

NHMRC Tracker

18 April 2008

Handbook to guide immunisation

The ninth edition of the Australian Immunisation Handbook has been released to provide information on the safest and most effective vaccination strategies using the highest quality evidence available.

The revised publication was written by the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation and approved by NHMRC.

The link to the guidelines can be accessed on the [Immunise Australia](#) website.

Announcement of the successful research applications into complementary and alternative medicine

Senator the Hon Jan McLucas, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing, has announced the successful 2007 Complementary and Alternative Medicine grants. See the [NHMRC website](#).

Call for research applications

Capacity Building Grants for Population Health and Health Services Research - applications are now open and will close on 13 June 2008. Please note that the Application Form available from the NHMRC website has had the closing date corrected from 30 June 2008 to 13 June 2008. The Funding Policy and application process documentation is available from the [NHMRC website](#).

Postdoctoral Fellowships (including the Australia-China Exchange Postdoctoral Fellowships) - applications will open on 2 May 2008 and close on 4 July 2008.

Postgraduate Scholarships – applications will open on 2 May 2008 and close on 1 August 2008.

Australia Fellowships 2008 - the timeline for this scheme is currently under revision.

Project grants

NHMRC is finalising the membership of its Project Grant Review Panels (GRP). All researchers nominated to be a member of a GRP in 2008 will be advised of the outcome shortly.

Development of an NHMRC information paper on biobanks and tissue banks

NHMRC is developing an information paper to facilitate best practices for the management and governance of biobank and tissue bank facilities, specific to an Australian research environment.

The information paper will draw on relevant national and international documentation and use case studies of Australian biobank and tissue bank facilities to provide relevant contextual detail. Further information will be available in *Tracker* as the paper progresses.

Review: Ethical Aspects of Human Genetic Testing – an Information Paper

NHMRC is reviewing Ethical Aspects of Human Genetic Testing - an Information Paper (2000). The aim of the review is to expand the information paper's content to encompass four main themes:

1. The health professional, the patient and the family.
2. The medical testing laboratory and the health professional.
3. The medical testing laboratory and the consumer.
4. Emerging and topical issues.

Further information, including details of public consultation processes which are anticipated in the first half of 2009, is available on the [NHMRC](#) website.

Seeking feedback on Cardiovascular Risk Guideline

The draft *Evidence Based Practice Guideline for the Assessment of Absolute Cardiovascular Disease Risk*. has been released for public consultation until 21 May 2008. The Guideline and feedback form are available at www.heartfoundation.org.au . Enquiries should be directed to the Heart Foundation by at clinicalissues@heartfoundation.org.au or on 03 9321 1540.

Release of the draft Arthritis Guidelines for public consultation

The public consultation on the draft Arthritis Guidelines closes on 21 May 2008. Copies of the draft guidelines and feedback survey are available on the [RACGP website](#).
<http://www.racgp.org.au/scriptcontent/msk/msk.cfm>

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