myeloma Research Consortium
- Australasian Nursing and Midwifery Clinical Trials Network
- Australasian Radiopharmaceutical Trials Network
- Australasian Society for Infectious Diseases Clinical Research Network
- Australasian Stroke Trials Network
- Australasian Type 1 Diabetes Immunotherapy Collaborative
- Australasian College for Emergency Medicine Clinical Trials Group
- Australia & New Zealand Gynaecological Oncology Group
- Australia and New Zealand Liver and Intestinal Transplant Registry
- Australia and New Zealand Musculoskeletal Clinical Trials Group
- Australia and New Zealand Sarcoma Association Limited
- Australia and New Zealand Society of Cardiac & Thoracic Surgeons National Cardiac Surgery Database Program
- Australian & New Zealand Children's Haematology/Oncology Group (ANZCHOG)
- Australian & New Zealand Neonatal Network
- Australian & New Zealand Urogenital & Prostate Cancer Trials Group
- Australian and New Zealand Alliance for Cardiovascular Trials
- Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists Clinical Trials Network
- Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care Society
- Australian and New Zealand Transplant and Cellular Therapies
- Australian Centre for Health Services Innovation - Queensland University of Technology
- Australian Orthopaedic Association
- Australian Red Cross Lifeblood
- Avatar Brokers Pty Limited
- Breast Cancer Trials
- Cancer Trials Australia
- Canteen - The Australian Organisation for Young People Living with Cancer
- Centre for Biostatistics and Clinical Trials
- Cerulea Clinical Trials - Centre For Eye Research Australia
- Child and Adolescent Health Service
- Children's Inpatient Research Collaboration of Australia and New Zealand
- Chrysalis Advisory Pty Ltd
- Clinical Hub for Interventional Research
- Clinical Trials Platform - La Trobe University
- Cooperative Trials Group for Neuro-Oncology
- Coronary Angiogram Database of South Australia
- Curtin Centre for Clinical Research and Education
- Datapharm Australia Pty Ltd
- Foundation for Angelman Syndrome Therapeutics Australia
- GenesisCare Site Research Organisation
- GI Cancer Trials
- Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service
- Golden Logistics Australia - Pakair Cargo Specialists
- Grampians Health
- Growing Minds Australia
- HealthMatch Pty Ltd
- Hunter Medical Research Institute
- IMPACT TRIALS, School of Medicine, Deakin University
- Ingham Institute
- InsideOut Institute
- Interdisciplinary Maternal Perinatal Australasian Collaborative Trials Network
- Kids Cancer Centre, Sydney Children's Hospital
- Lead Lists Data Solutions
- LifeSciences Australia
- Mackay Institute of Research and Innovation
- Mater Misericordiae Health Services Brisbane Limited
- Medical Technology Association of Australia
- Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials Limited
- Melanoma Institute Australia
- Melbourne Children's Trials Centre
- Mental Health Australia Adult General Clinical Trials Network (MAGNET), Deakin University
- Menzies School of Health Research
- Methods and Implementation Support for Clinical and Health Research
- Metro North Hospital And Health Service QLD
- MEXEC
- Monash University Clinical Trials Centre
- MQ Health
- MS Australia
- National Allergy Centre of Excellence
- National Endometriosis Clinical and Scientific Trials Network
- Neurodevelopment Australia
- NHMRC Clinical Trials Centre
- NHMRC Synergy in Alcohol Treatment
- NSW Drug and Alcohol Clinical Research and Improvement Network
- Olivia Newton-John Cancer Research Institute
- OMICO (Australian Genomic Cancer Medicine Centre)
- Orygen
- Paediatric Research in Emergency Departments International Collaborative
- PRAXIS Australia
- Primary Care Collaborative Cancer Clinical Trials Group, University of Melbourne
- Psycho-oncology Co-operative Research Group
- Pulmonary Fibrosis Australasian Clinical Trials
- PureCDM
- Queensland Centre for Gynaecological Cancer Research
- Queensland Centre for Mental Health Research
- Ramsay Health Care Australia Pty Limited
- Regional Trials Network - Victoria
- Research Australia
- Research Path Pty Ltd
- Resonance Health Analysis Services Pty Ltd
- Save Our Sons Duchenne Foundation
- Save Sight Institute
- South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute
- Spiral Network
- St John of God Healthcare Inc
- Sydney Local Health District
- Telstra Health
- The Australian Frailty Network
- The George Institute for Global Health
- The PARTNER Network, University of Melbourne
- The Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand
- Therapeutic & Vaccine Development Research Group, The Kirby Institute
- Therapeutic Innovation Australia
- Thoracic Oncology Group of Australasia
- Trans Tasman Radiation Oncology Group (TROG Cancer Research)
- Translational Research Institute
- TrialScreen Pty Ltd
- TrialWrite
- University of Queensland Clinical Trials Centre
- UNSW Medicine and Health, Clinical Research Unit
- VCCC Alliance
- Victorian Ambulance Cardiac Arrest Registry
- Victorian Cardiac Outcomes Registry
- Walter and Eliza Hall Institute for Medical Research
- WeGuide Pty Ltd
- Wesley Research Institute Ltd
- WriteSource Medical Pty Ltd
- 360 Biolabs Pty Ltd

OUR IMPACT

The 2025/2026 year has been another period of high activity and engagement for ACTA. These efforts have focused on areas of greatest impact for our members and the sector.

Our National Communities of Practice

During the year we facilitated 440 interactions through our National Communities of Practice, and we know that this has helped to improve practice by coordinating national expertise across disciplines, geographies and trial functions.

Our active National Communities of Practice are:

- Special Interest Group for Network Managers (SIGNet)
- Coordinating Trial Centres Special Interest Group (CC SIG)
- Clinical Quality Registries Special Interest Group (CQR SIG)
- Statistics In Trials Interest Group (STInG)
- Health Economics Alongside Trials Special Interest Group (HEAT SIG)
- ACTA Teletrials Raising Equity of Access to Clinical Trials Special Interest Group (REACT-SIG)
- Adaptive Platform Trials Operations Special Interest Group (APTO SIG)
- Translation Of Research Into Practice Special Interest Group (TRIP SIG)
- Consumer Equity, Engagement and Diversity Special Interest Group (CEED SIG)

Our targeted workforce and capability development activities

We delivered workforce development opportunities during the year which helped to strengthen the Australian clinical trials and registries workforce.

Our development activities included the following events and webinars:

- Estimating inequalities in health using quality-adjusted life expectancy: equity implications for health technology assessment and clinical trials
- Interim Data Sharing by Data Safety Monitoring Board: What to share, with whom, and why – Part 1
- Economic evaluation alongside clinical trials in the anthropocene
- STInG Chat – What makes this trial great?
- The challenges of stopping trials for benefit: Lessons learnt from the immediate Kangaroo Mother Care (iKMC) trial – Part 2
- CQR SIG Inside Scoop: Behind the Scenes of Two Game-Changing Department of Health Projects
- Adaptive Allies: The Evolving Roles of DSMBs and Investigators in Bayesian Platform Trials – Part 3
- Distributional cost-effectiveness analysis (DCEA) methods
- Treatment switching in oncology trials and integration into economic modelling practices
- Conducting economic evaluation alongside paediatric clinical trials: special considerations and examples
- The target trial framework for causal inference: a primer
- Social value of a Childhood QALY- Revealed preferences from pharmaceutical funding decisions in Australia 2005–2023

Resource development

To support clinical trialists to better understand the key domains in the planning and conduct of Adaptive Platform Trials in July 2025, the ACTA Adaptive Platform Trials Operations Special Interest Group (APTO SIG) launched an Adaptive Platform Trials Operational Reference Document.

The writing group aimed to deliver a comprehensive yet practical roadmap for executing successful APTs to accelerate therapeutic progress for patients and populations in need. The authors hope that the document will serve as a foundation for the continued advancement and uptake of APTs by the clinical trials community while promoting rigorous methodological standards that uphold these innovative designs' scientific and ethical integrity.

ACTA sincerely thank the resource editors Arlen Wilcox and Roberta Littleford, and members of the ACTA Adaptive Platform Trial Operations Special Interest Group, for their contribution of insights and time in developing this resource.

Peer reviewed publications

Through our National Communities of Practice, ACTA supported the publication of a peer-reviewed paper in the reporting period.

- ***A practical guide to simulation for an adaptive trial design with a single interim analysis***
  Trials, October 2025
  DOI: https://doi.org/10.1186/s13063-025-09100-5

  When using simulation to design an adaptive trial, the simulations must be tailored to the unique design requirements of the trial at hand. This tutorial provides a foundational framework designed to make the simulation process more accessible to both statisticians and clinicians.

ACTA sincerely thank the publication authors and contributors for sharing their insights and expertise into this paper.

Driving sector projects

Australian Teletrials Program
In the reporting period ACTA successfully fulfilled all contracted activities, and we concluded our collaboration with the Australian Teletrials Program. The project helped to deliver capacity building and education for Clinical Trial Networks and Coordinating Trial Centres, to help plan and run Teletrials across regional, rural and remote sites in Australia and across all therapeutic areas.

We are continuing our work in improving clinical trial access continues through the ACTA Teletrials Raising Equity of Access to Clinical Trials Special Interest Group (REACT-SIG).

Data Connect Australia
ACTA supported Data Connect Australia (formally the Population Health Research Network) to develop an online training module designed to help researchers better understand How to plan and apply for linked data and navigate the access and approval process. This resource was launched in May 2026.

2025 ACTA CLINICAL TRIALS AND REGISTRIES SYMPOSIUM

The 2025 ACTA Clinical Trials and Registries Symposium was held in Melbourne from 17–19 November at the Crown Promenade.

Over three days, the Symposium convened researchers, industry leaders, policymakers, consumers and healthcare professionals to engage in robust discussion and collaboration on the evolving landscape of clinical trials and registries.



A key highlight of the 2025 program was the record number of exhibitors and abstract submissions, reflecting strong sector engagement and continued growth in clinical trials and healthcare innovation.

The dedicated Registries Day, together with a series of specialised workshops, provided valuable opportunities for in-depth exploration of advances in registry development and the role registries in supporting self-improving healthcare systems.



The Great Debate once again proved to be a standout session, energising attendees through lively and thought-provoking discussion on pressing challenges and emerging innovations across the sector.

The ACTA 2025 Symposium successfully facilitated knowledge-sharing, strengthened professional networks and fostered meaningful collaboration, reaffirming its position as a leading forum for the clinical trials and registries community.



We sincerely thank the Symposium Convenors Prof Nadine Foster, Ms tamara Hooper, Prof Katherine Lee and Ms Jade Newman. We also thank the Organising Committees, presenters, facilitators, and delegates.

We also acknowledge the generosity and support of our event sponsors:

- **Bellberry Limited** (Silver sponsor)
- **Monash University** (Lanyard Sponsor)

Thanks also to our event exhibitors:

- Akesa
- ALMAC
- ARCS
- ARDC
- Bellberry
- Golden Logistics Australia / PakAir
- Hunter Medical Research Institute
- Playtime Solutions
- Australian Teletrial Program
- SensiTech
- Syntro
- TGA
- TrialDocs

OUR BOARD

CHAIR

PROF CHRISTOPHER REID

BA DIP ED MSC PHD



Christopher Reid is a cardiovascular epidemiologist with appointments as John Curtin Distinguished Professor in the School of Population Health at Curtin University and Research Professor at the School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Monash University. He is also Director of Monash and Curtin Centre's of Cardiovascular Research and Education (CCRE) and the NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence in Cardiovascular Outcomes Improvement.

DEPUTY CHAIR

PROF KATHERINE LEE

BSc Mathematics, MSC, PhD



Katherine Lee is a Professor of Biostatistics at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute (MCRI) and the University of Melbourne, where she is the co-Director of the Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics Unit and the Associate Director: Biostatistics of the Melbourne Children's Trials Centre.

PROF DAVID BEARD

GDPhys, MCSP, MA, MSc, DPhil, FBOA (hon), FRCS (hon)



David Beard is a Professor and Surgical & Complex Intervention Trials Program Lead at the NHMRC Clinical Trials Centre, University of Sydney. He is also Professor of Musculoskeletal and Surgical Sciences at the University of Oxford, an NIHR Senior Investigator, and the Director of the Royal College of Surgeons Surgical Intervention Trials Unit.

PROF SCOTT BELL

MBBS MD FRACP FAHMS GAICD



Scott Bell is the Chair of Research, Gold Coast Health and Griffith University. He is a Senior Respiratory Physician with an interest in adult cystic fibrosis. In 2025, he was appointed as the Biomedical Advisor to the Queensland Government.

PROF NADINE FOSTER

DPhil BSc(Hons), FCSP



Nadine Forster is the Academic Director of the University of Queensland's Clinical Trials Centre (UQCTC) and an NHMRC Investigator Fellow. She is also the program lead for the Health Research Accelerator (HERA 2) program focused on innovation in clinical trials (ULTRA - UQ's Clinical Trial Capability) and a theme lead for clinical trials in the Centre of Innovation in Pain and Health Research (CIPHeR).

DR SHERMAN LEUNG

PhD GDPhys, MCSP, MA, MSc, DPhil, FBOA (hon), FRCS (hon)



Sherman Leung is the Head of Research Operations at Wesley Research Institute. He is also Co-Chair to the Clinical and Consumer Advisory Group of the Australian Teletrials Program and Chair to the Clinical Trials Advocacy Working Group of the Queensland Clinical Trials Consortium.

PROF TRISHA PEEL

MBBS (Hons), GradCertClinRes, FRACP, PhD



Trisha Peel is an Infectious Diseases Physician, and the Deputy Director (Research), Department of Infectious Diseases, Monash University and Alfred Health.

MR KIERAN SCHNEEMANN



Kieran Schneemann is a government affairs practitioner with more than 30 years' experience in global companies, Australian institutions, and all levels of government. He currently works as an independent consultant.

MR IAN WILSON

FCPA ACIS AGIA MAICD



Ian Wilson is an experienced Director having held senior finance and corporate governance professional with an early career in the commercial sector and then over 20 years' experience in the not-for-profit sector.

Retired Directors:

- Prof Sophia Zoungas retired on 17 November 2025
- Ms Anne McKenzie AM retired on 17 November 2025

OUR TEAM


ACTA BOARD
CHAIR: Prof Christopher Reid
Finance Audit and Risk Committee
Nominations Committee
Membership Committee
ACTA CENTRAL TEAM
Projects
Events and Communications
Policy and Advocacy
ACTA OPERATIONS
National Communities of Practice
Targeted workforce and capability development
Supporting and delivering Government initiatives
ACTA PROJECTS
ACTA COMMUNITY
ACTA Advisory Council
ACTA Members
Sector partners and stakeholders

OUR THANKS

STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

FINANCE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

- Prof Christopher Reid (Chair)
- Mr Kieran Schneemann
- Mr Ian Wilson
- Prof Katherine Lee

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

- Prof Trisha Peel
- Prof Belinda Gabbe
- Prof Sophia Zoungas *(until November 2025)*

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

- Prof Christopher Reid (Chair)
- Mr Kieran Schneemann
- Prof Sophia Zoungas *(until November 2025)*

EVENT CONVENERS

2025 CLINICAL TRIALS AND REGISTRIES SYMPOSIUM

- Prof Katherine Lee and Prof Nadine Foster
- Ms Tamara Hooper and Ms Jade Newman

EVENT SPONSORS

2025 CLINICAL TRIALS AND REGISTRIES SYMPOSIUM

Silver sponsor

Bellberry Limited supporting research and ethics

Lanyard Sponsor

MONASH University

EVENT EXHIBITORS

2025 CLINICAL TRIALS AND REGISTRIES SYMPOSIUM

- Akesa
- ALMAC
- ARCS
- ARDC
- Bellberry
- Golden Logistics Australia / PakAir
- Hunter Medical Research Institute
- Playtime Solutions
- Australian Teletrial Program
- SensiTech
- Syntro
- TGA
- TrialDocs

COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE LEADERS

ADAPTIVE PLATFORM TRIALS OPERATIONS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (APTO SIG)

- Ms Grace McPhee
- Ms Kelly Fredell (from March 2026)
- Dr Roberta Littleford *(until March 2026)*

CLINICAL QUALITY REGISTRIES SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (CQR SIG)

- Ms Tamara Hooper
- Ms Jade Newman

COORDINATING TRIAL CENTRES SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (CTC SIG)

- Prof Andrew Davidson
- Ms Helen Monaghan

HEALTH ECONOMICS ALONGSIDE TRIALS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (HEAT SIG)

- Dr Lisa Higgins
- A/Prof Nhung Nghiem (from November 2025)
- A/Prof Richard Norman (until November 2025)

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP FOR NETWORK MANAGERS (SIGNet)

- Dr Cecilia Ng
- Mr John Andrews

STATISTICS IN TRIALS INTEREST GROUP (STInG)

- Prof Andrew Forbes
- Prof Katherine Lee

TRANSLATION OF RESEARCH INTO PRACTICE SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (TRIP SIG)

- A/Prof Ingrid Hickman
- Dr Nicola Straiton

CONSUMER ENGAGEMENT, EQUITY AND DIVERSITY SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

- Dr Janelle Bowden *(until November 2025)*
- Ms Anne McKenzie AM *(until November 2025)*

ACTA TELETRIALS RAISING EQUITY OF ACCESS TO CLINICAL TRIALS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (REACT-SIG)

- Prof Nik Zeps
- A/Prof Christopher Williams (from September 2025)

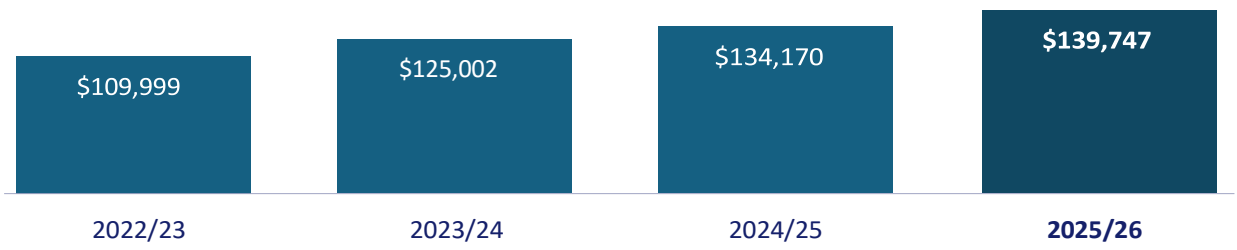
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the year ended 30 June 2026.

	2025/26 $	2024/25 $
REVENUE		
Revenue	**744,411**	1,711,283
Other income	**8,754**	9,646
EXPENSES		
Employee benefits expense	**(548,172)**	(792,567)
Depreciation and amortisation expense	**(5,619)**	(71,318)
Audit, legal and consultancy expenses	**(103,219)**	(104,041)
Event, conference and meeting expenses	**(349,733)**	(332,642)
Project management fees	**(-)**	(70,182)
Program expenses	**(67,297)**	(185,694)
Finance costs	**(22)**	(1,947)
Administration	**(51,681)**	(49,361)
Other expenses	**(77,487)**	(84,723)
Surplus/(deficit) before income tax expense	**(450,065)**	28,454

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2026		
Total assets	**495,633**	1,201,869
Total liabilities	**91,860**	348,031
Net assets	**403,773**	853,838

Membership fees





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