

AUSTRALIA - BRAZIL

# VIRTUAL RESEARCH COLLABORATION

2021 Edition on Covid-19 related research.

## HEALTH SYSTEMS RESPONSE AND PUBLIC POLICIES

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INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORTER:



CO-ORGANIZATION:



Australian Government  
Department of Education,  
Skills and Employment

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# Brief Overview



# Outlines

- Key Discussion points
- Similarities between Australian and Brazilian Scenarios
- Collaboration Opportunities
- Next steps / Take home messages

# Medical Protocols and Practices

- Everyone has been struggling with the lack of evidence to support the decision making
- Focus of many researchers are still on disease transmission
- Vaccination rates are still low and borders are about to open in Australia
- Discussions about guidelines for pre-natal and obstetrics model care during COVID
- Discussions about how public health systems work across the countries
- Lack of a national guideline for mass gatherings

# Virus Tracing and Communication

- Federal systems on both sides also create comparable challenges
- In Australia health is a state not federal issue with access to data across and within state health depts very difficult
- Australia has a good genomic sequence system for Influenza
- Main concern in Brazil around population behaviour, since they are stopping wearing of masks and avoiding social isolation
- A lot of under-reporting of disease during COVID pandemic

# Nutrition and Diseases Burden

- Nutrition and its impact on diseases
- New classification of foods, related to ultra-processed foods
- App developed in Brazil that helps people to understand and interpret the information on food labels
- Ethica App Platform, which allows someone to participate in clinical research
- How nutrition status may impact COVID patients
- How nutrition status may influence outcomes during hospitalization

# Early-Mid Career Researchers

- Importance of Data quality and models raised from them
- Interplay between data analytics and modeling
- Gaps in research: data linkage between university/states/countries, delay between data analysis and publication of findings

# Collaborative Initiatives / Opportunities

- Clinical Studies
- Projects related to massive surveillance, including genomic
- Nutritional impact on COVID outcomes
- Studies using clinical national-based datasets

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# Next Steps / Take Home Messages

- Exchange information and continue discussions between Brazil and Australia researchers
- Contact the Australian researchers to get an intention letter
- Design a joint research project about one of main themes raised during the breakout sessions
- Organize future events to move forward.

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