



Australian Government  
National Health and Medical Research Council

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AUSTRALIA

## Clinical Trials and Cohort Studies Grants Outcomes 2021: Factsheet



NH&MRC

# Clinical Trials and Cohort Studies (CTCS) Grants 2021 Outcomes Factsheet

## CTCS Grants

- The objective of the CTCS Grant scheme is to support high-quality clinical trials and cohort studies that address important gaps in knowledge, leading to relevant and implementable findings for the benefit of human health.
- The expected outcomes of the CTCS Grant scheme are improvements in health and well-being, health care practice or policy, as a result of:
  - high-quality clinical trials that provide reliable evidence of the effects of health-related interventions on health outcomes (or appropriate surrogates),
  - high-quality cohort studies that provide reliable evidence on the relation of important risk factors and other exposures to health-related outcomes, and/or
  - high quality retrospective cohort studies that provide reliable evidence on the relation of important risk factors and other exposures to health-related outcomes.
- Neither the application budget nor the number of applications that a CIA could submit was capped for the CTCS Grant scheme.
- The CTCS Grant scheme has a funding allocation from the Medical Research Endowment Account (MREA) of \$75 million (which includes \$5 million for structural priority funding).
- The total amount of funding requested by applicants to the CTCS Grant scheme was approximately \$635 million.

## CTCS Grant Outcomes

- 33 applications from institutions across the country will be funded.
- The ratio of clinical trials to cohort studies applications was approximately 2:1.
- The ratio of clinical trials to cohort studies grants was exactly 2:1.

Total number of applications received	293
Total number of applications applying for NHMRC funding	291
Number of grants awarded	33
Percentage of applications awarded	11.3%
Total amount awarded	\$75,351,484
Mean budget for awarded grants	\$2,283,378

### Outcomes by Trial or Study Type

- Applications were allocated to a Grant Review Panel (GRP) primarily based on the applicant's nominated peer review areas.

Trial or Study Type*	Applications	Grants awarded	Funded rate	Proportion of grants awarded	Total Value
Clinical Trials	202	22	10.9%	66.7%	\$49,465,163
Cohort Studies	89	11	12.4%	33.3%	\$25,886,321

\*As determined by the peer review area selected by the applicants.

### Outcomes by Broad Research Area (BRA)

- NHMRC is committed to supporting a broad range of research from discovery science through to clinical research (including clinical trials), health services and public health research.
- Clinical Medicine and Science received the greatest allocation of CTCS funding, with Health Services and Public Health BRAs also funded.

Broad Research Area	Applications	Grants awarded	Funded rate	Proportion of grants awarded	Total Value
Basic Science	1	0	n/a	n/a	\$0
Clinical Medicine and Science	208	16	7.7%	48.5%	\$39,288,381
Health Services	31	6	19.4%	18.2%	\$10,294,482
Public Health	51	11	21.6%	33.3%	\$25,768,621

### Funded Rates by Gender

- Funded rates for female lead Chief Investigators (CIAs) were higher for the CTCS Grant scheme.

CIA Gender	Applications	Grants awarded	Funded Rate	Proportion of grants awarded
Female	118	14	11.9%	42.4%
Male	172	18	10.5%	54.5%
Not Stated or Not Provided	1	1	100%	3.0%

### Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Research and Researchers

- NHMRC is committed to allocating at least five per cent of the MREA each year to research directed at improving the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- Applications that address Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health represent 24.2% of the awarded grants and 31.2% of the CTCS Grant funding awarded.

Indigenous Identified/Indigenous focused	Applications	Grants awarded	Funded rate	Proportion of grants awarded
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander focused research	17	8	47.1%	24.2%
Applications with one or more researchers of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent in their teams	20	8	40.0%	24.2%

Note: There is overlap between the rows above due to applications that address Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health from researchers who are of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent.

### In conclusion

- The third year of funding in this scheme has resulted in 33 applications being supported, with an overall funded rate of 11.3%.