



**Asthma
Australia**

25 February 2019

Australian Lung Health Initiative Pty Ltd
c/o Professor Andreas Fouras
169 Fullerton Road
Dulwich SA 5065

Asthma Australia Limited

ABN 91 609 156 630

1800 ASTHMA

(1800 278 462)

asthmaaustralia.org.au

Dear Professor Fouras,

Asthma is a common and often life-threatening condition, affecting around 2.7 million people (11.2% of the population) and responsible for more than 400 deaths per year in Australia. Among developed countries, Australia has the highest prevalence of asthma and is among the worst 7 high-income countries for mortality due to asthma. Asthma is a complex heterogenous disease for which the standard diagnostic and treatment modalities are yet to be optimised in Australia.

For over 50 years Asthma Australia and the Asthma Foundations have been leaders in asthma health care, education, research and advocacy. We deliver evidence-based preventative health strategies through our information provision, phone line and asthma referral and coaching service.

We support research that contributes to national and international understandings of asthma and how best to manage the disease. And we advocate on the issues that are important to people with asthma, to ensure policies are in place to support people with asthma achieve optimal health.

Through this work, we represent the 2.7 million Australians with asthma and reach more than 500,000 Australians each year.

Asthma Australia understands that *'The Frontiers project: 4D Functional Diagnosis: A New Frontier in Lung Health for Children'* seeks funding to develop entirely new lung health diagnostic abilities, focussing on creating a paediatric scanner so that children under 6 years of age –in whom lung function cannot be effectively measured – can benefit from fast detailed measurement of the functioning of their lungs. We understand the technique is also rapid, safe, and will give a detailed picture of where disease is present, improving treatment options.

Further, Asthma Australia understands that the Australian Lung Health Initiative (ALHI) team will further develop their methods to detect lung motion everywhere in the lung, so that the XV imaging technology has substantial potential to improve diagnosis and treatment of asthma. Improved detection, understanding and treatment of young children with asthma, and the ability to extend the technology to all ages, means this could be a game-changing development in lung health testing in general and for people with asthma specifically.

ACT Unit 12, Health and Wellbeing Hub Corner, Eggleston and Maclaurin Crescents, Chifley ACT 2606 - 02 6282 4186

Head Office and NSW Lvl 13, Tower B, 799 Pacific Highway, Chatswood NSW 2067 - 02 9906 3233

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Asthma Australia strongly supports the ALHI's application to the Frontiers scheme, where the continued development to ensure commercialisation, manufacture and use of this innovative XV scanning platform is achieved. Success in this project will make a very big difference to the lives of children and adults suffering from asthma in Australia and around the world.

Yours faithfully

Michele Goldman
Chief Executive Officer

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