



NHMRC accreditation of Research Translation Centres: Call for Submissions for Accreditation (2021)

Call open: Friday, 24 September 2021

Call close: Friday, 21 January 2022

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1. Introduction

This document sets out the process for collaborations to apply to be accredited by NHMRC as a Research Translation Centre for up to five years. It includes eligibility requirements, application requirements and the assessment criteria.

This is the fourth call for submissions seeking accreditation as a Research Translation Centre. These centres were previously referred to as Advanced Health Research and Translation Centres (AHRTCs) and Centres for Innovation in Regional Health (CIRHs).

This call is for submissions from collaborations that are not currently accredited and from existing NHMRC-accredited centres seeking further accreditation.

2. Background

NHMRC established the Research Translation Centre Initiative in 2014, encouraging leadership in excellent health research and research translation in Australia by bringing together researchers, healthcare providers, education and training to improve the health and wellbeing of patients and the populations they serve.

The first call for accreditation as AHRTCs was held in 2014. NHMRC subsequently modified the initiative to accredit centres that focussed on addressing the needs of regional, rural and remote areas (CIRHs). In 2016, NHMRC called for submissions for accreditation as either type of centre, with the third call for accreditation held in 2018. These three calls have resulted in the accreditation of a total of ten centres.

In 2019, NHMRC commenced a review of the initiative to determine whether it could be modified or reformed to strengthen research-based health care and training to improve the health and wellbeing of patients and communities, and the integration of research into multiple health services. As a result of this review, NHMRC has made modifications, primarily to focus the initiative more clearly on the translation of research for improved health outcomes and services and, in particular, to better reflect the context for centres in regional, rural and remote Australia in building capacity and capability in research translation. Further information about NHMRC accredited centres and the outcomes of the review are available at https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/research-policy/research-translation-centres.

3. What is NHMRC's Research Translation Centre Initiative?

The objective of NHMRC's Research Translation Centre Initiative is to improve the health and wellbeing of patients and communities through the translation of research into health care by:

 promoting health service leadership in research and research translation that addresses priorities directly relevant to health services and the populations the centre serves