

RESEARCH DIGEST ISSUE #37

June 1st 2026



National Reconciliation Week

This is a time for all Australians to reflect on our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to consider how each of us- particularly as researchers- can contribute to advancing reconciliation in Australia through respectful, ethical and impactful research practice.

Observed annually from 27 May to 3 June, these dates mark two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey: the successful 1967 referendum, which recognised Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Census, and the High Court's landmark Mabo decision in 1992, which acknowledged native title and overturned the doctrine of *terra nullius*.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are also recognised as the world's first researchers, with rich traditions of knowledge creation, observation, and evidence-sharing that have been sustained over tens of thousands of years. These knowledge systems continue to offer valuable insights and approaches to strengthen contemporary research practices, particularly in ensuring research is conducted in partnership with communities and delivers meaningful benefit.

Consumer and Community Involvement in Health and Medical Research

The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) and the Consumers Health Forum of Australia (CHF) have released the new *Statement on Consumer and Community Involvement in Health and Medical Research*.

The Statement sets a clear national expectation that consumer and community involvement is embedded across the full research lifecycle and reflects its essential role in high-quality health and medical research.

Developed collaboratively with consumers, communities and researchers, the Statement includes practical examples and case studies to support real-world application, alongside a companion *Support and Resources* document offering up-to-date guidance.

[More Information Here](#)

Survey

National Centre for Asbestos Related Diseases (NCARD): *Asbestos Voices: Help shape future research on asbestos-related diseases*

NCARD is inviting people affected by asbestos exposure and asbestos-related diseases — including people exposed to asbestos, patients, carers, advocates and healthcare professionals — to complete an anonymous survey (10–15 minutes) to help define future research priorities.

Closes 31 August 2026.

Click [here](#) for more information.

[Survey Link](#)

MACH Event

Omics to Diagnostics Symposium: Towards enhanced molecular definitions of disease

Discover how deciphering disease mechanisms using omics can deliver more informative diagnostics. Join us at this free, in-person, [MACH](#) symposium showcasing local capabilities and the potential of omics technologies to revolutionise disease understanding and diagnostics.

Date: Thursday 4th June 2026

Time: 10am-2.45pm including networking lunch (Registration from 9.30am)

Location: Davis Auditorium, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, 1G Royal Parade, Parkville, Vic 3052

- **Keynote speaker:** [Prof Paul Ekert](#) (Children's Cancer Institute) - Zero Childhood Cancer Program
- **Chairs:** Prof Rory Bowden (WEHI) and Prof Edwin Hawkins (WEHI)
- Includes networking lunch

See the [full program](#) for speakers.

[Reserve a spot](#)

ACTEC Webinar

Building Workforce Resilience in Clinical Trials:

A Community of Practice & Mentoring Program for Clinical Trial Coordinators and Research Nurses in Rural, Regional & Remote NSW and ACT

This webinar is focused on providing actionable strategies focused on strengthening support for the clinical trials workforce in rural, regional, and remote settings.

Date and Time: Thursday 4 June 2026, 12:30PM - 1:30PM (Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney)

[Register Here](#)

Grants Opportunities

Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF)- Million Minds Mental Health Research Mission

Funding available for:

1. Stream 1 (Incubator)

- Aims to support early stage, small scale research projects that seek to assess the potential and feasibility of novel strategies to address critical or intractable health issues.
- Grants of up to \$1 million are available for 2 years.

2. Stream 2 (Targeted Call for Research)

- Aims to support projects that progress research that addresses a specific health need.
- Grants of up to \$5 million are available for 5 years.

Key Dates:

- Minimum data closes 19 August 2026
- Application closes 16 September 2026

[More information](#)

KINETIC- Moving Communities Fund

Applications CLOSE 24 June 2026 - Guidelines [here](#).
Grants up to \$10,000

Your project must drive positive change and impact in one or more of our priority community areas:

- Accessibility and health
- Community services and groups (e.g. social welfare, sporting, special interest)
- Diversity and inclusion (e.g. women, LGBTQ+, CALD)
- Education and research
- Environment and climate change
- First Nations culture and engagement
- Māori and Pasifika culture and engagement
- Youth and children

[More information](#)

Northern Health Publications

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

- Huang M, Pianta T, Barit D, Mahmood K, Colville D, Mack H, Savage J. Monogenic kidney disease and monogenic diabetes are present in renal clinic patients with non-genetic diagnoses. Sci Rep. 2026 May 15. doi: 10.1038/s41598-026-52836-6. Epub ahead of print. [PMID: 42141127](#).

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

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