

Guide for Proposing Targeted Calls for Research

Introduction

Community and professional groups are encouraged to submit a topic on a specific health issue that would benefit from a call for research applications.

This guide provides advice to community and professional groups intending to propose potential topics that may warrant a Targeted Call for Research (TCR). It aims to assist in the preparation and drafting of submissions made through the Community Research Priorities Portal (the Portal). This guide should be considered in conjunction with the information provided on the [NHMRC Website](#) and other relevant documents, as described below.

TCR topic submissions are assessed and prioritised according to:

- The Principles for Prioritising Targeted Calls for Research as described in the Framework for Identifying and Prioritising Targeted Calls for Research
- The Targeted Calls for Research Prioritisation Criteria Rubric
- NHMRC data on previously funded research

Eligibility

Topic proposals must be developed, driven and submitted by affected community and/or professional groups. Submissions from, developed and/or driven by individuals, academic researchers or research institutions will not be considered.

NHMRC encourages submitters to consult and detail links, engagements and/or collaborations with researchers, advocacy groups, consumers, medical practitioners in addition to Commonwealth, state/territory and local agencies in preparing the submission.

The Principles for Prioritising Targeted Calls for Research require that proposed topics must:

- address a significant research knowledge gap or unmet need for which there is a potential to advance our understanding of a health issue, and/or
- link to national, state and territory and/or community priorities, including research that has the potential to provide better health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Submissions should outline how a TCR on the proposed topic has the potential to:

- improve health outcomes for the community
- reduce the burden of disease on the health system and Australian

- economy, and
- contribute to the global research effort.

Submissions will not be considered if they are:

- from individuals or academic/research institutions
- requesting grant funding or [partnership with NHMRC](#)

Research classifications

NHMRC research funding data related to proposed topics will be used to assist deciding whether a TCR is warranted. NHMRC identifies and extracts funding data based on keywords and phrases provided by the submitters and extracted from the submission. These analyses highlight whether the proposed topic constitutes an unmet research need when taking into account existing NHMRC funded research.

To enable NHMRC to retrieve the necessary data, submissions must include **up to ten (10) research keywords or phrases** as per the standard research classification developed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. These are available on the [NHMRC website](#).

Online form and template: guidance

Submitters are strongly encouraged to use the offline submission template provided in preparing submissions. This ensures that relevant information is provided to assist the assessment and prioritisation processes.

Please note the online submission form on the Portal cannot be saved. Once you start a submission through the Portal, you must complete all fields on the template and select Submit at the bottom of the form.

Where submitters are unable to access the portal, submissions can be provided, by email using the offline submission template to targeted.research@nhmrc.gov.au, with the subject: *Community Research Priority - [ORGANISATION NAME] submission*