

UNSW Ageing Futures Institute

The UNSW Ageing Futures Institute combines world-leading research capability in psychology, population health, social sciences, law, biomedical engineering, telehealth, social robotics, experimental arts, built environment and economics. Diverse collaboration methods and bring an interdisciplinary and life-course approach to research. Building on strong partnerships with government, industry, academic and community collaborators, the UNSW Ageing Futures Institute aims to deliver real-world impact.

Competitive advantage

- A connected ecosystem of industry, community, NGO and local, state and federal government partners, with a focus on stakeholder priorities and needs
- Access to cohort studies of healthy ageing allowing for life-course and big data approaches
- Unique research infrastructure including National Facility for Human Robot Interaction Research and the Felt Experience and Empathy Lab (fEEL)
- Research programs promoting healthy ageing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
- Expertise in brain health, cognitive ageing, and dementia including interventions, imaging, and clinics
- Powerful qualitative research capabilities, including co-design, participatory and arts-based methods, to explore the experiences of ageing, increase empathy and reduce stigma
- Data-analytics and extensive modelling of financial, health and social trends to inform national and international policy
- Telehealth, e-health, m-health and smart design to support people ageing at home.

Impact

- Interventions and clinical trials to optimise brain health and prevent cognitive decline
- Invention of devices and apps to promote independence and health, and manage illness
- Contributions to national and international policy in ageing across social, health, public health, economic, technology, housing, accessibility and aged care domains
- Creating arts-based approaches to communicate the challenges of ageing, address ageism and stigma and promote empathy to the wider public

More Information

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Successful outcomes

- Standing Tall fall prevention app developed for people living at home and in aged care
- Informed policy and practice development in key domains including development of the WHO Guidelines on Risk Reduction for Cognitive Decline and Dementia
- Research used in the developments of practice guides for referral to elder mediation services and the implementation of GP dementia training and care guidelines
- Ageing Program of The Big Anxiety Festival, delivering arts-based experiences to illuminate the challenges and experiences of ageing
- Modelling of financial and health trends used by government and industry to inform policy and practice

Our partners

• Numerous industry, community, NGO and local, state and federal government partners