



Postgraduate Scholarships applications recommended for funding commencing in 2024

About the scheme

The NHMRC Postgraduate Scholarships scheme funds successful applicants to attain a research based postgraduate degree (Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) or a Research Masters Degree).

It aims to support these outstanding health and medical graduates early in their career so they can be trained to conduct research that is internationally competitive and develop a capacity for original independent research within Australia.

The intended outcome of the Postgraduate Scholarships scheme is increased research capacity within Australia.

Postgraduate Scholarships are very competitive and offered to a limited number of graduates of outstanding ability who wish to make research a significant component of their career. This year NHMRC received 147 Postgraduate Scholarship applications of which 60 were successful. The applications listed in the following table have been approved for funding by the Minister for Health and Aged Care, the Hon Mark Butler MP.



Table 1. Applications approved for funding by the Minister for Health and Aged Care

APP ID	Chief Investigator name	Application title	Administering Institution	Budget
2030699	Doctor Peter Bell	Immune Regulation of Lung Injury: Pathways to Repair, Restoration and Fibrosis	The University of Queensland	\$140,663.00
2030705	Victoria-Rae Sinka	Development of a co-produced community-based kidney health promotion program for young Aboriginal people	University of Sydney	\$94,474.08
2030732	Claire Bavor	Supporting Choice for Cervical Screening: Implementing HPV self-collection using innovative models of screening in the Australian National Cervical Screening Program	University of Melbourne	\$96,857.00
2030762	Doctor Mawson Wang	Making the first osteoporotic fracture the last: Evaluating a new integrated Model of osteoporosis management in primary care.	University of Sydney	\$101,728.83
2030763	Doctor Jason Vuong	Characterisation and treatment of patients with medium sized cerebral vessel occlusions	Monash University	\$101,728.83
2030764	Doctor Danny Con	Mathematical and computational methods for precision medicine in Acute Severe Ulcerative Colitis	University of Melbourne	\$140,663.00
2030765	Myfanwy Graham	Examining pharmacovigilance and health outcomes with access to unapproved psychoactive medicines	Monash University	\$102,367.50
2030768	Doctor Jennifer Zhou	The role of clinical trials and invasive haemodynamics in optimising outcomes for patients with aortic stenosis	Monash University	\$140,663.00
2030786	Doctor Elizabeth Wootton	Denosumab vs zoledronic acid for the treatment of moderate-to-severe hypercalcaemia: a randomised controlled trial	The University of Queensland	\$140,663.00
2030795	Doctor Richard Kha	Prevalence, risk factors and impact of visual impairment in Australia	University of Sydney	\$117,302.50
2030805	Rebecca Wigan	Increasing the reach of syphilis diagnostics and management	Monash University	\$122,741.00
2030809	Doctor Eddie Chan	Laboratory detection and clinical significance of the cefazolin inoculum effect for Staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infections	University of Melbourne	\$121,195.92
2030836	Doctor Jessica Bindra	Australian Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia Type 1 Study (AusMEN Study)	University of Sydney	\$101,728.83



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2030847	Doctor Sanjay Dutta	Evaluation of a novel cyclic peptide to protect against myocardial ischaemia reperfusion injury and improve donor heart preservation for heart transplantation	University of New South Wales	\$101,728.83
2030872	Doctor Josipa Petric	Understanding patient burden and preferences for the management of oesophageal cancer	Flinders University	\$128,982.75
2030874	Doctor Arthur Thevathasan	Delivering personalised, adaptive deep brain stimulation for Parkinson's disease	University of Melbourne	\$140,663.00
2030899	Doctor Joanna Gong	Advancing Effective Prevention and Management of the Cardiovascular Complications of Diabetes Using Multinational Big Data and Prospective Studies	University of Melbourne	\$140,663.00
2030913	Bradley Menz	Optimising Breast Cancer Treatment: Unravelling the Influence of Concomitant Medicines and Patient Subgroups through Machine Learning and Big Data	Flinders University	\$88,785.17
2030914	Doctor Imogen Hartley	Prospective Randomised Controlled Trial of Adult Patients with Perianal Fistulising Crohn's Disease and Optimised Therapeutic Infliximab Levels (PROACTIVE)	University of Melbourne	\$70,091.17
2030921	Jessica Bellamy	Lifestyle related diseases & preventative healthcare for people with intellectual disabilities	University of New South Wales	\$88,785.17
2030934	Doctor Miriam Cameron	Aspiration and Respiratory Muscle Strength in Children	The University of Queensland	\$128,982.75
2030939	Doctor Samuel Stevens	Evaluating the time toxicity of cancer treatments in patients with advanced solid-organ malignancy	University of Sydney	\$128,982.75
2030942	Amy Mitchell	Clinical and Genetic Investigation of Inherited Heart Disease and Sudden Death Families	Centenary Institute	\$122,741.00
2030954	Doctor Asha Jois	Cellular and molecular profiling to advance precision medicine in paediatric IBD	The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research	\$140,663.00
2030958	Doctor Tahnee Bridson	Biological predictors of clinical, functional, social and cognitive responses to clozapine	University of Melbourne	\$121,195.92



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2030968	Doctor Yun Phua	Tissue scaffolds for bony and soft tissue facial reconstruction in patients with congenital craniofacial conditions	The University of Queensland	\$109,515.67
2030970	Doctor Debjyoti Karmakar	Exploring novel AI for improving diagnosis in Obstetrics and Gynaecology	University of Melbourne	\$97,835.42
2030973	Doctor Benjamin Cailles	Cirrhotic Cardiomyopathy and Improving Cardiovascular Risk Prediction in Patients Undergoing Liver Transplantation	University of Melbourne	\$140,663.00
2030979	Doctor Jessica Sandy	Paediatric X-linked Hypophosphataemia in Australia: more than a disease of the growth plate	University of Sydney	\$128,982.75
2031009	Doctor Emma Smith	Remote Aboriginal Communities Ending Tuberculosis: REACT Co-design of a holistic package of care moving towards elimination	Menzies School of Health Research	\$140,663.00
2031043	Doctor Beatrice Sim	Harnessing Novel Host Immune Signatures to Improve Risk Stratification and Diagnosis of Viral Infections in Transplant Patients	University of Melbourne	\$101,728.83
2031044	Doctor Imants Rubenis	The Coronary Microcirculation in Heart Failure	University of Sydney	\$140,663.00
2031045	Amelia Fernandes	Optimising Preconception Health In Women With Overweight And Obesity	University of Sydney	\$101,728.83
2031096	Doctor Priya Garg	Infection prevention and surveillance in Australian cancer and transplant populations	University of Melbourne	\$140,663.00
2031119	Doctor Paolo D'Ambrosio	Intensive Endurance Exercise and Cardiac Arrhythmias	Melbourne Health	\$109,515.67
2031128	Benjamin Johnson	Learning from the opioid crisis - Preventing the proliferation of prescription stimulant for non-medical use	The University of Queensland	\$64,738.00
2031138	Doctor Jason Ha	Understanding the contribution of adaptive and innate immunity to RPE/choroidal dysfunction in diabetic retinopathy	University of Melbourne	\$97,835.42
2031147	Doctor Jessica Yao	Understanding the long-term cardiovascular consequences of preeclampsia	Melbourne Health	\$140,663.00
2031152	Doctor Jeremy Tan	Improving the detection of disease progression in neuroprotective clinical trials using vision home-monitoring.	University of Sydney	\$117,302.50



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2031158	Doctor Sohaib Virk	Mapping persistent atrial fibrillation: Identification of amplifier sites responsible for arrhythmia maintenance	Melbourne Health	\$140,663.00
2031165	Doctor Krispin Hajkovicz	Clinical metagenomics for improved pathogen diagnosis, characterisation and genomic epidemiology in hospitalised patients with suspected infection.	University of Sydney	\$121,195.92
2031185	Kim Waters	Assessing the effectiveness, usability, acceptability, user experience, and preliminary effectiveness of a machine learning chatbot intervention to improve physical activity in older adults	Central Queensland University	\$80,797.50
2031190	Doctor Stephanie Rowe	Imaging and genetic determinants of the small heart syndrome and its association with heart failure	Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute	\$105,622.25
2031231	Doctor Nicholas D'Elia	Risk stratification of post infarct malignant arrhythmias	Monash University	\$140,663.00
2031240	James Sotiropoulos	Evidence synthesis in MOTION: Developing and applying Methods Of next-generation meta-analysis to Trials of Initial Oxygen in preterm Newborns	University of Sydney	\$72,767.75
2031260	Doctor Arunima Jain	Improving diagnosis and management of kidney disease in and beyond pregnancy	University of New South Wales	\$140,663.00
2031264	Doctor Melissa Chu	Unconventional T-Cells: a potential new treatment target in multiple sclerosis	University of Melbourne	\$105,622.25
2031288	Doctor Stephen Boyle	Developing more effective Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) T cell therapy for multiple myeloma	The Council of the Queensland Institute of Medical Research	\$105,622.25
2031293	Doctor Paul Kinsella	Development and implementation of a shotgun metagenomic-based approach for microbiome characterisation	University of Melbourne	\$140,663.00
2031305	Doctor Tomasz Block	RNA therapy targeting Connective Tissue Growth Factor in diabetic kidney disease	Monash University	\$140,663.00
2031307	Grace Currie	Clinical research for the digital era: embedding analytic technologies to improve health outcomes	University of Sydney	\$85,389.58



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2031331	Doctor Kenneth Cho	Smart-phone based digital atrial fibrillation care plans for optimising risk factor modification in patients with atrial fibrillation	Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute	\$140,663.00
2031373	Doctor Eden Andrew	'PEGASUS' Quantifying PhEnoconversion of CYP3A4, CYP2C19 and CYP2D6 Genotype in a cohort of Paediatric and Adolescent and Young AdultS during treatment for Acute Lymphoblastic LeUkaemia, Lymphoma or proceeding to Bone Marrow TranSplantation	Murdoch Children's Research Institute	\$140,663.00
2031389	Doctor Laura Edwards	Evaluating the effectiveness of interventions to prevent and manage infectious diseases in Australia	University of New South Wales	\$132,876.17
2031401	Doctor Johanna Birrell	Epidemiology and equity of kidney failure in Australasia	University of Sydney	\$121,195.92
2031419	Germaine Tan	Finding the right time for rehabilitation to optimise physical activity of people living with cancer	La Trobe University	\$122,741.00
2031425	Doctor Alexander Troelnikov	Proteo-genomic profiling of antibodies	Flinders University	\$105,622.25
2031436	Doctor Lucy Haggstrom	Understanding the Effects of Antibody Drug Conjugates on the Tumour Microenvironment	The Garvan Institute of Medical Research	\$140,663.00
2031478	Doctor Nadia Coscini	The design, implementation, and evaluation of a systematic approach to improving the mental health of parents of children with chronic medical conditions.	Murdoch Children's Research Institute	\$101,728.83
2031486	Doctor Kerry Jewell	Theranostic Opportunities for Metastatic Castration-Sensitive Prostate Cancer	University of Melbourne	\$140,663.00
			Total	\$7,084,687.76