

NH RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM 2026

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
NOW OPEN
CLOSES ON 2 MARCH 2026

We have implemented several **new updates** to this grant program. The application process will now follow a **two-step** process, and we have also introduced **new grant categories**.

Please read the information on the website carefully and review the **GUIDELINES** prior to applying.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO](#)

NH RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS ✨



Congratulations to **Belinda Baines**, Podiatry Research and Quality Lead and renal podiatrist at Northern Health, for being selected for the **2026 MACH-Track future leaders' program**.

MACH-Track provides clinicians with dedicated research training as they work towards their PhD alongside clinical practice to foster the next generation of clinician researchers. Through MACH-Track, Belinda hopes to evaluate digital health pathways for patients and build research skills to develop projects highlighting the need for better resources and access to care, especially for rural and high-risk populations.

👉 Click [here](#) for more information.

A reminder that RDGU has now closed to new non-HREC, SSA & QA submissions. Processing resumes 19 January 2026. Urgent trials may be reviewed by request.

New for MRFF and NHMRC Grant Processes

Historically, sex, gender, variations of sex characteristics or sexual orientation has not been considered in health and medical research. As a result, research does not represent the needs of all Australians.

From 2026, the Statement on Sex, Gender, Variations of Sex Characteristics and Sexual Orientation in Health and Medical Research will be embedded in MRFF and NHMRC grant processes.

Grant opportunities that open after 1 January 2026 will require applicants to:

- consider sex, gender, variations of sex characteristics or sexual orientation in every stage of their research project
- describe how they have done this in their applications for funding.

👉 Click [here](#) for further information



RDGU would like to extend a huge thank you to our research community at Northern Health. We are incredibly proud of the depth and breadth of research activity across NH, which would not be possible without your enthusiasm, dedication, and participation. As research activity at Northern Health continues to grow, RDGU remains committed to supporting our researchers every step of the way. We wish you all a happy, safe and relaxing festive season and look forward to a continued period of strong and thriving research in 2026.

NH Publication Highlights

- Cvetanovska N, Said S, Jessup RL. Exploring the Role of Peer Health Navigators in the Australian Health System: A Qualitative Interview Study. *Health Expect.* 2025 Oct;28(5):e70453. doi: 10.1111/hex.70453. PMID: 41062082; [PMCID: PMC12507466](#).
- Bennet S, Chern TY, Noori J, D'Souza B. How to Fix Left Colonic Anastomoses in Place to Prevent Internal Herniation. *ANZ J Surg.* 2025 Oct 28. doi: 10.1111/ans.70364. Epub ahead of print. [PMID: 41147264](#).
- Roberts L, Trakman G, Furness K, Farrugia E. Risks and Benefits of Gastrostomy in Non-Motor Neurone Disease Progressive Neurological Diseases: A Systematic Review. *J Hum Nutr Diet.* 2025 Dec;38(6):e70144. doi: 10.1111/jhn.70144. [PMID: 41146616](#).
- Jessup RL, Glynn M, Zilm D, Mehmet H, Tacey M, Talevski J, Heng H, Phan U, Campbell D. Implementation evaluation of a comprehensive CARE record to reduce hospital-acquired complications: a mixed-methods pre-post study. *BMJ Open.* 2025 Oct 20;15(10):e099973. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2025-099973. PMID: 41120167; [PMCID: PMC12542542](#).
- Luo Y, Pajtak R, Suleiman M, McKay S, Bird D, Hodgson R. Laparoscopic Common Bile Duct Exploration for the Next Generation: A Rationale for Junior Surgeons to Operate. *ANZ J Surg.* 2025 Nov 3. doi: 10.1111/ans.70375. Epub ahead of print. [PMID: 41181895](#).
- Sia R, Ting EL, Kwan A, Mian M. Transforming Rheumatoid Arthritis Care: A Scoping Review of the Role of Digital Health. *Cureus.* 2025 Oct 6;17(10):e93973. doi: 10.7759/cureus.93973. PMID: 41209979; [PMCID: PMC12589145](#).
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- Barakat Z, Pianta TJ. Adverse outcomes associated with both diagnosed and undiagnosed acute kidney injury. *Intern Med J.* 2025 Nov 11. doi: 10.1111/imj.70257. Epub ahead of print. [PMID: 41216955](#).
- Shan S, Oon S, Foote A. Outcomes of rheumatology referrals seen in a general medicine clinic. *Intern Med J.* 2025 Nov 21. doi: 10.1111/imj.70261. Epub ahead of print. [PMID: 41272928](#).
- Wang Y, Chong G. Immunotherapy in gastric adenocarcinoma - a rapidly evolving treatment landscape. *Crit Rev Oncol Hematol.* 2025 Dec;216:104941. doi: 10.1016/j.critrevonc.2025.104941. Epub 2025 Sep 13. [PMID: 40953757](#).
- Choy KW, Hickey S, Loh TP. A contemporary review of the limitations of adjusted calcium in clinical practice. *Pathology.* 2025 Oct 28:S0031-3025(25)00321-6. doi: 10.1016/j.pathol.2025.08.010. Epub ahead of print. [PMID: 41318320](#).
- Luo Y, Kang YC, Sidhu A, Suleiman M, Houli N, Kumta S, Hodgson R. Video-Based Assessment of Operative Competency in Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy: A Prospective Observational Study to Inform Rubric Design for AI-Assisted Evaluation. *ANZ J Surg.* 2025 Nov 28. doi: 10.1111/ans.70398. Epub ahead of print. [PMID: 41313080](#).
- Semciw AI, Jessup R, Duckham R, Gokhale S, Gray H, Bell EC, Quick SM, Gentle J, Phan U, See K, Galea-O'Neill R, Boyd J, Heng H, Webster T, King MG. Development of a Cocreated Perioperative Joint Replacement Digital Care Pathway to Improve Surgical Outcomes Following Joint Replacement: Protocol for a Mixed Methods Study. *JMIR Res Protoc.* 2025 Dec 4;14:e85701. doi: 10.2196/85701. [PMID: 41343813](#).