



Postgraduate Scholarships applications recommended for funding commencing in 2023

About the scheme

The NHMRC Postgraduate Scholarships scheme funds successful applicants to attain a research based postgraduate degree (Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) or a Research Masters Degree).

It aims to support these outstanding health and medical graduates early in their career so they can be trained to conduct research that is internationally competitive and develop a capacity for original independent research within Australia.

The intended outcome of the Postgraduate Scholarships scheme is increased research capacity within Australia.

Postgraduate Scholarships are very competitive and offered to a limited number of graduates of outstanding ability who wish to make research a significant component of their career. This year NHMRC received 167 Postgraduate Scholarship applications of which 62 were successful. The applications listed in the following table have been approved for funding by the Minister for Health and Aged Care, the Hon Mark Butler MP.



Table 1. Applications approved for funding by the Minister for Health and Aged Care

APP ID	Chief Investigator name	Application title	Administering Institution	Budget
2021932	Doctor Natacha Omer	Natural killer cell immunotherapy in paediatric sarcomas	The University of Queensland	\$102,238.25
2021941	Doctor Xi May Zhen	Overweight and obesity in young adults with type 1 and type 2 diabetes: mortality, pregnancy outcomes, and novel glycaemic interventions	University of Sydney	\$136,151.00
2021945	Doctor Josephine Warren	Evaluation and diagnosis of cardiac allograft vasculopathy post heart transplant using novel Cardiac CT techniques.	Monash University	\$136,151.00
2021950	Harrison Hansford	The ZEUs (ZopiclonE for acUte low back pain) trial: A multi-site, double blind, randomised controlled trial of zopiclone for acute low back pain	University of New South Wales	\$85,964.17
2021953	Doctor Sarah Heynemann	Ethics of cancer trials	University of Sydney	\$117,310.58
2021964	Doctor Lawrence Kasherman	Improving outcomes and experiences of culturally and linguistically diverse patients affected by cancer participating in survivorship programs	University of Sydney	\$98,470.17
2021983	Doctor Phillip Nguyen	Clonal determinants of immune evasion to allogeneic stem cell transplant in acute myeloid leukaemia	University of Melbourne	\$136,151.00
2021986	Doctor Steven Nicolaides	Immune related adverse events of the gastrointestinal system and investigation of novel diagnostics and therapeutics	Monash University	\$136,151.00
2021994	Doctor Elisabeth Ng	Primary Aldosteronism: new strategies for diagnosis and management	Monash University	\$98,470.17
2022019	Doctor Hannah Gordon	Characterising the perinatal, neonatal and school-age childhood outcomes associated with diabetes in pregnancy	University of Melbourne	\$136,151.00
2022072	Doctor Suyi Ooi	Advanced magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) biomarkers for prediction of clinical outcomes after a first seizure	University of Melbourne	\$102,238.25
2022097	Doctor Avraham Travers	CD8+ T cell tolerance within the tumour draining lymph node as a novel immunotherapy target in colorectal cancer	University of Melbourne	\$94,702.08



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2022099	Doctor Gia Tang	The impact of gender affirming hormone therapy on scalp hair pattern and distribution	University of Melbourne	\$136,151.00
2022102	Doctor Minh Huan Dang	Defining new therapeutic targets for ANCA-associated vasculitis	Monash University	\$136,151.00
2022109	Doctor Shuyu Wang	Advancing precision therapies for epilepsy	University of Melbourne	\$136,151.00
2022116	Stefanie Dimov	The impact of post-school transitions on the mental health of young people with developmental disabilities	University of Melbourne	\$93,827.00
2022137	Doctor Briony Shaw	Novel approaches to transfusion to improve supportive care for patients with blood cancers	Monash University	\$136,151.00
2022142	Doctor Rahul Muthalaly	Cardiovascular risk reduction in stroke survivors	Monash University	\$136,151.00
2022150	Doctor Rajan Rehan	Novel insights into ischemia and no obstructive coronary artery disease	University of Sydney	\$98,470.17
2022155	Karan Rao	Investigating methods to optimise and streamline transcatheter aortic valve implantation (TAVI)	University of Sydney	\$98,470.17
2022156	Lottie Morison	Improving outcomes for children with complex communication needs	Murdoch Children's Research Institute	\$99,112.50
2022163	Doctor Omali Pitiyarachchi	Moving towards personalising treatment for patients with pancreatic cancer using a patient-derived tumour explant model	University of New South Wales	\$98,470.17
2022167	Doctor Youlin Koh	Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors And Depression in Atrial Fibrillation: The SAD-AF randomised controlled trial	Melbourne Health	\$136,151.00
2022178	Doctor Yanna Ko	The role of the gut microbiome in irritable bowel syndrome and its therapeutic potential	Western Sydney University	\$94,702.08
2022186	Rachael Farquhar	Investigating the effectiveness of systems-oriented implementation research and partnerships in malaria-endemic settings	Burnet Institute	\$93,827.00
2022193	Doctor Antonia Kolovos	Saving sight: Novel stratification instruments for glaucoma	Flinders University	\$98,470.17



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2022228	Nina Leggett	Digital health to assist recovery after critical illness	University of Melbourne	\$99,112.50
2022235	Juliana Kanawati	Three-dimensional (3D) printing to refine cardiac assessment and procedures	University of Sydney	\$113,542.50
2022237	Doctor Justin Chua	Defining the landscape of ANCA-associated vasculitides in Australia and providing a foundation for improved care	Monash University	\$136,151.00
2022238	Doctor Michael Moso	Nanoparticle and gene therapy approaches to HIV cure	University of Melbourne	\$136,151.00
2022240	Doctor Antonia Clarke	Community, country and cognition: a multi-jurisdictional assessment of dementia affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples	University of Melbourne	\$136,151.00
2022244	Doctor Yvonne Kong	Platelet biomarkers of thrombotic risk in type 2 diabetes	University of Sydney	\$98,470.17
2022247	Yunduo Zhao	Coronary artery mimicking blood clot test: a point-of-care prothrombotic prediction device for patient-specific diagnosis	University of Sydney	\$80,864.92
2022273	Doctor Natasha Gorrie	Understanding the phenotypic expression of early disease and genetics of cardiac amyloidosis	University of New South Wales	\$136,151.00
2022274	Doctor Douglas Tjandra	Predicting progression of intestinal metaplasia to gastric cancer	Monash University	\$136,151.00
2022279	Ellie Medcalf	Generating the trial evidence end-users prefer: adding value to the analysis of a randomised controlled trial of patient-led surveillance for subsequent melanoma (MEL-SELF)	University of Sydney	\$67,902.83
2022284	Rabia Khalid	Understanding the interplay between eating disorders and weight management therapy	University of Sydney	\$85,964.17
2022301	Doctor Jeremy Hill	Towards ending tuberculosis and leprosy in the Pacific - implementing the PEARL study in South Tarawa, Kiribati	University of Sydney	\$136,151.00
2022307	Doctor Karen Liddle	Precision diagnosis for children with hearing loss: optimising utilisation of imaging and genetic testing	The University of Queensland	\$113,542.50



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2022340	Doctor Abera Saeed	Novel retinal imaging biomarkers for the assessment and prevention of diabetes complications	Centre for Eye Research Australia Limited	\$124,846.75
2022345	Doctor Shejil Kumar	The effects of osteoanabolic pharmacotherapy and osteogenic exercise on bone and muscle outcomes in postmenopausal osteoporosis: exploring the bone/muscle interface	University of Sydney	\$136,151.00
2022346	Danielle Hutchinson	Community Sentiment Tool	University of New South Wales	\$108,973.75
2022364	Doctor Russell Gear	Comparing the efficacy and acceptability of genomic testing and skin biopsy in diagnosing monogenic skin disease	Murdoch Children's Research Institute	\$124,846.75
2022368	Doctor Justin Phan	Assessing the cardiac arrhythmia profile of cancer therapeutics	University of New South Wales	\$113,542.50
2022377	Doctor Smitha Kumble	Critical evaluation of the diagnostic utility of whole genome and transcriptome sequencing and the training of physicians in the deployment of frontier diagnostic technologies in healthcare	Murdoch Children's Research Institute	\$94,702.08
2022380	Doctor Emma Tay	Prescription drug monitoring program in New South Wales: a mixed methods study of implementation processes, stakeholder experiences, and program impact	University of Sydney	\$94,702.08
2022387	Nga Yan Tse	Functional connectivity-guided transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) treatment for young people with major depression	University of Melbourne	\$85,964.17
2022391	Doctor Aashray Gupta	Evidence supporting strategies for coronary artery revascularisation	The University of Adelaide	\$106,006.33
2022415	Doctor Aleece MacPhail	Predicting and preventing sepsis in patients with haematological malignancy	Monash University	\$136,151.00
2022417	Doctor Joshua Wong	Heart failure prevention in cancer survivors by recognition and treatment of subclinical disease	Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute	\$136,151.00



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2022424	Doctor Alex Stoyanov	Detection of autoantibodies using novel bioluminescent systems	University of Sydney	\$136,151.00
2022453	John Chetwood	Optimising biologics in inflammatory bowel disease	University of Sydney	\$124,846.75
2022454	Georgia Carstensen	Novel policy approaches to reduce the supply and availability of tobacco products	The University of Queensland	\$70,495.25
2022463	Catherine Banks	Targeted and stem cell therapeutics for cystic fibrosis sinus disease	University of New South Wales	\$136,151.00
2022470	Doctor Chun Mei Thng	Investigating novel prevention and treatment strategies for gonococcal control	Griffith University	\$117,310.58
2022471	Doctor Adam Peterson	Human amnion epithelial cell derived novel therapeutics in inflammatory bowel disease	Monash University	\$106,006.33
2022495	Sarah Donoghue	Towards treatment of intellectual disability caused by errors in the chromatin machinery	Murdoch Children's Research Institute	\$102,238.25
2022510	Yasmin Mohamed	Vaccine champions and vaccine communication program	Murdoch Children's Research Institute	\$105,686.67
2022517	Doctor Patricia Khoo	Novel bacteria as a therapy for inflammatory bowel disease	Monash University	\$98,470.17
2022530	Doctor Megan Frohlich	Application of novel personalised medicine tools to understand treatment mechanisms in Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia	University of New South Wales	\$124,846.75
2022548	Doctor Melissa Shields	Better vision for patients with ocular toxoplasmosis	Flinders University	\$136,151.00
2022557	Michael Dymock	Designing Bayesian clinical trials to enhance clinician- and consumer-directed decision-making	University of Western Australia	\$93,827.00
			Total	\$7,062,927.67