

Applicant Guidelines

2024 Research Grants

Epworth
Medical
Foundation



Applications open: Monday 29 May | Applications close: Friday 7 July 2023

Research Grants are made possible with thanks to donors and sponsors of the Epworth Medical Foundation

Grant Overview

Epworth Research Grants are intended to build research capacity at Epworth and produce outcomes that will be directly relevant to Epworth's clinical service delivery.

To be eligible to apply for a research grant the project must be primarily undertaken at Epworth and the Principal Investigator must be an Epworth employee or accredited clinician with the majority of their private practice at Epworth.

Key Dates

Applications Open	Monday 29 May 2023
Applications Close (extended to 7 July)	Friday 7 July 2023
Outcomes advised	November 2023
Presentation of Award at the Mackenzie Dinner	Thursday 30 November 2023
Final date for initiating grant Grants not initiated by this date will have funding withdrawn	Monday 6 March 2024
Grants expire Funds not spent by this time will be returned to EMF	Sunday 31 December 2024

Funding available

The total funding pool will be split across the following categories.

Category	Grant Amount	Description
Pilot Grants	\$10,000 each (multiple available)	Support Epworth researchers to undertake pilot studies that will define whether a project is feasible or worth pursuing further.
Capacity Building Grants	\$30,000 each (multiple available)	Support Epworth early career researchers to undertake projects that will give them experience in research.
Prostate Cancer	Up to \$25,000	This funding must be related to these areas but can be across the spectrum of health areas and from any discipline.
Cardiology	Up to \$65,000	
Gynaecology	Up to \$140,000	



Eligibility Criteria

Please review the criteria carefully, applications that do not meet ALL criteria will not be considered.

1. Applications for funding will only be considered for research projects to be primarily undertaken at Epworth HealthCare
2. The Principal Investigator must be an Epworth employee (full time or part time) OR accredited clinician with the majority of their private practice at Epworth. Casual Epworth employees are not eligible.
3. If the Principal Investigator is an early career researcher or novice (no more than five years since their most senior post-graduate qualification) they must be supported by a senior researcher who holds an appointment at Epworth
4. An applicant may only submit one grant application for the funding round
5. Applications must include a 2-page CV (see page 5) for the PI and senior supervisor/mentor

If you are not sure if you fit the criteria, please contact the Grants & Scholarships Manager on the details at the end of this document.

Selection criteria

Well designed	The project must be well designed and feasible within the grant period
Improvement to patient outcomes	Projects must seek to produce direct or indirect improvement in patient outcomes or organisational processes and align with Epworth's clinical service delivery and research strategies (final page).
Consumer or carer engagement	Applicants should outline any consumer or carer engagement in the design, intended conduct and implementation of outcomes
Scientific merit	Statistical validity and scientific merit must be demonstrated by providing evidence of statistician input into the study design as appropriate
Budget	A comprehensive study budget must be provided
Compliance history	Consideration will be given to applicant's previous compliance history within the EMF Grants Program

Wherever possible, applicants should demonstrate how they have consulted with patients or carers in the design of the project. Outline how they will be engaged both during the project and in implementing any outcomes.

Those early career investigators or clinicians and non-clinicians who may not have previously conducted a research project will be required to nominate a suitably qualified and experienced academic mentor who will supervise them to ensure success of their project.

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Application Budget

Principal investigators are required to consider the following Epworth research ethics, governance statistical support and laboratory expenditure items in their budget. Essential / required services are marked with an asterisk (*). These services are provided by the Research Governance and Development Unit at Epworth, research@epworth.org.au

Expenditure item	Cost	Activity details
Research and Governance Office - Review *	\$650	Research and Governance Office - Review
Site Ongoing research governance annual administration *	\$300	Implementation of the Epworth Research Quality Management System and Research Management Framework
HREC Review Fees – Initial and subsequent reviews *	As charged by the external HREC committee performing the review	Cost of the external HREC review
Statistical advice and support	Initial consultation and advice up to 3 hours: No charge. Work performed thereafter: \$75/h	Supporting high quality research that is acceptable for publication. Consultations and assessment of the research project to determine appropriate statistical analysis methods. Assistance with development of hypotheses, outcome measures and endpoints. Assistance with writing protocols, methods and papers. Conduct of the analysis
Laboratory resources and support	Initial consultation and advice up to 3 hours: No charge. Work performed thereafter will be guided by a feasibility assessment that will have a tiered approach	Supporting sample handling, processing and coordination (including laboratory equipment servicing and general consumables).
Publications	No additional funds, on top of the original grant, are available for publications. If you intend to use grants funds to support publication costs this should be included at the time of application	Any intended publications should be shared with Epworth Research Directors (Professor Winship) for review and endorsement prior to being submitted for publication



Clinical Specific Grants

In addition to the above criteria for clinical specific grants, where a Research Centre of Excellence exists, preference will be given to those who have consulted with and intend to partner, collaborate and manage their grant under the Centre. Details of the applicable grants and contact details are listed below.

Prostate Cancer	Up to \$25,000	Thili Chengodu Research Program Manager EJ Whitten Prostate Cancer Centre at Epworth thili.chengodu@epworth.org.au 0415 536 003
Pancreatic Cancer	Up to \$55,000	Dr Caroline Le Research Program Manager Jreissati Family Pancreatic Centre at Epworth caroline.le@epworth.org.au 0400 588 030
Gynaecology <i>Applications must be primarily based upon the gynaecology discipline.</i> <i>Applications with an alternative focus, and working with gynaecology patients, will not be considered under this category</i>	Up to \$110,000	Dr Marcus Carey Centre Director Pelvic Floor Centre of Excellence at Epworth marcus.p.carey@gmail.com (03) 8383 7977 Dr Sarah Carson, Senior Research Fellow & Research Program Manager Julia Argyrou Endometriosis Centre at Epworth Sarah.Carson@epworth.org.au 0401 003 452

Conditions of Award

1. Successful projects must obtain Epworth Research Governance Office authorisation, including ethics approval where relevant, before funds will be accessible.
2. Studies must be completed by **31 December 2024**. Any unspent grant funding will be returned to the Epworth Medical Foundation on this date.
3. Studies must be initiated by **4 March 2024**, otherwise funds will be withdrawn. All funded projects undertaken at, under the auspices of Epworth, or involving Epworth staff, patients or resources, must acknowledge Epworth in the institutional affiliations for any external presentations, publications or other dissemination of the study plan or results.
4. Principal Investigators are expected to participate in broader research initiatives at Epworth, including the submission of a poster as part of the annual Research Month celebrations.

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CV Guidelines

Each Investigator (and Supervisor if applicable) must include a 2-page maximum CV under the following headings.

Qualifications

Provide a list of your qualifications. For each entry include the name and location of the institution, the degree received (if applicable), the month and year of end date and the field of study.

Career Disruptions

Outline any career disruptions that you have experienced that impact the length of time between your most senior post-graduate qualification being awarded and the closing date for applications. **This is only relevant for early career researchers.**

Personal Statement

Briefly describe why you are well-suited for your role(s) in this project. Relevant factors may include aspects of your training; your previous experimental work on this specific topic or related topics; your technical expertise; your collaborators or scientific environment; and/or your past performance in this or related fields.

Positions and Honors

List the positions you've held that are relevant to this application in chronological order, concluding with your present position. Where the investigator has a supervisory role, they should provide a description of their experience and outcomes from prior research supervision.

Publications (5 years)

List your publications from the last 5 years, particularly those that relate to the project.

Contact

Dorani Lacey
Grants & Scholarships Manager
dorani.lacey@epworth.org.au
Ph. 0477 940 511

Further Information

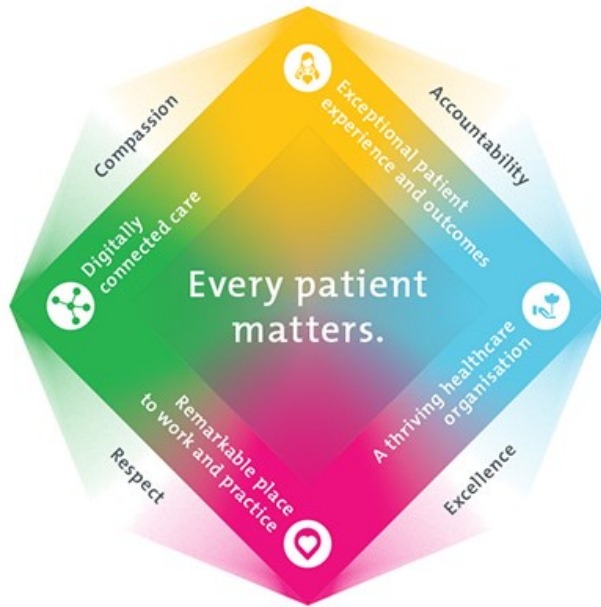
<https://www.epworth.org.au/giving/about-us/emf-grants-hub/research-grants>

Online Application Form

https://webportalapp.com/sp/2024_epworthfoundation-researchgrants

Accessible from 9am Monday 29 May 2023

Epworth 2025 Strategy



Exceptional patient experience and outcomes

To empower our patients and deliver compassionate, expert and coordinated care.



A thriving healthcare organisation

To adapt and grow in a changing healthcare landscape by delivering a unique private not-for-profit healthcare organisation.



Remarkable place to work and practice

To ensure Epworth is an outstanding place to work and practice through a culture of care and investment in our people.



Digitally connected care

To innovate and improve the digital experience, interactions and outcomes for our patients, staff and doctors.

Epworth Research Strategy

Our Vision

Our clinical research inspires hope and enables better health for our patients and community.

Purpose

To support safe, effective and efficient health care by fostering evidence based clinical research, that matters to our patients, and improves their health outcomes for the benefit of the community

Connected Care

Partner with patients to prioritise the research that matters

Enabler

Patient centric

Empowered People

Empower our people to ask questions and to be actively engaged in research intrinsic to improving our care

Enabler

Leadership and culture

Innovative Practice

Be a source of new ideas and a partner to implement innovative practices to improve patient outcomes

Enabler

Imagination, curiosity and insight

Sustainability

Create a learning healthcare system strengthened through collaboration, financial acumen and sustainable funding

Enabler

Partnering

Respect

Excellence

Compassion

Community

Integrity

Accountability