



## COVID-19 AND GENERAL PRACTICE RESEARCH PROJECTS

Expressions of interest now open – closing Friday 24 April 2020, 9pm AEST

### Background

The COVID-19 pandemic presents an unprecedented challenge to general practitioners in Australia and internationally. GPs are playing a central role on the frontline of care whilst also managing the everyday needs of their patients and adapting to new ways of consulting. The evidence base around COVID-19 is evolving, and it is important to understand the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on general practice.

In response to this, the RACGP Foundation and HCF Research Foundation are coming together to fund research projects relating to COVID-19 and general practice.

### Research opportunity

Expressions of interest are now open for high quality research projects relating to COVID-19 and general practice.

This may include (but is not limited to) research into the use of telehealth and telehealth item numbers and evaluation of COVID-19 clinics.

Projects that are time sensitive, for example that require data collection during the pandemic phase, are preferred. Current research projects that can be adapted or expanded to include COVID-19 are also eligible.

The number and value of grants awarded will be determined as part of the review and ranking process. To this end, there may be one or two larger projects funded or several smaller projects. Applicants are asked to indicate the budget required to undertake the project, up to \$50,000.

The HCF and RACGP Foundations encourage applicants wishing to propose a higher budget to contact the RACGP Foundation via [foundation@racgp.org.au](mailto:foundation@racgp.org.au) to discuss their project.

### Eligibility

To be eligible for this grant, the principal investigator must be a general practitioner.

Please give consideration to feasibility in the current environment, and confirm the following before you apply:

- Availability and capacity of your team to undertake the research now. This will include leadership by a general practitioner researcher with sufficient experience to establish and run the project within a short timeframe;
- Ability to collect data or undertake recruitment, especially where participation of general practices is required; and
- Ability of your human research ethics committee to review your application within a short time frame.



### Selection criteria

Applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

- The quality of the proposed methodology;
- The importance of the research, including the need for it to be undertaken during the pandemic and its relevance to general practice;
- The potential of the research to be translated into improved policy or practice, and/or inform responses to, and develop best practice approaches for, future pandemics;
- Track record of the research team;
- Feasibility.

### Expressions of Interest

Applicants are asked to provide a short expression of interest of no more than one page addressing the following:

1. Name and contact details of Principal Investigator
2. Project title
3. Funding amount requested
4. Duration of study
5. Expected time required to gain ethics approval
6. Description of research plan, using the following headings:
  - a) Research question being addressed
  - b) Proposed methodology
  - c) Importance of the research
  - d) Translation and impact
  - e) Details of the research team

### Conditions of grant and selection process

The RACGP Foundation *Terms of Grants and Awards 2020* will apply to this grant. These terms are set out on pages 9-11 of the following document:

<https://foundation.racgp.org.au/Foundation/media/Documents/InfoApplicants.pdf>

Reporting requirements, milestones and payment schedules will be negotiated with grant recipients based on project timelines and budget.

The RACGP National Research Awards Committee (NRAC), or a subcommittee of the NRAC, in conjunction with the HCF Research Foundation Research Awards Committee, will assess expressions of interest against the selection criteria.

Shortlisted applicants may be asked to provide a more detailed proposal prior to awarding of grants. The assessment process will be undertaken in as short a timeframe as possible to enable research to commence as soon as possible.

**EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST CLOSE Friday 24 April 2020 at 9.00pm AEST.**

Please submit your one page EOI in pdf format by email to [foundation@racgp.org.au](mailto:foundation@racgp.org.au)