



RESEARCH DIGEST ISSUE #36

MAY 18th 2026

Featured Event

International Clinical Trials Day

Northern Health

International Clinical Trials Day
Shaping Tomorrow, Together.

**95**
open clinical trials

**2548**
participants enrolled in an open clinical trial

**3**
research partnerships

**2**
research sites

**65**
clinical trials of a drug

**5**
clinical trials of a device

**26**
departments conducting open clinical trials

**36**
commercial clinical trials

**59**
non-commercial clinical trials

Join us online at the
ARCS International Clinical Trials Day Symposium

The program features a series of focused sessions, including:

- Strategic insights into current priorities and future directions across the clinical trials landscape
- Multi-Site Governance and AI in Research Oversight
- AI in Clinical Trials

Wednesday 20 May 2026
11:30 AM – 2:00 PM
Online

[Register here](#)

Northern Health Clinical Trials - At a Glance

A sincere thank you to all our Clinical Trial Investigators, Coordinators, and support staff for your ongoing dedication to advancing clinical research. Your work is fundamental to improving patient care and driving research forward, both locally and nationally. We truly appreciate all that you do.

We will be celebrating **International Clinical Trials Day** on **Wednesday 20 May 2026**. This year's theme is **"Shaping Tomorrow, Together."**

In place of a Research Grand Round, all staff are encouraged to attend the:

ARCs International Clinical Trials Day Symposium

Wednesday 20 May, 11:30am – 2:00pm

The program features a series of focused sessions, including:

- Strategic insights into current priorities and future directions across the clinical trials landscape
- Multi-Site Governance and AI in Research Oversight
- AI in Clinical Trials

[**Register here**](#)

Please feel free come over to the Research Office, Level 3, NCHER Building, during the day, where we'll be providing sweet treats to celebrate and say thank you for all your wonderful work.

We'll also be dropping by some departments in the morning with a few sweet snacks to share our appreciation. We look forward to celebrating with you all!



**Northern Health
Library**

NVivo- Qualitative Research Data Tool

The NH Library is now offering access to NVivo, a powerful research tool designed to support staff working with qualitative data. NVivo will help if you're analysing interviews, surveys, social media or open-ended responses by helping you organise materials, identify key themes and uncover meaningful insights more efficiently. Library staff are available to help you get started, so you can make the most of this resource in your research and projects.

The NH Library has laptops for loan that have the NVivo software installed, which can be booked [here](#). Laptops can be loaned for up to 10 working days at a time.

[This video](#) provides a quick guide on the basics of NVivo.

Seminars

The new Statement on Consumer and Community Involvement in Health and Medical Research

NHMRC and the Consumers Health Forum of Australia (CHF) have recently released the new joint Statement on Consumer and Community Involvement in Health and Medical Research (the Statement).



Join Monash Partners as they host a webinar to discuss the updated Statement on Tuesday **19 May 2026 at 1:00PM – 2:00PM AEST**.

[Register Here](#)

Lowitja Institute Knowledge Translation Summit

Lowitja Institute is hosting the Knowledge Translation (KT) Summit 2026, an online gathering that brings together policymakers, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, communities, and researchers to share knowledge, showcase innovation, and influence systems change.



Thursday 28th May, 1.00pm - 4.00pm online via Zoom.

[Register Here](#)

Grants Opportunities

Chronic Conditions Prevention and Integrated Care Grants Program Applications Close: 17 June 2026, 2.00pm (ACT Local time)

This grants program supports initiatives that improve health outcomes and quality of life for Australians living with—or at risk of—chronic conditions. It focuses on prevention, early detection, and better long-term management.



Key priorities include:

- Health promotion & education: Empower consumers, carers', and providers with tools to improve self-management and reduce risk.
- Prevention & early detection: Strengthen strategies for earlier diagnosis and intervention.
- Integrated, person-centred care: Enhance coordination across services and life stages using multidisciplinary and digital approaches.
- Multimorbidity management: Reduce care fragmentation for people with multiple conditions.

- Health equity: Deliver targeted, culturally appropriate support for priority populations.

More information

NCTGF Nudge: Closeout of Clinical Trials (Investigator Initiated Trials)

Closing a study is more than an administrative step; it reflects how well the research has been conducted from start to finish. A structured and timely approach to site closeout ensures that all study activities are finalised appropriately, responsibilities are met, and the study can be formally closed in a compliant and organised way.

The Site Closeout Checklist supports this process by acting as both a practical guide and a formal record of completed activities. Rather than being left to the final days of a study, closeout should be approached as a phased process, beginning as the study starts to wind down. This allows teams to address outstanding tasks early, confirm that documentation is complete, and ensure the data is clean and ready for analysis. Closeout also relies on clear accountability. Each section of the checklist should be reviewed, signed, and dated by the appropriate team member, with final oversight and sign-off by the Principal Investigator or Coordinating Principal Investigator. For multi-site studies, each site plays a critical role in ensuring their own activities are fully completed and documented.

Check your readiness:

- Have all participants completed the study, including any required follow-up?
- Is the study data complete, cleaned, and ready for analysis?
- Are all essential documents filed, current, and appropriately archived?
- Have all closeout activities been reviewed, signed, and dated by the responsible team members?
- Would I be confident that this study could be formally closed today in a compliant and organised way?

Nudge to action

Set aside 10–15 minutes this week to review your study's progress toward closeout. Begin working through the Site Closeout Checklist now particularly if your study is approaching completion and identify any outstanding activities that can be addressed early.

- Site Closeout Checklist Available on the intranet: [Templates for NH Researchers](#)
- Site Closeout Checklist Available on the LMS Research Hub: [Templates for NH Researchers - LMS](#)

Reminder: As part of completing your study, ensure your final report has been submitted to the RDGU office to support formal study closure.

Northern Health Publications

Publications are selected from strongly Northern Health-led research at the discretion of RDGU Office.

- Mohamedrashed M, Yogakanthi S, Bartlett R, Chew M, Nedumannil L, Xu ZC, Chauhan A, Lucas S, Lewis D, Little RD, Kashkooli S, Garg M. Early infliximab rescue therapy is associated with reduced length of stay in patients with acute severe ulcerative colitis. BMC Gastroenterol. 2026 Apr 27. doi: 10.1186/s12876-026-04847-w. Epub ahead of print. [PMID: 42045845](#).
- Tsang YS, Hui JH, Hurley KH, Jones SL, Ditoro A, MacCormack D, Mackay AJ. Patient experiences and outcomes from a novel multidisciplinary preoperative shared decision-making clinic. Anaesth Intensive Care. 2026 Apr 20:310057X261427783. doi: 10.1177/0310057X261427783. Epub ahead of print. [PMID: 42010798](#).
- Mikhail RHG, Hajibandeh S, Hajibandeh S, Smith M, Ban EJ, Jacobs R, McKay SC. Comparative Outcomes of Reinforced Tension-Line Sutures Versus Standard Closure Techniques in Patients Undergoing Laparotomy: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. ANZ J Surg. 2026 Apr;96(4):759-771. doi: 10.1111/ans.70439. Epub 2026 Jan 14. PMID: 41532396; [PMCID: PMC13129254](#).
- Al Fathil Y, Rotella JA. Clinical decision rules for obtaining chest radiography in adult patients presenting to the emergency department with non-traumatic chest pain: a systematic review and meta-analysis. Emerg Med J. 2026 May 6:emermed-2025-215673. doi: 10.1136/emermed-2025-215673. Epub ahead of print. [PMID: 42091207](#).
- Lim HY, Yap ES, Ho P. Global Hemostasis Testing in Chronic Kidney Disease-Are They Better Predictors of Bleeding and Thrombosis Risk? Semin Thromb Hemost. 2026 Jun;52(4):391-404. doi: 10.1055/s-0045-1809162. Epub 2025 May 15. [PMID: 40373808](#).

If you would like to feature any items on the Research Digest, [Please contact us](#).

Research Development & Governance Unit
Level 3, Northern Centre for Health Education and Research
185 Cooper Street Epping Vic 3076