

# NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2022



## FROM THE ACvA LEADERSHIP

Here we are at the end of October, starting to think about the year that was and the year that will be. Some members will be looking towards 2023 and their projects that have received funding in the recent MRFF, NHMRC and Heart Foundation rounds. Congratulations to all the people and projects who are in this cohort!! CVD research needs your dedication and innovations.

When you read about the [MRFF](#), [Investigator Grant](#) and [Heart Foundation](#) projects you'll be energised by how diverse, bold and ambitious the CVD research being undertaken in Australia is. It left us optimistic about outcomes and possibilities and makes us incredibly proud to support cardiovascular researchers. Congratulations again, to all those individuals, teams and organisations across the country and the sector who were successful in these rounds!

We also know there are members who are no less dedicated or driven to solve CVDs big questions who didn't get the funding they applied for. We're sorry for the many grant application hours and any uncertainty about your research and we will continue to support more diverse funding and funding approaches in our strategic initiatives and advocacy.

Many would agree that it's time to examine current funding models and try something different. Our Executive Director Kerry Doyle OAM PSM, reflected on other ways that we can harness the talent of Australian researchers and create a sustainable sector in a recent thought piece [Creating a Powerful Medical Research Workforce](#).

Our Treasurer A/Professor Christina Bursill, Secretary Professor Jamie Vandenberg and President Professor Gemma Figtree also had something to say about funding models and how critical it is that Discovery Science is included in the translational pathway in their journal article [Don't turn off the tap! The importance of discovery science to the Australian cardiovascular sector and improving clinical outcomes into the future](#). You can read more about what they have to say in this [press release](#).

Finally, we'd like to congratulate our Deputy President Professor Jamie Vandenberg who was awarded **The 2022 NSW CVRN Ministerial Award for Cardiovascular Research Excellence** on Tuesday night!!

He is tireless champion and advocate for Discovery Science and co-led the introduction of ACvA's seventh flagship representing [Disease Mechanisms](#). He also stewarded the revamp of the ACvA's Scientific Advisory Committee and led to the development and successful operation of ACvA's [Clinical Themes Initiative](#).

He has been active throughout his career in the support of early to mid-career researchers and demonstrates collaboration, mentorship, humility and generosity in all of his roles. He has a clear vision for the future of the cardiovascular research sector and the patience, planning capabilities,

networks and trust to ensure this vision can become reality. You can read more about the award and his outstanding achievements [HERE](#).

## ACvA ACTIVITIES

### UPDATE - 2022 ACvA Excellence in Cardiovascular Awards



Scheduling conflicts with other sector events and general end-of-year shutdown periods mean that the ceremony for our [2022 ACvA Excellence in Cardiovascular Research Awards](#) will now be held in February 2023.

We'll include a save-the-date in our December newsletter and expect an invite in the early New Year!

### AGM Save-the-date



If you haven't already, then mark Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 1-2pm in your diaries for the ACvA 2022 Annual General Meeting. All members are invited to attend and vote at this online event. If you can't attend, please nominate and send a proxy or provide a vote via our proxy form [\[link?\]](#).

There are still four days left, if you wish to nominate for the ACvA Board, so follow this [LINK](#) if you would like to nominate by Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October. Links

for voting and attending the online meeting will be in your Inbox soon.

### New Podcast – Pulsewave by ACvA



Everyone loves a podcast, right? Well now ACvA has one and the first episode has just dropped!

Hosts [Dr Kate Hayward](#), [Dr Jatin Patel](#) and [Dr Celine Santiago](#) are big podcast fans themselves. However, they couldn't see anything that accurately reflected what was going on in cardiovascular research in Australia.

"There are so many amazing people doing extraordinary research and we wanted to get a chance to showcase that," said Dr Santiago. Dr Patel agreed. "There are podcasts about stroke or heart disease but nothing

that brings it together in the unique context of what's happening here."

Dr Hayward said, "We wanted to combine what we love from our favourite science podcasts and share what's happening in the local cardiovascular research space."

From next year, expect to hear bi-monthly episodes reflecting the passionate and diverse pursuits of clinicians, clinician scientists, nurses, allied health professionals and researchers from across the spectrum of cardiovascular research.

[Episode one](#) features our Executive Director, Kerry Doyle OAM PSM on how the Australian Cardiovascular Alliance (ACvA) is serving the cardiovascular research sector in Australia, some of the challenges the sector is facing and what her vision for ACvA's future is.

[LISTEN TO EPISODE 1](#)

### Disease Mechanisms Flagship Co-Directors



We'd like to welcome the new Directors of our Disease Mechanisms Flagship, Dr Mary Kavurma and Dr Alex Pinto.



They are both passionate advocates of Discovery Science and bring the right balance of experience and vision to the Co-Director positions. They'll lead our Disease Mechanisms Advisory Group and be instrumental in identifying key priorities and developing a plan that advocates for diverse funding and better integration of Discovery Science into the research pipeline



Discovery Science is the key to research breakthroughs and transformative health outcomes and we're excited to see what priorities will be identified under their Directorship.

## Big Data Flagship breakfast session



and Lee Nedkoff

As part of the Health Services Research Association Australia and NZ Conference our Big Data Flagship will be holding ***Progress towards a versatile Big Data Health System for Australia: Driving Improvements in Cardiovascular Health***, a breakfast session on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7.30 am to 8.30am, co-chaired by Dominique Cadilhac

'Big data' are increasingly used in health research and have the potential to significantly impact clinical decision-making and human health. In Australia, there are several initiatives being developed to harness big data sources for research into cardiovascular disease and stroke. Ultimately, the objective of making these data findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable (FAIR) will inform evidence-based policy and practice. This session will cover the use of big data from the Commonwealth Government perspective, innovations in linkages for the national stroke registry, and platforms and processes for improving researcher access to big data assets in Australia.

The session will include:

- 1. Progress on linkage of government datasets for CVD and stroke monitoring**  
**Miriam Lum On**, Head, Cardiovascular, Diabetes and Kidney Unit, Population Health Group, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
- 2. Streamlining governance arrangements for access to government data for research**  
**Professor Louisa Jorm**, Co-director ACvA 'Big Data' Flagship. And Director, Centre for Big Data Research in Health UNSW Sydney
- 3. National Stroke Data Platform and First Nations governance**  
**A/Prof Monique Kilkenny**, Head of the National Stroke Data Linkage Program at Monash University and National Heart Foundation Future Leader Fellow
- 4. Facilitated panel discussion / Q&A**

For more information go [HERE](#).

## Implementation & Policy Flagship



For those who took part in or followed our Implementation & Policy Roundtable which happened in Canberra earlier in the year, we're happy to let you know that the final roundtable report is now available to download.

This version comes after extensive consultation and our open de-brief session. It offers tangible actions and priorities and we're proud to say that this is what happens when there's cross-sector involvement. You can download the final report [HERE](#).

The Implementation and Policy Flagship team is also working on a journal article bringing together insights from the Roundtable. Finally, you can also catch our Implementation & Policy Flagship Co-Directors Professor Garry Jennings and Professor Julie Redfern at the [CVI Implementation and Policy Workshop](#), Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November. You can find more details [HERE](#) in or Network and Partnership Activities below.



## VentriClinical



We had a tremendous series of consultation events on the VentriClinical draft business case over Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> and Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022.

The event took the form of focus group-type discussions representing five of the different stakeholder groups aligned with VentriClinical. These groups included:

- **representatives from existing VentriClinical Service Partners**
- **start-ups and SMEs**
- **industry aligned bodies and Advocates**
- **MedTech Sponsor Companies**
- **government**

Input and commentary came from different perspectives as designed. There is still the chance for further commentary from those unable to attend and a survey document is available.

The collective feedback will be used to generate an updated version of the VentriClinical business case to shape the next stage in the development of the VentriClinical network. The business case will be used to garner support and further membership.

**VentriClinical** is an "operationally-focussed" network to connect and empower businesses, entities, clinicians and professionals to conduct, contribute to or support cardiovascular-orientated medical device innovations with early-phase clinical trials being the initial focus.

For any further information or assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to [jeremy@ventriclinical.org](mailto:jeremy@ventriclinical.org), 0400 410 974 or [Jeremy Simpson](#).

## Emerging Leaders Committee

The Cardiovascular Champions program has launched! We held our first workshop on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October, which focussed on "Strategic Thinking and Career Planning".

Over 40 participants joined us online to hear about career planning for success and identifying strengths and gaps in your CV. Professor Jamie Vandenberg discussed the process of recruitment and we heard from a panel of recently promoted early career researchers – Jatin Patel, Helena Qin, Marc Sim and Seana Gall - who shared their experiences of this process in an interactive panel discussion.

Our next workshop will be held in November with the theme of "Building Your Network and Becoming the Expert".



We've also been busy matching our CV Champions with mentors from across the cardiovascular research sector. We are very grateful to these mentors for their willingness and commitment to this program.

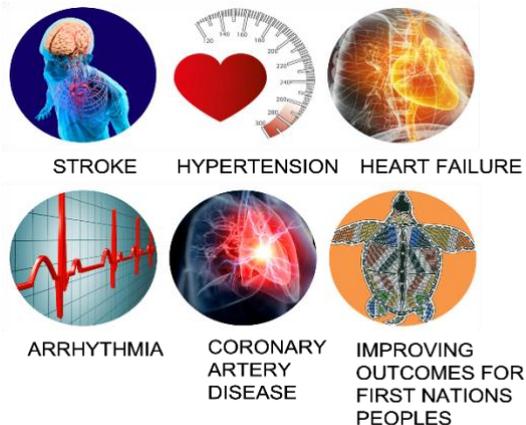
We held a virtual morning tea on October 10<sup>th</sup> to provide details of the CV Champions and Mentoring Program for these mentors, and the recording is available upon request for those unable to attend – please contact [Meng Hsu](#).

As mentioned above, we also launched the new podcast [Pulsewave by ACvA](#). The podcast is an initiative of the Emerging Leaders Committee and is co-hosted by Committee members [Dr Kate Hayward](#), [Dr Jatin Patel](#) and [Dr Celine Santiago](#). You can listen to Episode 1 [HERE](#).

### ACvA Clinical Themes Initiative Workshops

September and October saw our Clinical Themes Initiative holding numerous workshops at every stage of development.

After extensive local and international consultation and numerous workshops over the past year, our **Hypertension Clinical theme** are finalising the membership of their National Hypertension Taskforce to improve blood pressure control in Australia to at least 70% by 2030 in line with the [call to action publication in MJA](#).



During this time our **Stroke theme** has also held several workshops on atrial myopathy (AM) and embolic stroke of undetermined source (ESUS) to further develop a one-page pitch document from the straw man proposal which was first raised. This is being led by Professor Mark Parsons and Professor Ben Freedman. The Stroke recovery and rehabilitation group have also held their first mini workshop, chaired by Professor Julie Bernhardt to further develop their one-page pitch. A small group of project leads have been identified to take things to the next step, in time for a second workshop next month.

Our **Heart Failure** theme held their first workshop last week, facilitated by Professor Peter Macdonald and attended by 30 participants across Australia. We had representation from researchers, clinicians, allied health, government and consumer advocacy groups. The goal of the workshop was to agree on 'one big idea' that would shift the dial and deliver impact for heart failure that would be further developed in follow-up workshops.

Things might be winding down as we head towards December but there are still plenty of meetings in the calendar for our Clinical Themes, so keep an eye out next newsletter for our annual update.

### ACvA Q&A Sessions for Member Organisations

Do you think that you and your organisational members understand how to get the most out of their ACvA membership?

If you're not sure, you can get in touch and arrange a virtual Q&A session so staff can hear about current ACvA projects and initiatives and ask how they might align with their research and how involvement could intersect and enhance their research career.

Institutional membership offers access to networks, support and advocacy for all career stages. Whether it's participation in targeted professional development programs or letters of support, higher degree students, EMCRs and senior researchers can all find out how ACvA can keep them connected within the CV research space.



Email [kerry.doyle@ozheart.org](mailto:kerry.doyle@ozheart.org) to arrange a time.

## NETWORK AND PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITIES

### South Australian Cardiovascular Showcase



This landmark event on **28<sup>th</sup> October** has been organised by ACvA Treasurer and SAHMRI scientist, A/Professor Chris Bursill to promote our outstanding South Australian heart researchers.

Bringing the cardiovascular researcher community together and kick-starting the establishment of a South Australian Cardiovascular Research Network (SACVRN) is a great way to increase collaboration and the competitiveness of SA heart researchers in obtaining critical research funding that saves lives.

Taking part on the day will be the Hon Christopher Picton MP, South Australian Minister for Health and Wellbeing, David Llyod, CEO Heart Foundation, Kerry Doyle, Executive Director Australian Cardiovascular Alliance, Professor Danny Liew, Dean of Medicine, University of Adelaide and Professor Peter Psaltis.



Anyone interested in last minute attendance can email either [Christina.Bursill@sahmri.com](mailto:Christina.Bursill@sahmri.com) or [Tulin.Fisk@sahmri.com](mailto:Tulin.Fisk@sahmri.com).

### Western Australian Cardiovascular Research Alliance



On October 31<sup>st</sup> the Western Australian Cardiovascular Research Alliance (WACRA) and ACvA are co-facilitating a workshop, **Embedding Research into health and the**

#### **economy.**

It will explore how the ACvA and WACRA can support prioritised research collaborations and capacity building in Western Australia and increase the impact from current WA Government investments. It will also look at how we can support the engagement of WA early mid-career researchers in clinically relevant research projects of local importance and national scale.

Recently the WACRA Board endorsed the establishment of an early to mid-career researcher (EMCR) committee. Following a call for nominations they're delighted to announce that Dr Lauren Blekkenhorst (Chair), Dr Hanane Belhoul-Fakir, Dr Nicola Gray, Dr Jamie Bellinge, Dr Jing Pang and Dr Simone Radavelli-Bagatini have been appointed to the committee. The committee is currently working on their Terms of Reference, establishing roles and responsibilities and planning activities.

The committee called for applications for student, early and mid-career Publication Prizes and the finalists were invited to present flash talks at the WACRA AGM at the UniClub on August 30<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations to the following winners:

#### **Student Researcher**

Qidi (Clark) Ying, The University of Western Australia

#### **Early Career Researcher**

Dr Marc Sim, Edith Cowan University

#### **People's Choice Award**

Dr Marc Sim, Edith Cowan University

A big thank you goes out to the EMCR Committee members for their energy and commitment as they engaged with the researchers. WACRA is excited to be working with them.

WACRA will also partner with the Australian Society for Microbiology for the Australian Institute of Medical and Clinical Scientists Conference November 12, 2022 at the UWA UniClub. WACRA members are invited to submit an abstract and present their research. The event will be supported by the Heart Foundation. You can find out more [HERE](#).

## NSW Cardiovascular Research Network



Three cheers for all the Finalists and Winners in the 2022 NSW CVRN Ministerial Awards for Cardiovascular research!

**The 2022 NSW CVRN Ministerial Award for Cardiovascular Research Excellence** which recognises a distinguished career and life-long achievement and contribution to breakthroughs in cardiovascular disease was awarded to our well-deserving ACvA Deputy President, Company Secretary and Clinical Themes lead, Professor Jamie Vandenberg. Read more about his extraordinary career and achievements [HERE](#).



Associate Professors Clare Arnott and Eleni Giannoulatou were awarded the **2022 Ministerial Awards for Rising Stars in Cardiovascular Research** which specifically recognise the achievements of early to mid-career researchers, up to 10 years post-PhD. Congratulations again

to Nominees, Finalists and Winners. We love seeing cardiovascular research being recognised and celebrated!!

## Heart Foundation



In early October the Heart Foundation announced their 2022 Research Funding portfolio. 59 projects were awarded \$13.25million of funding. This is the second year of research investment as part of their 2021 – 2023 Connecting Hearts Strategy which will see \$50million distributed over three years.

As we said in our introduction, we'd like to congratulate the recipients, their teams and organisations. This research is critical to improving outcomes for CVD. For a full list of projects and recipients click [HERE](#).

## Sydney Cardiovascular Symposium



**Thursday & Friday, 1-2 December 2022** the **Sydney Cardiovascular Symposium**, will be jointly hosted by the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute and the Heart Research Institute. The symposium will be an opportunity for cardiovascular researchers to showcase their work with prizes for Rising Stars, Best Speakers and Best Posters.

This year's theme is '**Genomics,**

**Diversity and Equity - Ensuring benefit for all'**

The symposium will finish with the signature "Princesses' Lecture". Professor Alex Brown, Australia's pre-eminent researcher in cardiovascular diseases amongst Indigenous Australians, will deliver the Princesses' Lecture this year.

This year, the event will be a return to face-to-face sessions. Travel and childcare assistance, accessibility options and travel grants now



**Victor Chang**  
Cardiac Research Institute

available on their Getting There page. Registration and Abstract Submissions are now open [HERE](#).



**Newcastle Cardio-oncology PhD Opportunity**



The Newcastle Centre of Excellence in Cardio-oncology is excited to offer a PhD opportunity. A suitable research project will be designed in collaboration with the successful applicant.

A range of basic science, translational and clinical projects are available that can be tailored to the skillset and interests of the successful applicant. The position comes with a full PhD Stipend!

See [HERE](#) for more information and direct all queries to: [doan.ngo@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:doan.ngo@newcastle.edu.au) or [aaron.sverdlov@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:aaron.sverdlov@newcastle.edu.au)

**Cardiovascular Initiative Implementation & Policy Workshop and 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

**CVI Implementation and Policy Workshop**

Our speakers:



**Prof Garry Jennings**



**Prof Andrew Wilson**



**Prof Julie Redfern**



**Dr Michelle Cunich**



**Thursday, 24 November 2022** CVI are holding an Implementation & Policy Workshop from 3pm - 5.30pm followed by their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday Cocktail Party and Awards.

Hear from **ACvA Implementation & Policy Co-Directors Professor Garry Jennings and Professor Julie Redfern**, as well as Professor Andrew Wilson and Dr Michelle Cunich, content experts in implementation science, health economics, impact analysis and policy evaluation. Then, 'pitch' your project ideas for immediate feedback from an expert panel. This interactive workshop aims to help inform and support attendees to develop competitive projects with implementation and policy impact evaluation embedded throughout their design.

You can find more information and register/RSVP [HERE](#).

### SOLVE CHD Funding and Awards



Like many other member organisations, SOLVE CHD is proud to announce recent achievements including an NHMRC Investigator Grant for ACvA ELC member Dr Emma Thomas, MRFF Cardiovascular Health Mission Grants for active member Professor Robyn Gallagher, Implementation & Policy Co-Director Professor Julie Redfern and ACvA President Professor Gemma Figtree.

ACvA Initiative member and participant Clara Chow was awarded the Telstra Brilliant Women in Digital Health Award and Karice Hyun was a

Finalist in the 2022 CVRN Rising Star Award.

### Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute Funding & Grants

Like many of our member organisations, the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute (VCCRI) has had recent funding success including [ACvA Board Secretary Professor Jamie Vandenberg who has been awarded close to \\$3 million from the MRFF Genomics Health Futures Mission Grant](#) to expand on work that will make it easier for families to discover if they are carrying genetic mutations that cause sudden cardiac arrest.

His colleague Professor Diane Fatkin was also awarded MRFF Cardiovascular Health Mission Funding while Associate Professor Eleni Giannoulatou and Dr Alastair Stewart received two NHMRC Emerging Leadership Investigator Grants. Dr Charles Cox has been awarded an ARC Future Fellowship and finally, Dr Tom Meredith has been granted a Heart Foundation 2022 PhD. Congratulations to all!

VCCRI have also announced the [2023 NSW CVRN-VCCRI Research Innovation Grants](#). Up to six grants worth \$5,000 are available for early to mid-career researchers (EMCRs) to access the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Centre's Innovation Centre to support short term projects focussed on cardiovascular research. This is a joint initiative from the Institute and the NSW Cardiovascular Research Network. You can find out more [HERE](#).

### MRFF



A webinar has been created for those interested in an overview of the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) grant process.

It includes the different phases of the MRFF grant lifecycle – from grant opportunity development to post-award management.

[WATCH HERE](#).

As members, you are the ACvA, so please let us know if you have any cardiovascular research achievements, news, events, jobs or training which you'd like to share. Email [nina.cullen@ozheart.org](mailto:nina.cullen@ozheart.org)



## UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAINING



**AusBiotech 2022** / Perth / 24 – 28 October

**NHMRC Research Translation Long Weekend 2022** /online & satellite events around Australia / 17 – 22 November

**Joint Scientific Meeting 2022 – Evaluating Heart Health: A Multidisciplinary Challenge** / Perth/ 12th November 2022.

**Australian Atherosclerosis Society Annual Scientific Meeting** / Melbourne/ 23rd – 25th November

**Science meets parliament** / online / 7-9 March 2023

**Science meets parliament** / Canberra / 15 & 22 March 2023

**2023 World Congress of Cardiology** / New Orleans, USA / 4-6 March (submit your late-breaking Clinical Trials by 8 November)

**Medical Device Partnering Program (MDPP)** / Adelaide / ongoing

## GRANTS & OPPORTUNITIES



**Early Career Industry Fellowships for funding commencing in 2023**

**Australian Research Council / Australia / 3 November**

The Early Career Industry Fellowships scheme creates a pathway to support academic researchers in establishing careers in industry, and industry-based researchers to work in university settings, with the aim of increased two-way mobility and skill-building in

research collaboration, translation and commercialisation.

**Early-career transition Grants**

**High Blood Pressure Research Council of Australia Foundation / Australia / 8 November**

These new grants of up to \$20,000 each are intended for early career researchers who need help in re-establishing their research as a result of change in physical location, direction of research or a major career interruption.

**Industry Laureate Fellowships for funding commencing in 2023**

**Australian Research Council / Australia / 17 November**

The Industry Laureate Fellowships scheme creates a pathway to support academic researchers in establishing careers in industry, and industry-based researchers to work in university settings, with the aim of increased two-way mobility and skill-building in research collaboration, translation and commercialisation.

**RT Hall Prize Nominations**

### **Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand / Australia & New Zealand / 22 November**

Nominations are invited for the 2023 R T Hall Prize of the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand (CSANZ). The Prize recognises the achievements of senior and established investigators. The Prize is awarded in open competition and is directed towards recognition of sustained and outstanding research achievement.

### **Victorian Medical Research Acceleration Fund**

#### **Victorian Government / Victoria / 22 November**

Round 6 of the Victorian Medical Research Acceleration Fund will include \$5 million in funding through two streams.

- Foundation Stream: \$3 million in funding to medical research projects that can deliver benefits to Victoria.
- Public Health and Health Inequalities Stream: \$2 million in funding for medical research projects addressing public health inequalities that affect priority populations in Victoria.

The Fund will be delivered in two tiers:

- Tier 1: Early-stage research – Supporting innovative early-stage research that will deliver health and economic benefits to Victoria.
- Tier 2: Research translation – Providing direct funding to fast-track the translation of health and medical research into real-world outcomes.

### **NHMRC Centres of Research Excellence (CRE) 2023**

#### **NHMRC / Australia / 30 November**

The objective of the CRE scheme is to improve health outcomes and promote or improve translation of research outcomes into policy and/or practice. The CRE scheme will also support researchers in capacity building activities, including in specific areas of need identified by NHMRC.

### **Targeted Call for Research: Loneliness, social isolation and chronic disease management 2022**

#### **NHMRC / Australia / 30 November**

The TCR on loneliness, social isolation and chronic disease management 2022 grant opportunity aims to support research that develops an evidence base for future policies, interventions and initiatives to assist people experiencing loneliness and/or social isolation to manage their chronic disease.

### **Discovery Early Career Researcher Award for funding commencing in 2024**

#### **Australian Research Council / Australia / 9 December**

The Discovery Early Career Researcher Award (DECRA) grant opportunity provides focused research support for early career researchers in both teaching and research, and research-only positions.

### **JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship Program**

#### **Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Fellowships / Japan / 12 December**

The JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship Program for Foreign Researchers provides fellowships for Australian postdoctoral researchers to conduct, under the guidance of their Japanese hosts, cooperative research with leading research groups in universities and other Japanese institutions. The program aims to help such researchers advance their own research while contributing to the advancement of research in Japan and the counterpart countries.

### **NSW Ministry of Health Cardiovascular Collaborative Grants**

#### **NSW Ministry of Health / NSW / 15 December**

Collaborative Grants are a new two-year development grant of up to \$1 million. Targeted at NSW-led collaborations involving multiple institutions, the grants support success with national funding opportunities.

### **Humboldt Research Fellowships for Postdoctoral Researchers**

### **Alexander von Humboldt Foundation / Germany / 31 December 2022**

This fellowship is for highly qualified scientists and scholars who are embarking on their academic careers and who completed their doctorates less than four years ago to spend extended periods of research in Germany. Scientists and scholars from all disciplines and countries may apply and applications can be submitted at any time.

### **MRFF Clinical Trials Activity Initiative - 2022 International Clinical Trial Collaborations Grant Opportunity**

#### **MRFF / Australia / 22 February 2023**

Applications to this Grant Opportunity must propose a single clinical trial in Australia in collaboration with international counterparts.

### **MRFF - GHF Mission - 2022 Genomics Health Futures Mission Grant Opportunity**

#### **MRFF / Australia / 22 February 2023**

The objective of this grant opportunity is to provide grants of financial assistance to support medical research and medical innovation projects that:

- **Stream 1** (Targeted Call for Research): identify and diagnose novel - primarily monogenic or oligogenic - rare diseases and increase the genomic diagnostic rate towards 70% by 2025.
- **Stream 2** (Targeted Call for Research): conduct research to develop pharmacogenomic approaches to enhance medication efficacy and reduce harm by preventing adverse side effects.
- **Stream 3** (Targeted Call for Research): conduct research to identify novel methods for progressing the application of polygenic scores in Australian health care.
- **Stream 4** (Targeted Call for Research): conduct education and/or implementation research on strategies for improving clinical capacity to apply genomics in the primary health care sector.
- **Stream 5** (Targeted Call for Research): conduct implementation research addressing inequalities of access and increasing the quality of clinical genetics services for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people.

### **MRFF - PPHRI - 2022 Assessment of High-Cost Gene Treatments and Digital Health Interventions Grant Opportunity**

#### **NHMRC / Australia / 1 March 2023**

The objective of the Grant Opportunity is to provide grants of financial assistance to support medical research and medical innovation projects that:

- Stream 1 (Targeted Call for Research (TCR)): develop a generalisable model to support assessment and validation of the clinical effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of new and emerging high upfront-cost therapeutics which includes consideration of ethical, legal, social and cultural aspects.
- Stream 2 (TCR): conduct an implementation trial in both rural/remote and major city settings utilising the continuous remote monitoring capabilities of pacemakers and implantable cardioverter defibrillators to assess their health and non-health outcomes such as patient preferences, usability and cost effectiveness and appropriateness.
- Stream 3 (TCR): undertake a retrospective or prospective evaluation of an implementation of a digital health intervention in order to assess the relative impact of augmenting face-to-face care with data from digital tools that advances assessment methods for digital innovations.

### **SOLVE-CHD Postgraduate Scholarships**

#### **SOLVE-CHD / Sydney University / Ongoing**

\$32,000 per annum (up to 3 years) for Postgraduate/HDR students to undertake research in cardiac rehabilitation and secondary prevention field.