Two Targeted Calls for Research were opened to stimulate or greatly advance research in priority areas for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health:
- Healthy Ageing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples
- Nutrition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

PCIC is appointed on a triennial basis to provide advice and work with the NHMRC Council and CEO to guide and direct Indigenous health research. Professor Sandra Eades is chair of PCIC and a member of the NHMRC Council.
In 2018, major documents were updated to ensure the research sector is current with best practice in ethics and NHMRC’s strategy for Indigenous health:
- Road Map 3: A strategic framework for improving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health through research (Road Map 3) and Action Plan
- Ethical conduct in research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and communities: Guidelines for researchers and stakeholders 2018
- Keeping research on track II

NHMRC is committed to building and strengthening capacity of Indigenous researchers. In 2018:

- 36 NHMRC active* grants were led by Indigenous researchers
- 209 Indigenous researchers on active* grants were funded by NHMRC

*All grants being paid in 2018

Dr Lisa Whop was awarded NHMRC’s Rising Star Research Excellence Award—recognising top-ranked Indigenous researchers in the Early Career Fellowship scheme

NHMRC held two capacity building workshops with Indigenous research and institutional communities to inform future activities and the development of a national network of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health researchers.
- Strengthening capacity and capability of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researchers
- National Network Workshop

To showcase the diverse pathways into research, 12 Indigenous researchers were profiled and featured on the NHMRC News Centre website.

NHMRC has a renewed Tripartite agreement in international Indigenous health with Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and the Health Research Council of New Zealand (HRC).

NHMRC is committed to Reconciliation and our Reconciliation Action Plan sets out the actions to foster respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures to:
- build mutually beneficial relationships with communities
- foster and strengthen the capacity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and medical researchers
- support the employment of Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders in our agency.

NHMRC offered 4 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students a summer Internship. NHMRC staff participated in cultural activities (language lessons, walking tours, yarning sessions, guest speakers) and the JAWUN project.