



Melbourne Clinical and Translational Sciences (MCATS)

Whole of Platform Package Guideline

Guiding Principles

The Melbourne Clinical And Translational Sciences (MCATS) Research Platform is offering three packages incorporating services in the areas of biostatistics, health economics and health informatics. These “Whole of platform” (biostatistics, health economics and health informatics) packages aim to strengthen investigator initiated multicentre clinical and translational studies for the University of Melbourne and affiliated partners. Projects may include epidemiological, observational and clinical research, as well as bench to bedside / bedside to bench and implementation studies. Typical applicants would be those already engaged in a research project and would benefit from input from the whole of platform expertise, those who wish to undertake new projects, or those wishing to undertake a pilot study with a view to a larger grant.

Allocation of these research packages will be determined by a panel of experts aligned with MCATS.

Quantum of Funds

Three “Whole of Platform” Research packages of approximately 200 hours in total, incorporating biostatistics, health economics and health informatics to strengthen the quality of Investigator initiated clinical research between University affiliated Hospitals, Departments, and Centres.

Funding Criteria

Eligible projects must:

- Include Staff or honoraria’s or adjuncts of the University of Melbourne
- Be consistent with the scope and strategic direction of the University of Melbourne
- Be either an existing or future research project
- Incorporate biostatistics, health economics and health informatics
- Ensure the MCATS supported component is completed within one year of receiving funding approval
- Be feasible within the proposed timeframe
- Aim to build collaborations for MCATS with the broader University community

Priority will be given to projects that are likely to lead to NHMRC grants in the future.

Award Process

Three one-off grants of up to a total of 200 hours biostatistics, health economics and health informatics support will be administered between October 2016 and February 2018.

Priority will be given to projects that:

- Are pilot studies that intend to lead to a larger multicentre clinical trial or research project
- Aim to incorporate biostatistics, health economics and health informatics
- Are clinical or translational in nature
- Are conducted at least one participating Institution of the University of Melbourne
- Build research capacity for MCATS
- Provide educational opportunity for emerging researchers
- Demonstrate collaboration between members and Participating Institutions of the University of Melbourne

Applications should be approximately 2 pages long and submitted the MCATS Manager via: mcats-info@unimelb.edu.au

A panel composing the 3 platform leaders will review applications and provide written feedback within 1 month of receiving the application. Applications may also be asked to give a brief 5 minute presentation of their application to a review panel . This will provide an opportunity for the reviewers to gather additional detail, as well as benefiting the applicant as they will receive face to face feedback from the reviewers

Expectations

Successful applicants must acknowledge The Melbourne Clinical And Translational Sciences (MCATS) Research Platform in all publications and presentations arising from this support.

A summary of the value and usefulness of The Melbourne Clinical And Translational Sciences (MCATS) Research Platform support will be provided at the completion of the funding support period (max 1 page).

Acknowledgments

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