

Translational Research Grants Scheme

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Translational Research Grants Scheme

The TRGS scheme:

- Funds **research that translates** into better patient outcomes, health service delivery, and population health and wellbeing.
- Research projects must be **health system led** – Local Health Districts, Specialty Health Networks, the Ambulance Service of NSW and NSW Health Pathology.
- Applicants may include medical staff, nursing staff, allied health professionals and population health practitioners.
- Applicants are **encouraged to partner** with other research organisations such as universities and medical research institutes.

TRGS applications are to be led by staff from approved Host Organisations within the NSW health system, however collaboration with the right partners is critical

Translational Research Grants Scheme

- The review and feedback process for TRGS is unique
 - **Expression of Interest** review
 - EOI Review Panel assessment for sound research methodology, system relevance, appropriate partnerships, consideration of translation into policy and practice (see Selection Criteria – Guidelines)
 - **Feedback process** to enhance the quality of proposals
 - Ensure consistent with TRGS objectives, capitalise on potential synergies between projects and build research and translation capability
 - **Full Application** review
 - Independent Review Panel assessment against Selection Criteria

TRGS learnings

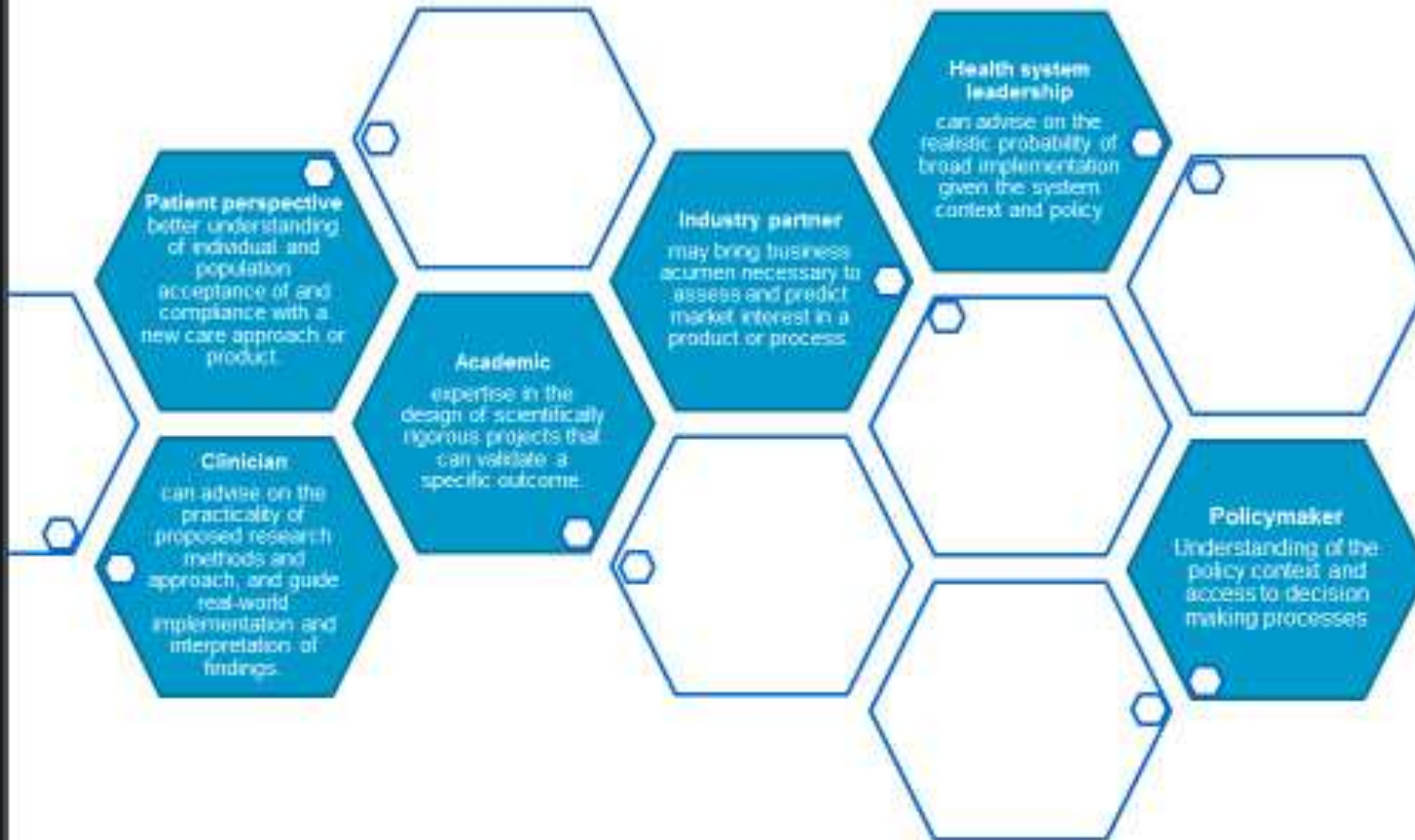
- Key factors in successful EOIs invited to progress to the next stage
 - **Strong partnerships** with key NSW agencies and other LHD/SHNs;
 - Clearly a TRGS priority or of local importance;
 - **Appropriate methods** clearly described;
 - Achievable in the timeframe;
 - Real **potential to scale up**, via a concrete mechanism;
 - Identification of the next steps, based on evidence and development stage.



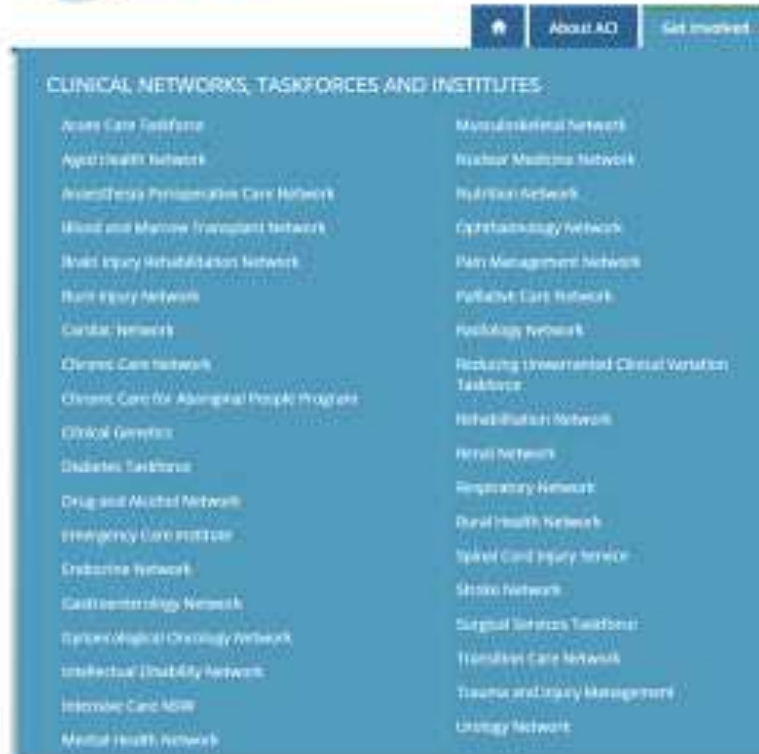
Partnerships

- Working with the **right partners** is critical
 - Across Local Health Districts
 - NSW Health Pillars and Specialty Health Networks
 - Ministry of Health policy branches
 - ACI Clinical Networks
 - Academic research partners
- **Engage early** and access the right skill sets to
 - Inform study design
 - Ensure policy and strategic alignment
 - Address scalability and translation considerations

Different research strengths



Partnerships



- ACI Clinical Networks

We will be making Network Managers' contact details available on the TRGS website

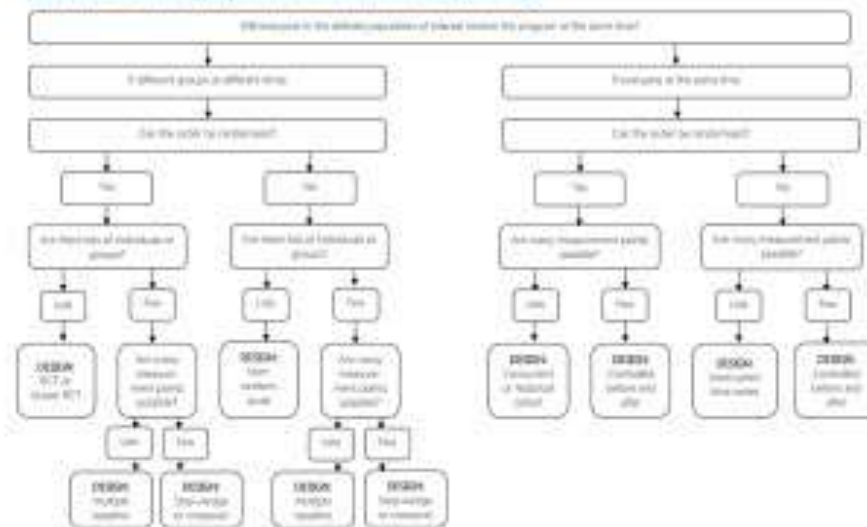
Research methodology

- Study design and methods

- Well designed research question(s)
- Methodological rigour with all elements of study design
- Appropriate – able to answer your research question
- Right research skills and expertise across the team



Figure 1. A decision tree to help policy makers and researchers choose between possible designs



Research translation

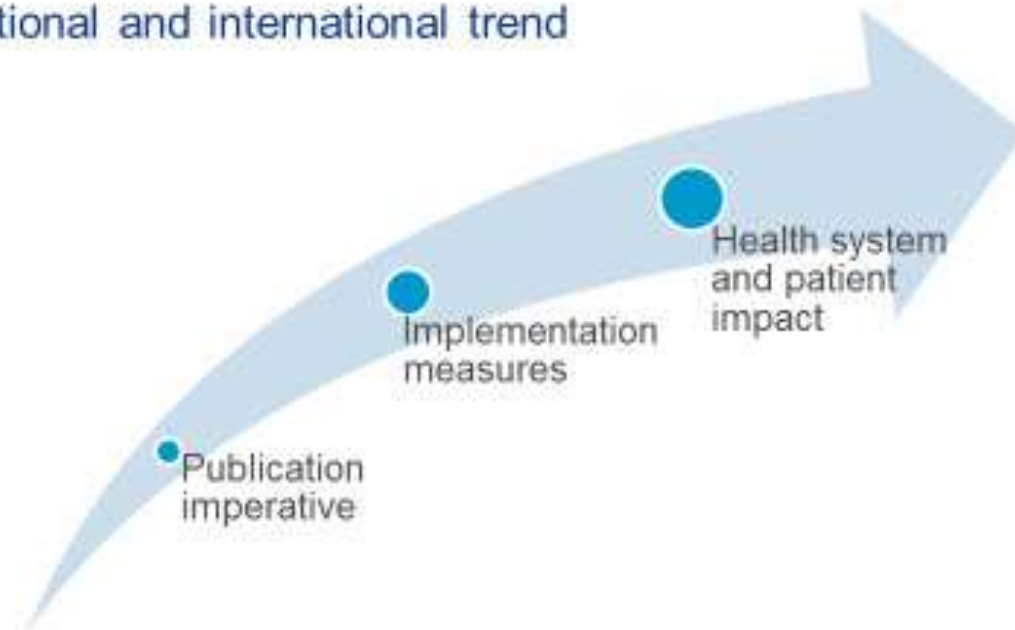
- Dissemination
- Transferability and scalability
- Sustainability

Figure 1. Translational Research Framework: testing policy, program and service innovation



Measuring research impact

- National and international trend



Round 4 TRGS

- Next round will be announced in June 2018
- Improvements to the program;
 - Improving App interoperability with eHealth
 - Privacy principles relating to collecting data on remote devices
 - What to consider for research ethics
 - Suggested ways to identify local priorities

Round 1 TRGS – Progress Report – 2018

- Twenty of 24 (83%) (12 LHDs) indicated that their project was experiencing delays;
 - Ethics, governance and data linkage approvals
 - Recruitment of project staff
 - Procurement processes
 - Staff leave plans
 - Pharmaceutical changes to experimental/clinical trial product
 - Variations to project scope/research design
 - Inclusion of additional sites

Round 1 TRGS – Progress Report - 2018

- 21 grant recipients (88%) indicated that research translation activities were progressing as planned (improved over time – 13%)
- 15 grant recipients (63%) indicated that implementation activities improved the likelihood of the project's findings being disseminated and translated 'to a greater extent' and 9 (37%) to some extent (in 2017 12% indicated little or none)
- 21 grant recipients (88%) indicated that implementation activities reduced the time expected to take evidence to practice

Round 1 TRGS – Progress Report - 2018

- All 24 grant recipients indicated that implementation activities improved research translation capabilities of the project team members (examples)
 - Increasing involvement of other staff
 - New skill development
 - Engaged senior executives – governance, advisory
 - Communities of practice
 - Better understanding of commercialisation, IP
 - New partnerships