

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2022



FROM THE ACvA LEADERSHIP

This final newsletter of the year is a great opportunity to reflect on the activities, events and initiatives from 2022. We're a national organisation and take pride in our commitment to members in every jurisdiction. Our Flagships, Committees and Clinical Themes Initiative have members from all over Australia and all sectors, including governments. Over the past few years, the face-to-face connection hasn't been possible but as borders opened up again this year, we have been able to meet in-person more regularly, which judging by the energy at those meetings, provides a real boost to the ACvA members and staff.

Partnering with the National Heart Foundation and CSANZ, we held the Joint Implementation & Policy Roundtable in **Canberra** in March, attended the EndUCD Summit in June, held ongoing discussions with ACT based researchers and clinicians throughout the year, and recently attended a breakfast with the Parliamentary Friends of Heart Health, supported by Edwards Life Sciences with the powerful story of a patient, whose health and quality of life has been improved by research and technology.

Tasmania's Menzies Institute for Medical Research hosted our Executive Director (ED) Kerry Doyle PSM, OAM for the first six months of the year. Her Hobart location allowed us to start consultation on the establishment of a Tasmanian Health Leadership Research Forum (HLRF) linked to the research community and to support workshops and meetings focussed on hypertension and high cholesterol.

August took us to **Queensland** with a stand at the annual CSANZ Conference and in December, our Board Director, Professor Jason Kovacic spoke at the Queensland Cardiovascular Research Network (QCVRN) Gala & Showcase.

We had a chance to attend the **NSW** CVRN Showcase and Awards in Sydney earlier in the year and in October, the VCCRI HRI CV Symposium at the beginning of December, as well as numerous meetings with the Office of Health and Medical Research in between.

In October we met with the **Northern Territory's** Dr Bhavini Patel and her team to discuss the NT's involvement in the national Health Leadership Research Forum and Clinical Quality Indicators facilitation work of the ACvA, with strong support and buy in, as a result.

Kerry Doyle was also thrilled to attend the **South Australian** Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI) showcase in October and provide ongoing support for the development of a South Australian Cardiovascular Research Network alongside the National Heart Foundation.

In November, we co-facilitated the Future Health Research Innovation Fund workshop with the **Western Australia** Cardiovascular Research Alliance (WACRA). You can find out more details on this below in *ACvA Activities*.



In June, our EMCR Summit and National Strategy Day took place in **Melbourne**. We were also back there just last week to co-launch the National Hypertension Taskforce with Hypertension Australia. The establishment of this taskforce is a huge achievement, and you can read about it below.

If you'd like a more detailed summary of our 2022 activities and initiatives, take a look at the Report Card from our AGM [HERE](#).

We hope the next few weeks offer you a chance to spend time with family and friends and we'll see you again in 2023. Wishing you all a safe and joyful holiday and new year.

ACvA ACTIVITIES

National Hypertension Taskforce launched by Hon. Minister Mark Butler

High blood pressure is the leading risk factor for death in Australia and the world. In Australia around 1 in 3 adults suffer from elevated blood pressure. It's responsible for 43% of coronary heart disease, 41% of stroke and 38% of chronic kidney disease. However, the hypertension control rates in Australia are currently at only 32%.

The *National Hypertension Taskforce* is a partnership between the Australian Cardiovascular Alliance (ACvA) and Hypertension Australia (formerly the High Blood Pressure Research Council of Australia) set up to address Australia's poor rate of controlled blood pressure. It's a cross-sectoral collaboration including patients, primary care, the research community, allied health, nurses, clinicians, pharmacists and peak bodies.

Co-led by ACvA's Board Director and Company Secretary [Professor Alta Schutte](#) and [Professor Markus Schlaich](#) the *National Hypertension Taskforce* aims to collaboratively tackle hypertension with the goal of doubling hypertension control rates in Australia from 32% to at least 70% by 2030.

The Taskforce came about through domestic and international consultation with experts which took place as part of the ACvA's [Hypertension Clinical Theme Initiative](#) which brings the sector together to strategically address the biggest unmet needs in cardiovascular disease and stroke.

The Honourable Mark Butler MP, Minister for Health and Aged Care officially launched the National Hypertension Taskforce on Thursday 8th December. You can watch his launch speech [HERE](#).

You can read the complete transcript [HERE](#).

Here is some of what he had to say:

"The Albanese Government is delighted to see this collaborative cross-sector approach to solving a real health risk to everyday Australians - because if we want to make a difference, we must take a collaborative approach."



"(The National Hypertension Taskforce) ... is taking a whole of ecosystem approach to solve a major health challenge. It's putting patients at the centre and bringing together primary care, the research community, allied health, nurses, clinicians, pharmacists, peak bodies and governments. It's initiating a national conversation and enabling everyone to bring their expertise to the table to make concrete recommendations and practical actions for change."

"We have world class researchers here in Australia and we must continue to harness that talent and bring the community together to work on the most pressing health challenges. That's how we can make a major difference to the health and lives of ordinary Australians."

For more details about the National Hypertension Taskforce you can also read our [National Hypertension Taskforce PRESS RELEASE](#) and [Hypertension Fact Sheet](#).

The National Hypertension Taskforce includes members from the following

National Hypertension Taskforce

Doubling blood pressure control rates from 32% to 70% by 2030



organisations:

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & 2023 ACvA BOARD

We held our Annual General Meeting on the 30th November and would like to welcome Professor Natasha Lannin who was voted in as a new Board Director. Professor Lannin is a professor of Neuroscience (Monash University) and Chair in Allied Health Research (Occupational Therapy) at Alfred Health, Melbourne. We're sure that her expertise and experience in stroke and rehabilitation will be a great complement to the current Board.

We'd also like to welcome Board Director Professor Alta Schutte to the role of Company Secretary. Professors Gemma



Figtree, Jamie Vandenberg and Associate Professor Christina Bursill will continue in their roles as President, Deputy President and Treasurer respectively.

Professors Jason Kovacic, Andre La Gerche, Chris Reid, Kerry-Anne Rye, Chris Sobey and Dr Chloe Flutter will all continue as Board Directors. We'd like to thank them all for their contribution and guidance in 2022. and look forward to their input in 2023.

FLAGSHIP NEWS

Big Data Flagship breakfast session



In early December, our Big Data Flagship held **Progress towards a versatile Big Data Health System for Australia: Driving Improvements in Cardiovascular Health**, a breakfast session as part of the Health Services Research Association Australia and NZ Conference.

The session was co-chaired by Professors Dominique Cadilhac and Lee Nedkoff and considered how to collaborate together on CVD topics and avoid duplication as well as ensuring greater capacity and code sharing.

Miriam Lum Om explained how AIHW data including the NIHSI (National Integrated Health Services Information) analysis asset is currently being transitioned to the National Health Data Hub. To access this data the AIHW will be accepting project proposals from external researchers from 2023. There was also discussion on workforce and training and providing courses on how to use the data and code sharing with consideration to how the Big Data Flagship could assist.

Louisa Jorm covered an exciting new project to support greater interoperability of Clinical Quality Registries (CQRs) with electronic medical records (eMRs) as part of the CardiacAI project. Four different hospitals are involved in building this state-wide resource being established in NSW. Capturing free text data has been a challenge but is fun for those who are into new methods for natural language processing.

Monique Kilkenny discussed the broad range of data linkage projects undertaken in conjunction with the Australian Stroke Clinical Registry covering the full patient journey from pre-stroke through to long term care. The long-term goal is to create enduring linkages to maximise the use of the registry data for secondary purposes.



From left: Dominique Cadilhac, Monique Kilkenny, Miriam Lum Om & Louisa Jorm

Disease Mechanisms Flagship Drug Discovery Flagship



Co-leads of our newest Flagship Professors Mary Kavurma and Alex Pinto have lost no time in establishing three working groups around advocacy, supporting integration of basic science into the translational pathway, and mapping capability and resources in discovery science.

To kickstart their advocacy, you can read **A funding shortfall for heart disease research in Australia?**, a recent article in *Cosmos* featuring Professor Mary Kavurma.



Drug Discovery & Translation Flagship



We're pleased to announce that the Drug Discovery Flagship publication [Translating atherosclerosis research from bench to bedside: navigating the barriers for effective preclinical drug discovery](#) has been accepted into *Clinical Science*. Many thanks to everyone for their contribution, especially the writing group, co-led Professors Judy de Haan and Kerry-Anne Rye, and written by Dr

Lauren May and Dr Belinda Di Bartolo.

Implementation & Policy Flagship Precision Medicine Flagship



The Implementation & Policy Roundtable took place on 10th March in Canberra. It was a whole-of-nation discussion in partnership with CSANZ and NHFA to identify and prioritise cardiovascular disease implementation and policy gaps.

A final Roundtable report which offers tangible actions and priorities was written after extensive consultation and an open briefing session. You can download the final roundtable report [HERE](#).

The Implementation and Policy Flagship leadership is currently working on a journal article bringing together insights from the Roundtable.



Precision Medicine Flagship



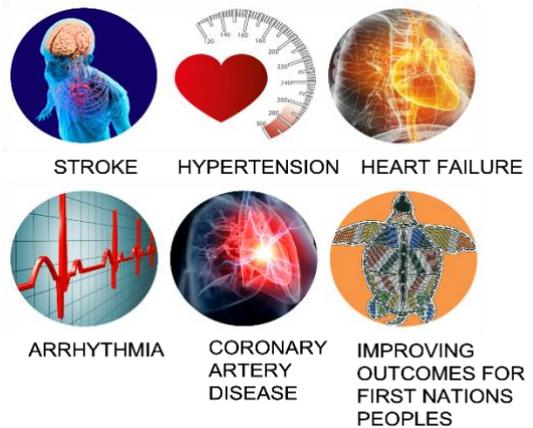
Precision Medicine Flagship and collaborators are building the Australian Cardiovascular Data Commons (ACDC) to facilitate the sharing of data from established research cohorts. A prototype, demonstrating capabilities can be seen [HERE](#).

ACvA Clinical Themes Initiative Workshops

We're continuing our work on the Clinical Theme Initiative and are very pleased with the appointment of Professors Natasha Lannin and Graeme Hankey as Co-Leads of the **Stroke Recovery and Rehabilitation** group. We're looking forward to working with the group in the new year as we further develop the proposal that aims to transform stroke recovery as we know it.



The preliminary meetings for the **Arrhythmia** and **Coronary Artery Disease** themes have begun. We'd like to thank Professor Prash Sanders and Gemma Figtree for guidance and leadership in these first meetings. We look forward to continuing discussions in 2023.



Following the first **Heart Failure** workshop facilitated by Professor Peter Macdonald held last month, we've had a follow up meeting with identified topic leads to refine the one big challenge that could galvanise the research community. There was clear consensus on the need to reduce heart failure hospital admissions and improve models for out-of-hospital care.

Last but not least, we celebrated the launch of the **National Hypertension Taskforce** and we look forward to the first meeting of the Taskforce in February 2023 to take the first steps in developing a strategic action plan and working groups for their ambitious goal.

EMERGING LEADERS COMMITTEE Cardiovascular Champions Program

The second **Cardiovascular Champions Program** workshop was held on 17th November. Dr Ken Dutton-Regester led discussions on how to build a successful professional network using different platforms, particularly in a post-pandemic era. It included strategies and practical tips on how to build a professional online presence, how to network effectively in-person, and how to develop deep and meaningful professional relationships.

Participants were given tools on how to assess their current experience, skills, interests and values in respect to a scientific career path. They were also encouraged to review their current digital presence, and to keep regular records of their scientific achievements using qualitative and quantitative metrics. We look forward to the next workshops in March and May 2023.

Mentoring Program

Members of the ELC, in particular Ashenafie Betrie, Helena Qin and Lauren Blekkenhorst, with the support of Meng Hsu and Kerry Doyle have been busy pairing up our CV Champions with mentors from across the cardiovascular sector to provide personalised career guidance. The program will not only provide an opportunity for the participants to develop collaborative relationships, but also build their capacity to become the next "academic entrepreneurs".

#ACvACVChamps

ACvA
Australian Cardiovascular Alliance

CV Champions

A unique leadership program for cardiovascular EMCR's

As a cohort, learn to:
Think strategically
Expand your network
Engage stakeholders
Create impactful research

Register your interest now

Developing academic entrepreneurs and future leaders

New Podcast – Pulsewave by ACvA



Pulse Wave by ACvA is off to a fantastic start, with plenty of people tuning in to our first episode with Kerry Doyle, and over 100 downloads so far.

Our **second episode** with A/Prof Francine Marques was recently released. It focuses on the importance of mentoring, and mentions some of the findings from **a journal article by the ACvA ELC** published earlier this year in Nature Reviews Cardiology.



We also released a **special bonus episode**. Dr Niamh Chapman and Prof Grant Drummond discuss their mentoring relationship and share some fantastic insights and advice for both mentees and mentors on how to make the most out of mentoring. There's something in this episode for everyone, but we particularly recommend EMCRs give it a listen.

The podcast will be back in February 2023 with brand new episodes. We have a fantastic line up of guests discussing the most exciting research and initiatives happening in Australian cardiovascular research.

If you have any comments or feedback about any episodes, or if you or someone you know would like to be a podcast guest, please reach out to us: acva@ozheart.org

WA Workshop - Embedding Research into health and the economy



WACRA

heart, stroke and vascular disease research

The Western Australian Cardiovascular Research Alliance (WACRA) and ACvA co-facilitated the workshop, **Embedding Research into health and the economy** on 28th November.

It explored how the ACvA and WACRA could support prioritised research collaborations and capacity building in WA and increase the impact from current WA Government funding.

There was a strong attendance including senior WA Government representative Professor Vasan Seshadri, Jodie Goodman and Dr Tina Bertilone, ACvA leaders, EMCRs and WACRA members. Professor Seshadri outlined the purpose, strategy, priorities and programs of the WA Government's **Future Health Research Innovation (FHRI) fund** and Dr Tina Bertilone described the status and priorities of clinical quality indicator work being undertaken in WA.

ACvA ED Kerry Doyle PSM, OAM discussed ACvA strategic initiatives. Professor Livia Hool outlined the role of WACRA, its collaborative partnership with ACvA and its strategic priorities. Dr Lauren Blekkenhorst shared her work on the ACvA's Emerging Leaders' Committee (ELC), and the WACRA EMCR Committee, synergies between the two groups and upcoming local opportunities.

Breakout sessions were facilitated by Professors Chris Reid, Livia Hool, Markus Schlaich and A/Professor Lee Nedkoff. These sessions focused on what we can do as a sector to harness and support the cardiovascular research talent in WA. Capacity building and collaboration were the recurring themes including mapping state funds and identifying opportunities for creating collaborative projects across multiple jurisdictions, as well as the joint development of a 3-year proposal by WACRA and ACvA around capacity building, succession planning, retention and 'promotion' of EMCRs.

2022 ACvA Excellence in Cardiovascular Awards



The ACvA Excellence in Cardiovascular Research Awards are locked in, so please mark your calendars for Thursday 23rd February 2023.

The awards are a chance for us to acknowledge and honour the achievements of the CV research community.

Registration details will be emailed in late January 2023.



VentriClinical



VentriClinical is an “operationally-focused” 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. The network includes Clinical Expert Physicians (18) and over 20 Service Partners. It's facilitated by the ACvA and supported

by MTPConnect, the Charles Perkins Centre at Sydney University and the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute.

This year, Ventri Clinical developed a full business case and undertook national consultation involving high-profile representatives from Service Partners, Start-ups and SMEs, Industry aligned bodies, MedTech Sponsor Companies and Government stakeholders. All stakeholder groups were highly engaged and supportive of the VentriClinical business case and initiative. The collective feedback was highly consistent and will be used to generate an updated version of the 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.

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

NETWORK AND PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITIES

South Australian Health & Medical Research Institute



SAHMRI Vascular and Heart Health and the Heart Foundation SA hosted the 2022 SA Cardiovascular Showcase on 28th October. It was a chance to highlight the work of South Australian Cardiovascular Researchers across all disciplines, identify opportunities for collaboration and support the re-establishment of the South Australian Cardiovascular Research

Network (SACVRN).

It was a huge day with South Australian Minister for Health, the Honourable Chris Picton MP, joining the opening session. We heard from a consumer with lived experience, and both senior and junior researchers had a chance to present. Plenary and poster sessions covered discovery science, clinical health service and public health research.



SAHMRI would also like to congratulate the two students who had papers selected to present in oral finalist competitions at the prestigious American Heart Association Conference, in Chicago November 4th - 7th.

- 1) **Khalia Primer** - Elaine W Raines Early Career Investigator Award session (Council for Arteriosclerosis and Vascular Biology)
- 2) **Jonathan Ariyaratnam** - [Samuel A. Levine Early Career Clinical Investigator Award](#) (Council for Clinical Cardiology)

Western Australian Cardiovascular Research Alliance



Evaluating Heart Health: A Multidisciplinary Challenge was held on 12th November at the University Club on the UWA campus. 75 delegates attended this event which was co-hosted by the Australian Institute of Medical and Clinical Scientists (AIMS), The Australian Society for Microbiology (ASM) and WACRA.



From left: Vincent Williams, Megan Lloyd, Livia Hool & Janessa Pickering

On the 17th November, the WACRA EMCR committee brought together a panel of successful fellowship recipients and experienced reviewers for an inaugural launch event, *Tips to successful fellowship writing workshop*. The popular event had over 45 registrants and was EMCR specific with a focus on the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) investigator grants and the National Heart Foundation (NHF) fellowships. Five diverse speakers highlighted what worked for them, as well as the perils and pitfalls of fellowship writing.

Queensland Cardiovascular Research Network



QCVRN CO-Chairs Professor John Fraser & Associate Professor Nathan Palpant report that it's been another active year of providing support for researchers in areas of professional editing for grants, enabling consumer engagement, facilitating industry partnerships, and providing

nationally attended events.

- QCVRN membership has risen from 250 to over 300, comprising government, industry and academic stakeholders.
- The 2022 QCVRN PhD scholarship scheme supported three PhD candidates with a \$5,000 annual top up scholarship in the fields of Biomedical, Clinical and Public Health research.
- The Graphic support and Grant writing support schemes assisted members in developing infographics, illustrations, figures and graphical representations and matched researchers with science editors to review grant applications.

The QCVRN Gala and Showcase event at Customs House saw executives from QCVRN's stakeholder institutions, state government and national organisations provide updates on how the network has grown, along with presentations on exciting research outcomes across the network.



A Patient Advocacy group is in development to provide 'direct consumer/patient engagement forums'. It will inform QCVRN's research community about issues important to patients, carers and their families. This work is being supported by ACvA, ED, Kerry Doyle.

Finally, at the end of another busy year, QCVRN and the National Heart Foundation hosted their final research showcase on 8 December at the Brisbane Powerhouse. It was followed by a networking event and attended by notable guests, including David Lloyd (CEO, Heart Foundation), Jason Kovacic (Executive Director, Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute), and Gita Mishra (Professor, UQ - recently awarded the 2022 Excellence in Women's Health Award).

Sydney Cardiovascular Symposium 2022



Delegates from around Australia and the world gathered at the annual Sydney Cardiovascular Symposium – a partnership between the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute and the Heart Research Institute from 1st – 2nd December.

This year's key theme was '**Genomics, Diversity and Equity: Ensuring Benefit for All**'. Sessions focused on heart development and congenital heart disease,

genetic basis of dilated cardiomyopathy, cardiac muscle function and regeneration, stem cells, and new heart failure therapies.

One of the many highlights included the Princesses' Lecture which this year saw Professor Alex Brown outline the objectives of the new National *Indigenous Genomics* Network. Professor Jason Kovacic, Executive Director of the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute, also spoke about his recent study on gene networks.



Professor Jamie Vandenberg, the Institute's Co-Deputy Director and ACvA Deputy President, said: "It was fantastic to finally meet in person again and have the opportunity to hear from people working across the whole spectrum of cardiovascular research from biomedical discovery through to population level outcomes." Kerry Doyle, Sally McNeil (NSWCVRN) and



Jamie Vandenberg

Kerry Doyle

Sally McNeill



Cathy Kellick (NSW Office for Health and Medical Research) outlined their shared support for EMCRs.

Policy statement and call to action from the world hypertension league

The use of blood pressure measuring devices that haven't passed adequate clinical validation can lead to under or over measurement of blood pressure with serious medical consequences.

Members of the newly launched **National Hypertension Taskforce** James Sharman, Alta Schutte, Lisa Murphy and Markus Schlaich as well as members of the Taskforce's International Advisory Group Norm Campbell, Andrew Moran, Pedro Ordunez and Ross Tsuyuki address this in their co-authored *Journal of Human Hypertension* article **The urgency to regulate validation of automated blood pressure measuring devices: a policy statement and call to action from the world hypertension league**.



This consensus paper is a resource to accelerate the availability, affordability and exclusive use of validated blood pressure measuring devices.

National Industry PhD Program

The National Industry PhD Program is a new initiative creating opportunities for industry, universities, and PhD scholars to work together.



This prestigious program will forge new pathways for researchers to connect the worlds of academia and industry, opening the door to an array of new career opportunities for PhD scholars.

Under academic and industry supervision, PhD candidates undertake a co-designed research project with university and industry participation. The National Industry PhD Program will support PhD candidates to undertake industry-focused research projects and be equipped with the knowledge and skills to better translate university research into commercialisation outcomes. Upon completion, candidates will have the ability to work at the interface of research and industry, and across the sectors in future.

The National Industry PhD Program will open for applications in early 2023 and will add over 1,300 Industry PhDs over 10 years.

You'll find more details [HERE](#) and you can sign up for updates [HERE](#).



International Sudden Cardiac Arrest and Sports Symposium



The Australian Cardiac Arrest Alliance and the National Centre for Sports Cardiology have organised the International Sudden Cardiac Arrest and Sports Symposium on 24th-26th March 2023. The conference will be

held in Lorne for medical professionals with an interest in cardiac arrest and/or sports cardiology.

You can view the full program and details [HERE](#).

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



UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAINING



International Conference on Paediatric Cardiology / Sydney / 30 -31 January 2023

International Conference on Heart Failure Therapies and Cardiac Imaging / Sydney / 30 -31 January 2023

International Conference on Cardiology and Cardiovascular Medicine / Sydney / 30 -31 January 2023

Digital Health Week / online / 7-9 February

2023 World Congress of Cardiology / New Orleans, USA / 4-6 March

Science meets parliament / online / 7-9 March 2023

Science meets parliament / Canberra / 15 & 22 March 2023

Implementation Science Health Conference Australia / Sydney / 23 – 24 March 2023

Medical Device Partnering Program (MDPP) / Adelaide / ongoing

GRANTS & OPPORTUNITIES



Research Associate - Vascular Biology (AAV Gene Therapy)

UNSW / Sydney / 8 January 2023

Position for a postdoc to develop novel therapeutics for occlusive vascular disease, including atherosclerosis. This position is tenable in Prof Levon Khachigian's laboratory in UNSW's Faculty of Medicine & Health. The position starts Jan/Feb 2023.



Demonstrable expertise in animal models of atherosclerosis and vascular injury would be a distinct advantage. Experience using viral constructs (AAV, adenovirus, lentivirus, etc) in culture (assays of cell proliferation, migration, etc) and animal models would also be a distinct advantage.

SynBio Accelerator

UNSW Founders / Australia / Express interest now

SynBio 10x is a national program open to any SynBio start up in Australia that harnesses entrepreneurial experience and R&D capabilities to accelerate your Synbio or Biotech product development and commercialisation.

Prime Minister's Prizes for Science - Science Prizes

Department of Industry, Science and Resources / Australia / 9 February 2023

The Prime Minister's Prizes for Science are Australia's most prestigious and highly regarded awards for outstanding achievements in:

- scientific research
- research-based innovation
- excellence in science teaching

MRFF 2022 Research Data Infrastructure Grant

MRFF / Australia / 13 February 2023

The 2022 Medical Research Data Infrastructure Grant Opportunity is part of the Medical Research Future Fund and the Research Data Infrastructure Initiative. It looks to fund the creation or extension of national research data infrastructure.

MRFF - 2022 MRFF Joint Transnational Call Grant Opportunity

MRFF / Australia / 15 February

The European Joint Programme on Rare Diseases (EJP RD) brings together the research efforts of over 130 institutions from 35 countries in the field of rare diseases.

International organisations have joined forces to carry out a joint call for proposals for transnational cooperative research projects in the field of rare diseases, the EJP RD Joint Transnational Call (JTC) 2022. The MRFF is participating in this Call.

Women in Leadership Awards 2023

Biomelbourne Network / Australia / 15 February 2023

These awards acknowledge and celebrate leadership and commitment to driving change and impact in the health industry.

The Award categories are:

1. **Emerging Leadership Award** – Mover & Shaker
This Award recognises emerging leaders, on a new path in approximately the last 2-4 years, who are rising stars in the industry.
2. **Inspiring Leadership Award** – Making It Happen
This Award recognises those playing an inspiring and pivotal role in leadership of a project, partnership, or collaborative initiative, approximately within the last 5 to 10 years.
3. **Distinguished Leadership Award** – Impact for Industry
This Award recognises outstanding contributions by senior executive leaders with a career history of contributions over approximately 10-15+ years.

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.

Outstanding Female Researcher Medal

Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences / Australia / 28 February 2023

Nominations are welcome from all fields associated with furthering biomedical and health research, whether clinical or basic biomedical research. Nominees and nominators do not need to be an AAHMS Fellow. Nominees must normally reside in Australia at the time of nomination.

MRFF Indigenous Health Research Fund – 2022 Indigenous Health Research Grant Opportunity

MRFF / Australia / 1 March 2023

The Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) Indigenous Health Research Fund aims to support research to improve the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people over 11 years from 2018–19 to 2028–29.

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.

Discovery Projects for funding commencing in 2024

ARC / Australia / 8 March

The Discovery Projects scheme provides grant funding to support research projects that may be undertaken by individual researchers or research teams.



Early Career Academic Research Grant for Women

Capstone Editing / Australia / 24 June 2023

The Capstone Editing Early Career Academic Research Grant for Women provides up to A\$5,000 for one academic per year to assist with the costs associated with a research project of her choosing leading towards a publication.

