

Guidance on How to Address the *Principles for Consideration of a TCR* in a TCR Proposal

The ONHMRC has developed the following guidance document for the development of a TCR Proposal. The questions under each Principle are examples of what the ONHMRC is looking for. The TCR Proposal does not have to address all questions, and it can also address questions not listed below.

The TCR Proposal, where possible, should be informed by stakeholders. Consider input, as appropriate, from key stakeholders, which may include:

- (i) consumers, and/or
- (ii) researchers, and/or
- (iii) medical practitioners, and /or
- (iv) Government and federal, state and local government health agencies

The proposed TCR must address a significant research knowledge gap or unmet need within the disease area. There must be the potential to greatly advance our understanding of the issue in the disease area.

Make a case for how the proposed TCR addresses a significant research knowledge gap:

- Is there a link to NHMRC or Australian Government priorities, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, and/or to Ministerially-agreed State and Territory health research priorities?
- If there is no link to the above mentioned priorities, does the TCR address a disease area with a significant research knowledge gap or unmet need?

If the response to both questions above is 'no', a TCR Proposal should not be developed.

- What is the current disease status?
 - Prevalence;
 - Burden of disease on the individual and community (mortality and morbidity, DALY/QALY, financial cost, lifestyle);
 - Burden of disease on the health system and Australian economy.
- What is the current research effort in the disease area?
 - How much research is being done in the disease area?
 - Current NHMRC, and other, funding?
 - What is the current research capacity and capability in the discipline?
 - Are there new and/or novel treatments available?
 - When was the last breakthrough?

The proposed TCR must have the potential to improve outcomes for the individual and/or community.

- How would a successful outcome of the proposed research affect the individual and community?
- How would it reduce burden of disease for the individual and community;

- Lower prevalence, and/or mortality, and/or morbidity;
- Increased life expectancy or quality of life for those affected.
- Would it improve prediction, and/or identification, and/or tracking, and/or prevention, and/or management within the disease area?
- Is there a need for a community engagement plan to be requested of applicants for this TCR? If not, why is this not required?

The proposed TCR must have the potential to reduce the burden of disease on the health system and Australian economy.

- How would a successful outcome of the proposed research contribute to a sustainable health care system?
- How would it result in preventative health measures?
- How would it be translated into changes in policy?
- How would it reduce healthcare expenditure, and/or give greater value for given expenditure?
- What are the broader economic gains (e.g changes in workforce participation, a more educated workforce)?
- Does the proposed research have the potential to generate commercialised IP?

The proposed TCR will contribute to the global research effort.

- Is the issue of global significance?
- How would the proposed research contribute to international research efforts?
- What original contribution would this research make?
- Is it building upon previous research, or linking with research on the same issue?