

CINSW TRANSLATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH GRANT ROUND 2, 2010



***This subset of information from the Guidelines is provided for ease of review by applicants.
Please ensure you read the full guidelines prior to applying for a grant.***

3. INTRODUCTION TO THE CANCER INSTITUTE NSW TRANSLATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE RESEARCH GRANT

3.1 The Translational Health Service Research Grant aims to further develop health service research capacity in NSW cancer services through collaborative partnerships between NSW Academic Institutions and cancer clinicians working in cancer services with a grant of up to \$200,000 pa for 2-3 years. The program aims to develop and improve cancer service delivery to prepare for future challenges as cancer incidence increases.

3.2 Applicants will be reviewed on their current and potential ability to contribute to changes in cancer health services practice leading directly to improved cancer service delivery and ultimately to better cancer outcomes.

For the purposes of this program, *cancer health services research* is defined as:

A multidisciplinary field of scientific investigation that studies how social factors, financing systems, organisation structures and processes, health technologies, and personal behaviours affect access to cancer care, the quality and cost of cancer care, and ultimately improves cancer results.

These grants will focus on applied health services research which seeks to test innovation in cancer health care services.

3.3 Applications may be made by a team, group or consortia and must include researchers with a demonstrated track record in health services research and clinicians who are clinical cancer care providers or clinical service administrators/managers. The inclusion of additional team members such as other healthcare professionals and policy makers is encouraged. It is not necessary to demonstrate that the proposed team has a history of working together, however they will need to show how the proposed collaborators intend to work together to ensure a cohesive and productive working partnership.

3.4 The clinical institution(s) in which the research is to be undertaken must ensure that facilities are made available for the agreed research and there is access to appropriate clinical activity. Successful *Translational Health Service Research Grants* will focus on improved and innovative models of cancer service delivery and clearly demonstrate how the research outcomes may be translated into broad cancer clinical practice in NSW within the tenure of the grant.

3.5 Preference may be given to projects addressing the following:

- *The establishment or further development of clinical cancer networks to enhance the equitable provision of high quality effective services such as improved access to specialist care*
- *Shared care models of service delivery that will enhance the role of primary care and General Practitioners in cancer service delivery during treatment or surveillance or follow-up care*
- *Methods to reduce variation in cancer treatment outcomes*
- *Methods to accelerate the uptake, development or translation of previous research in cancer service delivery that will directly improve patient outcomes.*

3.6 Successful Translational Health Service Research Grants must demonstrate how the research outcome (eg new innovation/intervention) will be translated into improved cancer health service within the tenure of the grant. Therefore it is anticipated that some applications may be made for research that is

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already advanced at time of submission and that testing in the local context and/or beyond will be a focus of the application.

- 3.7 CINSW may seek to enter into negotiation with individual applicants regarding their proposals should the assessors deem this appropriate and beneficial to the potential outcomes.
- 3.8 A *Translational Health Service Research Grant* is valued up to \$200,000 per annum, for a period of two to three years. Funds will commence in January 2011 and may be used for project salaries (not available for Chief Investigator salaries), equipment, travel and consumables.

4. OBJECTIVES

The key objectives of a Translational Health Service Research Grant are to:

- *Identify and support collaborative health service research projects between Academic Institutions and clinicians involved in cancer services delivery*
- *Increase health service research capacity in both private and public cancer care services*
- *Create evidence based knowledge about cancer health service delivery which has high impact and can improve outcomes*
- *Translate evidence based research into improved clinical practice.*

5. ELIGIBILITY

5.1 ***Administering Institution Eligibility***

- 5.1.1 Applications will only be accepted from individuals whose grant will be conducted under the auspices of a University or major research institution located within NSW.

5.2 ***Applicant Eligibility***

- 5.2.1 Each application must have one (1) Chief Investigator from each of the following categories:
(Note: All other participants (including both Research & Clinical) may be named as associate investigators on the application)

5.2.1.1 Co-Chief Investigator - Research

Must be employed by a University or Research Institution in NSW and have a proven academic background in health services research.

5.2.1.2 Co-Chief Investigator - Clinical Organisation

Must be currently employed in cancer care services in either the public or private system in NSW and deliver cancer health care services or responsible for delivering services related to prevention or screening of cancer.

- 5.2.2 Non Australian Citizens/Non Permanent Residents are eligible to apply. However, you will need to provide certified evidence of residency status and the right to remain in Australia for the duration of the funding period to the Cancer Institute NSW if the application is successful before the grant can commence.
- 5.2.3 Applicants may be located at one or more institutions in NSW.
- 5.2.4 Applicants must reside in NSW for the duration of the grant.

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5.2.5 All obligations regarding previously funded projects involving the applicants must have been fulfilled to the satisfaction of the Cancer Institute NSW. Such obligations include the provision of satisfactory financial, progress and final reports.

5.3 **Associate Investigators** may be named on the application and are not subject to eligibility criteria

6. SELECTION CRITERIA

In awarding a Translational Health Service Research Grant, the following criteria will be taken into account:

6.1 Significance of the Research (20%)

Demonstrated significance of the proposed research and its likelihood to substantially improve broad cancer service delivery in NSW.

6.2 Translational capacity (25%)

Ability to translate research findings directly into new, improved cancer health service delivery within the period of the grant.

An appropriate critical appraisal of the ability of the of the innovation/intervention to be translated to other health service providers as well as the local context should be provided by the applicant as well as an effective strategy for the dissemination of results.

6.3 Track Record of Investigators (30%)

Track Record of Investigators relevant to health services research, health service economics and/or an applied health service background, based on demonstrated expertise and experience, peer reviewed publications and research funding obtained in the last 5 years.

6.4 Appropriate Research Methodology (25%)

An appropriate program of work including feasible research designs, methodology, milestones, documentation of research results, evaluation of results for their effectiveness in improving health care delivery and a documented process for monitoring research progress amongst the research team during the period of the grant. The methodology should enable adequate and appropriate measurement of improvements in cancer service delivery over the period of the grant. This could include improvements in patient outcomes as well as improvements in cost effectiveness. The methodology should also identify how the cost and economic benefits of the major deliverables will be determined. It is important to include evidence of how the proposed collaborators intend to work together to ensure a cohesive and productive working partnership.

9. PERMITTED USE OF TRANSLATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE RESEARCH GRANT FUNDS

9.1 Funds awarded shall not be used for any named Investigator salaries

18. TIMEFRAME

Open for Application Guidelines and Application form available from the CINSW website	19 th July 2010
Deadline for Application to be submitted to CINSW Grant Secretariat	5pm 27th August 2010
Expected Date Funding Available from	1 st January 2011