

## Considering Impact of Research from a Consumer and Community Perspective

The following questions set out considerations for researchers interested in assessing the impact of their research according to consumer and community expectations. These questions can be addressed when drafting final project reports, and during translation (if applicable).

**1. Were the objectives of the research achieved?**

- (a) yes
- (b) partially
- (c) no, but findings contributed significantly to knowledge base
- (d) no

**2. Did the research improve the health outcome for people with a specific health challenge by:**

- (a) Contributing to the prevention of a health condition or the development of a new diagnostic test, treatment or service
- (b) Improving the safety, quality, effectiveness, cost-effectiveness or access to an existing diagnostic test, treatment or service
- (c) Facilitating the assessment, modification or deletion of an existing health service
- (d) Adding to the current knowledge of:
  - i basic science
  - ii healthcare service design, models of care and or services
  - iii public health and illness prevention
  - iv clinical diagnostics, treatments or care?

**3. Did the research project:**

- (a) address an area of urgent unmet need
- (b) contribute to the prevention of a health condition
- (c) reduce the frequency of unnecessary or inappropriate treatments or care
- (d) address an existing inequity
- (e) develop a unique treatment for which there are no current alternatives?

**4. What intellectual property, resources and increased skills were produced as a result of the research project? Who owns it and how will it be used to realise a benefit:**

- (a) to the community e.g. by improving health outcomes, filling a key knowledge gap
- (b) to the future sustainability of the research sector in Australia?

**5. Did the research contribute to the capacity of the sector by:**

- (a) building new researcher capacity and/or knowledge
- (b) building new community/consumer capacity and/or knowledge
- (c) creating (or purchasing) new equipment or creating new successful methodology?



**6. Have the findings of the research:**

- (a) been provided to consumers and community members
- (b) demonstrated research impact in one or more of the following areas (see [Appendix 1](#) for guidance):
  - i knowledge
  - ii health
  - iii economic
  - iv social
- (d) been used to develop and conduct further research
- (e) other?

**Attachment**

Appendix 1 Types of Research Impact and Examples of Evidence of Research Impact

## Appendix 1: Types of Research Impact and Examples of Evidence of Research Impact

The following table taken from the *2019 NHMRC Investigator Grant Opportunity Guidelines* may assist researchers to evaluate whether research findings demonstrated impact across four broad areas: knowledge; health; economic; or social.

Type	Description	Examples of evidence (not exhaustive)
<b>Knowledge</b>	New knowledge, demonstrating the benefits emerging from adoption, adaption or use of new knowledge to inform further research and/or understanding of what is effective.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• recognition of research publications (e.g. citation metrics, particularly field weighted)</li> <li>• data sharing</li> <li>• contribution to registries or biobanks</li> <li>• prizes and conference presentations</li> <li>• uptake of research tools and techniques</li> <li>• evidence of uptake of the research by other disciplines</li> </ul>
<b>Health</b>	Improvements in health through new therapeutics, diagnostics, disease prevention or changes in behaviour; or improvements in disease prevention, diagnosis and treatment, management of health problems, health policy, health systems and quality of life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• policy or program adopted</li> <li>• a clinical guideline adopted</li> <li>• international or national practice standards adopted</li> <li>• improved service effectiveness</li> <li>• Phase I, Phase II and Phase III clinical trials underway or completed</li> <li>• improved productivity due to research innovations (e.g. reduced illness, injury)</li> <li>• Quality-Adjusted Life Years, Disability-Adjusted Life Years, Potential Years of Life Lost, Patient Reported Outcome Measure and other relevant indicators</li> <li>• relative stay index for multi-day stay patients, hospital standardised mortality ratio, cost per weighted separation and total case weighted separation</li> <li>• reports (including community and government)</li> </ul>