



Postgraduate Scholarships applications recommended for funding commencing in 2025

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 164 Postgraduate Scholarship applications of which 73 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
2038189	Dr Chathri Ratnayake	Renal Energy Metabolism and Obesity related Kidney Disease	University of Melbourne	\$131,125.00
2038192	Ms Cecilia Pynaker	Addressing Critical Gaps and Inequities in Australia's Prenatal Genomic Screening	University of Melbourne	\$118,062.50
2038207	Ms Catherine Spinks	Integrating genomic medicine in clinical cardiology care	University of New South Wales	\$152,895.83
2038218	Dr Luke Perry	Pulmonary artery catheter use in cardiac surgery (PUMA)	University of Melbourne	\$109,354.17
2038220	Dr Yeung-Ae Park	The role of sex steroids in pituitary tumours	University of Melbourne	\$157,250.00
2038287	Dr Isabelle Bosi	Newborn genome sequencing in the diagnosis of inborn errors of immunity	University of New South Wales	\$135,479.17
2038376	Ms Caroline Chen	Optimising antimicrobial stewardship surveillance in the digital era: integrating antimicrobial appropriateness, consumption and resistance data	University of Melbourne	\$135,479.17
2038460	Dr Misha Dagan	Unravelling pulmonary hypertension and its impact on the right heart	Monash University	\$131,125.00
2038470	Mr Joshua Kraindler	Poverty and rare genetic diseases in Australia: How precision medicine can improve outcomes for patients and families	Macquarie University	\$135,479.17
2038483	Dr Sophie Liang	IMSAFE-NMB: IMproving SAFETy of NeuroMuscular Blockade during general anaesthesia	University of Sydney	\$157,250.00
2038552	Mrs Jennifer Isautier	Mammographic density: What do the future clinical pathways look like for women with dense breasts?	University of Sydney	\$118,062.50
2038603	Dr Lucinda Roper	Mapping the burden of systemic sclerosis in Australia using healthcare and population data	University of Sydney	\$118,062.50
2038699	Dr Zoe Loh	Identifying novel biomarkers and therapeutic approaches for Mantle Cell Lymphoma	La Trobe University	\$157,250.00



APP ID	Chief Investigator Name	Application Title	Administering Institution	Budget
2038703	Dr Rachael Jacob	Sarcopenia and Frailty in Chronic Liver Disease and Liver Transplantation	Centenary Institute	\$113,708.33
2038738	Dr David Jakabek	Vascular and immune contributions to white matter degeneration in Alzheimer's disease: Implications for clinical diagnosis and treatment	University of New South Wales	\$139,833.33
2038795	Dr Tanya Lee	The Baby Inflammatory Bowel Disease Microbiome (Babycino) Study	University of Melbourne	\$157,250.00
2038812	Dr Chinmay Khandkar	DETECT-MINOCA (Diagnose underlying aEtiology with upfront inTravascular imaging vErsus Cardiac magneTic resonance imaging in patients with Myocardial Infarction with Non-Obstructive Coronary Arteries)	University of Sydney	\$157,250.00
2038814	Dr Joshua Lee	Key genomic drivers and polygenic risk scoring for drivers of rejection and graft loss in kidney transplant patients	University of Sydney	\$157,250.00
2038822	Dr Fiona Chan	Defining Diagnostic and Prognostic Biomarkers in Myelin-Oligodendrocyte Glycoprotein Antibody-Associated Disease	University of Sydney	\$135,479.17
2038847	Dr Riley Batchelor	Utilising and connecting cardiac registries to improve monitoring and clinical outcomes in cardiogenic shock	Monash University	\$157,250.00
2039125	Dr Sarah Barnard	Predicting long term treatment outcomes in people with focal epilepsy.	Monash University	\$131,125.00
2039235	Dr Angus Jeffrey	Risk Stratification in Portal Hypertension	University of Western Australia	\$144,187.50
2039318	Dr Tessa Potezny	Clonal determinants of engraftment and lineage commitment following haematopoietic stem cell transplantation	University of Melbourne	\$157,250.00



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2039334	Dr Te-Yu Hung	Improving outcomes for children with rheumatic fever: A randomised, double-blinded placebo-controlled trial oral dexamethasone for the treatment of Sydenham's Chorea	Menzies School of Health Research	\$157,250.00
2039543	Miss Fenella McAndrew	Using mathematical modelling and lessons learned from COVID-19 to inform pandemic preparedness	Burnet Institute	\$113,708.33
2039556	Dr Mike Lin	Optimising pharmacotherapy treatment for low-trauma fractures in patients with multimorbidity.	University of New South Wales	\$109,354.17
2039586	Ms Bronwyn Grinton	Applying identity-by-descent analyses to identify genetic risk factors in epilepsy cohorts	The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research	\$113,708.33
2039601	Dr Stephen Ma	Identifying mechanisms of transformation and novel strategies to prevent evolution of TP53 mutant AML	The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research	\$157,250.00
2039639	Ms Pippa McDermid	Enhancing Patient Hand Hygiene to Reduce Healthcare Associated Infections	University of New South Wales	\$135,479.17
2039663	Dr Arvind Yerramilli	Electronic Health Records Embedded Randomised Controlled Trials for Infectious Diseases	University of Melbourne	\$157,250.00
2039665	Dr Brendan Backhouse	Assessing the physiology of cardiogenic shock and cardiac arrest, and the impact of therapeutic interventions	University of Melbourne	\$157,250.00
2039670	Dr Jonathan Sivakumar	Investigating the role of electrostimulation for delayed gastric conduit emptying in post-oesophagectomy patients	University of Melbourne	\$131,125.00
2039681	Mr Alexander Thomas	Attaining Hepatitis C elimination among People Living with HIV: An economic and statistical analysis.	Burnet Institute	\$131,125.00
2039685	Dr Ting-Gee Annie Chiu	A holistic approach to care of patients with Developmental and Epileptic Encephalopathies	University of Melbourne	\$105,000.00



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2039699	Ms Ingrid Tarr	Understanding the genetics of Spontaneous Coronary Artery Dissection	University of New South Wales	\$113,708.33
2039728	Dr Beverly Rodrigues	Evaluating the gut-liver axis using a novel gas sensing capsule in cirrhosis and portal hypertension	University of Melbourne	\$157,250.00
2039742	Dr Rahul Ladwa	Mapping the tumour microenvironment in cutaneous scc - dynamic responses to immunotherapy	University of Queensland	\$126,770.83
2039755	Dr Aadith Ashok	Development and application of machine learning algorithms in combination with novel biometric sensors in the diagnostic pathway for sepsis	Monash University	\$118,062.50
2039774	Dr Kate Gonski	Ensuring Healthy Lungs for Life: Enhancing home oxygen therapy for preterm infants with Bronchopulmonary dysplasia	University of New South Wales	\$131,125.00
2039831	Dr Dinesh Giritharan	The Development of an Explainable Artificial Intelligence Tool using a Foundation Model for the Management of Epilepsy	Monash University	\$157,250.00
2039872	Dr Nayomi Perera	Proactive pregnancy care: Developing a risk calculator to identify women at risk of adverse maternal and offspring outcomes	University of Melbourne	\$157,250.00
2039892	Dr Kimberly Davis	CHIVAS-M1 (Controlled Human Infection for Vaccination Against S. pyogenes-M1UK): Advancing the frontiers of human challenge research.	Murdoch Children's Research Institute	\$113,708.33
2039893	Dr Bonnie Liu	Application of molecular imaging biomarkers in large vessel vasculitis and polymyalgia rheumatica	University of Melbourne	\$157,250.00
2039894	Dr Megan Harrison	Defining Treatable Traits of Interstitial Lung Disease	University of Sydney	\$113,708.33



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2039902	Dr George Tsihlis	Understanding How Uraemic Toxins in Chronic Kidney Disease Modify Heart Disease	University of Sydney	\$113,708.33
2039942	Dr Carolyn Wijaya	Identifying pathogenic cells in refractory autoimmune blistering disease	University of Sydney	\$157,250.00
2039978	Mr Lucas Mitchell	Accelerating genetic diagnosis and clinical impact in a participant-led rare disease registry	University of New South Wales	\$144,187.50
2039989	Ms Maria Globan	Genomics-informed exploration of drug susceptibility testing for non-tuberculous mycobacteria	University of Melbourne	\$157,250.00
2039992	Dr Eleanor Rye	Modifiers of Genetic Cardiomyopathy	University of New South Wales	\$157,250.00
2039995	Dr Emily Lin	Biomarker profiles in systemic sclerosis and systemic lupus erythematosus patients and therapeutic implications.	Monash University	\$157,250.00
2040001	Dr Roger Liang	Predicting cancer immunotherapy response by integrating proteomics and AI-based image analysis	University of Sydney	\$157,250.00
2040005	Dr Joanne Tan	RNA and Metabolic determinants of Acute-Graft-Versus-Host Disease in Allogeneic Haemopoietic Stem Cell Transplant Recipients (RADAR-GVH)	Monash University	\$135,479.17
2040017	Dr Ke Chow	Identification of novel autoantibodies to unlock targeted treatments and diagnostics in idiopathic non-cystic fibrosis bronchiectasis	University of Newcastle	\$148,541.67
2040046	Dr Emily Yeung	Improving Care Delivery in Chronic Kidney Disease	University of New South Wales	\$157,250.00
2040049	Ms Samantha Bates	enteral rather than intravenous electrolyte replacement in critical care (LEANER)	University of Melbourne	\$157,250.00



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2040051	Dr Chris Ovens	OPTIMISING TARGETED THERAPIES IN OPTIC NERVE DISEASE (OTTER STUDY)	University of Sydney	\$113,708.33
2040058	Dr Grace Swart	Defining the clinical and serological phenotypes of autoimmune neuropathies and strategies for individualized treatment selection and evaluation of response	University of Sydney	\$135,479.17
2040067	Dr Danlu Liang	Prospective randomised study of treatment vs. no treatment of obstructive sleep apnoea in atrial fibrillation patients undergoing ablation (SNORE-AF)	Melbourne Health	\$131,125.00
2040068	Dr Kristin Ferguson	Lower gas flows during respiratory support for extremely preterm infants	Murdoch Children's Research Institute	\$157,250.00
2040070	Dr Anita Niu	Long-term perfusion of a metabolically active organ for transplantation	University of Sydney	\$105,000.00
2040072	Dr Peter Emerson	A novel anticoagulant therapy for the prevention of cardio-embolic stroke.	University of Sydney	\$157,250.00
2040080	Dr Sarah Latham	Systematic, risk-stratified, precision breast cancer prevention: an early economic evaluation and acceptability assessment.	University of Melbourne	\$83,229.17
2040105	Dr Rebecca Saunderson	Improving the assessment and management of vulvar lichen planus	University of Sydney	\$144,187.50
2040109	Dr Udit Thakur	Impact of Atrial Fibrillation Catheter Ablation Compared to Medical Therapy on Neurocognitive Function	Melbourne Health	\$157,250.00
2040112	Dr Joseph O'Brien	Validation, assessment, and clinical translation of novel machine learning and invasive and non-invasive measurements of coronary microvascular dysfunction and inflammation	Monash University	\$105,000.00



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2040123	Ms Miranda Starr	The influence of vitamin D supplementation and hygiene measures on infection and allergy within the first year of life.	Murdoch Children's Research Institute	\$157,250.00
2040127	Dr Timothy Scully	Screening for cardiac amyloidosis in patients with conduction disease - Timothy Scully	Monash University	\$144,187.50
2040138	Dr Alison Hiong	Understanding the causes and consequences of cancer heterogeneity in melanoma	Monash University	\$157,250.00
2040163	Dr Malanka Lankaputhra	Alternative analgesia versus opioids in myocardial infarction.	Monash University	\$157,250.00
2040191	Dr Madeleine Healy	Improving dementia assessment and diagnosis in people living with Down syndrome	Monash University	\$157,250.00
2040207	Dr Edwina Coghlan	Coaching for Doctors for Clinician Wellbeing, Workforce Sustainability and Patient Safety	University of Melbourne	\$131,125.00
2040413	Ms Tamarah Katz	Gastrointestinal health and nutritional management of children with Cystic Fibrosis on CFTR modulator therapy	University of New South Wales	\$131,125.00
2040418	Dr Nathaniel Lizak	Use of high-efficacy therapies to prevent disability in MS	University of Melbourne	\$157,250.00
			Total	\$10,146,875.00