

RESEARCH DIGEST ISSUE #42



Aug 12th 2026

Research Week 2026

Thank you to everyone who submitted an abstract for Research Week 2026. It is shaping up to be an exciting and inspiring event that showcases the passion, expertise, dedication, and reflection of our research community.

The abstract review process will commence shortly, and we greatly appreciate your support in assisting with abstracts reviews. Thank you in advance for your valuable contribution.



NH Research Grant Program 2026

Congratulations to all 2026 Research Grants Program recipients and thank you to everyone who submitted an application and supported the program.

We would welcome any feedback you may have about the program for future iterations of the program!

[Click Here for Survey](#)

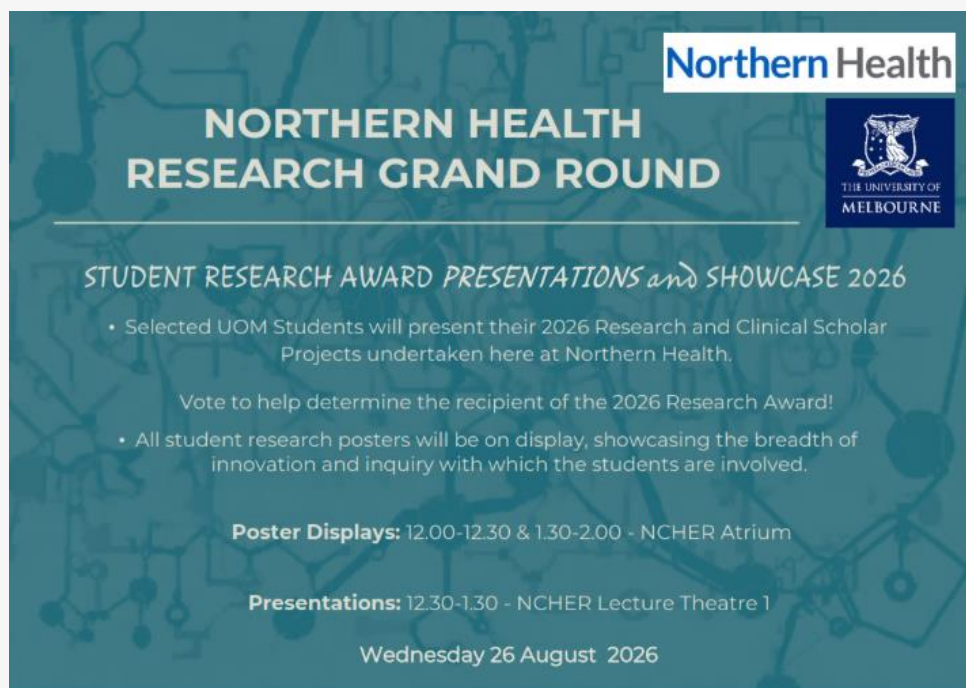
RDGU updates

New Appointment - Research Governance Officer

RDGU is delighted to announce the appointment of Arwen Nguyen- Ngo, as Research Governance Officer. Arwen recently completed an internship with Northern Health through the VCCC Alliance Skilled Intern Program. Arwen brings experience in clinical research, having previously worked with the Molecular Oncology and Cancer Immunology (MOCI) Clinical Research Team at Epworth Healthcare, supporting the delivery and reporting of a growing clinical trials portfolio.

In her new role, Arwen will support researchers in navigating governance and approval processes, helping to facilitate the delivery of high-quality, impactful research across Northern Health. We congratulate Arwen on her appointment and look forward to her continued contribution to Northern Health's research community.

Northern Health Research Grand Round

The poster has a teal background with a faint molecular structure pattern. At the top right is the Northern Health logo. Below it is the University of Melbourne crest and name. The main title 'NORTHERN HEALTH RESEARCH GRAND ROUND' is in large white capital letters. Below this is the subtitle 'STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD PRESENTATIONS and SHOWCASE 2026'. A bulleted list follows, detailing the event for selected UOM students. A call to action 'Vote to help determine the recipient of the 2026 Research Award!' is included. The schedule for poster displays and presentations is listed at the bottom, along with the date 'Wednesday 26 August 2026'.

Northern Health

**NORTHERN HEALTH
RESEARCH GRAND ROUND**

STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD PRESENTATIONS and SHOWCASE 2026

- Selected UOM Students will present their 2026 Research and Clinical Scholar Projects undertaken here at Northern Health.

Vote to help determine the recipient of the 2026 Research Award!

- All student research posters will be on display, showcasing the breadth of innovation and inquiry with which the students are involved.

Poster Displays: 12.00-12.30 & 1.30-2.00 - NCHER Atrium

Presentations: 12.30-1.30 - NCHER Lecture Theatre 1

Wednesday 26 August 2026

Grant Opportunities

The Tour de Cure 2026–2027 Annual Grants Round is now open



Applications close Friday 21 August 2026

Expressions of Interest (EOIs) invited across the following funding categories:

- Early Career Research Grant
- PhD Scholarship
- Prof Richard Scolyer Award for Brain Cancer Research for Early, Mid and Senior Career Researchers

Please note: Only **two applications per grant category** may be submitted by each organisation. As such, if you are considering applying, we strongly recommend that you advise the Northern Health Foundation (foundation@nh.org.au) of your intention to apply ASAP.

[Apply Here](#)

Webinars

University of Melbourne: Visualizing Health and Medical Data

Date: Wednesday 19th August 2026

Time: 12.30-1.30pm

Making health and medical data ‘visual’ can support exploration by specialist researchers, communicate research outcomes to related disciplines and reach client cohorts/patient advocate groups who are otherwise might feel excluded by the language of clinical guidance.

During this session, the Melbourne Data Analytics Platform (MDAP) team will take you through the visualisations and design process for making health and medical research visual.



[Register Here](#)

NCTGF Nudge: Diversity and High-Risk Groups (Action 1.15)

Delivering equitable and participant centred clinical trials begins with understanding the diverse communities we serve. Under Action 1.15 of the National Clinical Trials Governance Framework (NCTGF), health services are expected to consider the

diversity of consumers and the needs of groups who may be at greater risk of harm when planning and delivering clinical trial services.

A participant centered approach helps ensure that clinical trials are accessible, inclusive, and responsive to the needs of diverse populations. This includes considering cultural safety, language requirements, accessibility, health literacy, and other factors that may influence an individual's ability to understand, access, or participate in research. Embedding these considerations into study planning and participant recruitment supports safer, more inclusive research and promotes equitable access to clinical trial opportunities.

Check Your Readiness

- Have you considered whether your study population reflects the diversity of the patients you serve?
- Are participant information and consent processes appropriate for individuals with different language, cultural or accessibility needs?
- Is there a process to identify participants who may require additional support during recruitment or participation?
- Have appropriate interpreter services or other support mechanisms been considered where required?
- Could your study demonstrate how the needs of diverse or higher-risk participant groups have been considered if reviewed today?

Nudge to Action

Take 10–15 minutes this week to review your study documentation and recruitment processes. Consider whether participant facing materials are accessible and whether additional support such as interpreter services, translated materials, or culturally appropriate resources may be required to support informed participation. Where appropriate, document how the needs of diverse and higher-risk groups have been considered within your study.

- **Participant Information and Consent Form (PICF) templates:** [PICF Template for NH Researchers](#)
- **Interpreter and communication support services:** [TALS Supporting Department](#)
- **Research Development and Governance Unit:** Contact the RDGU if you require guidance on inclusive recruitment strategies or participant-facing documentation.

Reminder: Considering diversity and the needs of higher risk groups is an important part of delivering safe, inclusive, and high-quality clinical trials. Demonstrating these considerations within your study documentation supports compliance with the National Clinical Trials Governance Framework and helps ensure equitable access to research participation.

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

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