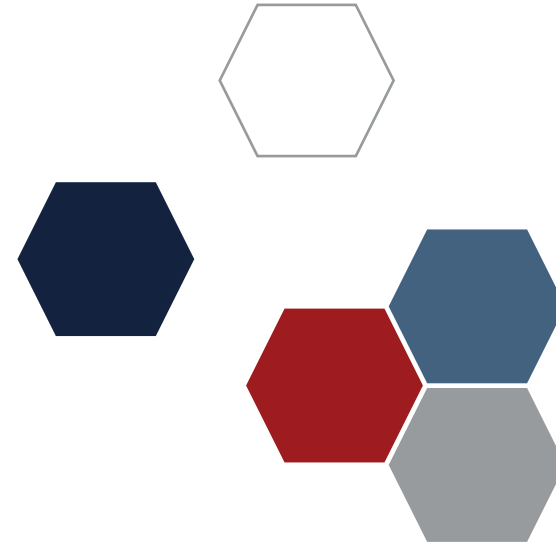




Australian Government

Department of Health and Aged Care



Medical Research

Future Fund

Genomic Cancer Clinical Trials Initiative (GCCTI)

Research Development Workshop

Friday 25 November 2024

Initiatives under the MRFF with Open Grant Opportunities

The **Clinical Trials Activity Initiative** provides \$750 million over 10 years from 2024-25. It aims to:

- improve the evidence base supporting clinical care
- help patients access trials relevant to their health circumstances, and
- enable researchers to bring international trials to Australian patients.

The **National Critical Research Infrastructure Initiative** provides \$600 million over 10 years from 2024-25. It aims to establish and extend infrastructure (facilities, equipment, systems and services) of critical importance that will be used to conduct world-class health and medical research.

The **Frontier Health and Medical Research Initiative** provides \$700 million over 10 years from 2024-25. It aims to create opportunities to explore bold and innovative ideas, make discoveries of great potential, and to support the translation and commercialisation of these discoveries to achieve global health impact.

Currently Open Grant Opportunities

The 2024 Clinical Trials Activity Grant Opportunity is OPEN.

This grant opportunity closes on 2 April 2025 and offers \$63 million over 4 years from 2025-26 across 4 streams of funding. It aims to fund clinical trials in two priority areas:

- Rare cancers, rare diseases, and unmet need
- Effective health interventions.

The 2024 International Clinical Trials Collaboration Grant Opportunity is OPEN.

Round 2 of this grant opportunity closes on 5 February 2025 and offers \$6.3 million over 5 years to support international collaborations to enhance Australia's capability to lead and collaborate on clinical trial research of global significance and bring benefits to Australian patients.

The 2022 Frontier Health and Medical Research Grant Opportunity is OPEN.

This grant opportunity opened on 13 February 2023 and is expected to close on the 31 March 2026. Under this grant opportunity:

- \$400 million will be provided over 9 years for ambitious, exploratory and ground-breaking programs of research that deliver treatments for serious and incurable health conditions through a series of linked projects with a maximum investment of \$25 million.
- Applicants can submit an expression of interest any time until the expected close, shortlisted applicants are invited to submit full applications for a project of up to 5 years within the program of research.

All current and forecast grant opportunities are listed on the MRFF Calendar:

www.health.gov.au/our-work/mrff/grant-opportunities-calendar

MRFF Resources and Reports

The MRFF periodically publishes reports about the operation of the MRFF, analysis of the grants provided and reviews of its Initiatives and/or Missions.

Please see the MRFF website for all publications: www.health.gov.au/our-work/mrff

Funded rates of MRFF grant opportunities

The [MRFF Financial Assistance Report](#) (released in May 2023) detailed MRFF activities and funding for when the *Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2020–2022* were in force. For example, it noted the funding success rates for recent grant opportunities, some of which are shown below. Please refer to the original report for further details.

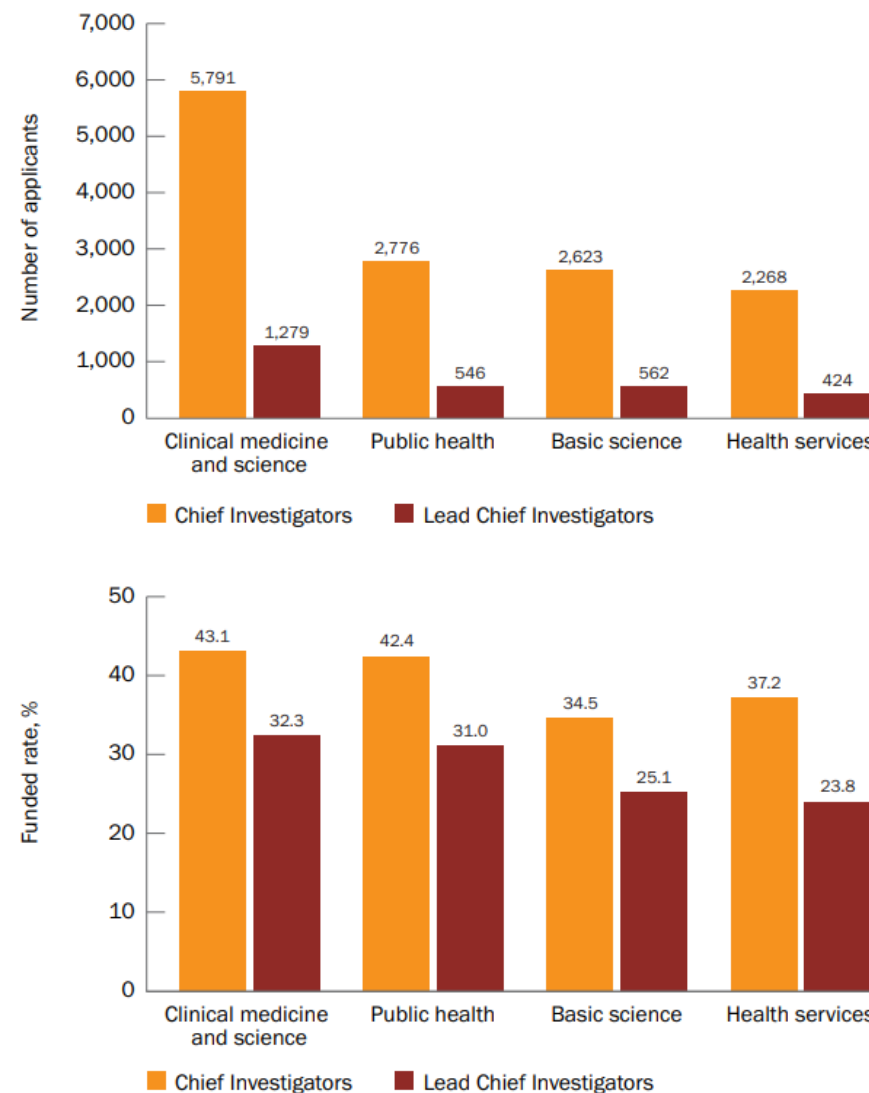
Table G Funded rates of MRFF grant opportunities

MRFF initiative	Grant opportunity	Applications	Applications funded	Funded rate
Australian Brain Cancer Mission	2021 Brain Cancer Research	14	3	21.4%
	2021 GBM AGILE	This grant opportunity was withdrawn.		
	2022 Australian Brain Cancer Research Infrastructure	2	1	50%
Cardiovascular Health Mission	2020 Cardiovascular Health	75	16	21.3%
	2021 Cardiovascular Health	100	41	41.0%
	2022 Cardiovascular Health	51	14	27.5%
Clinical Trials Activity	2021 Clinical Trials Activity	105	31	29.5%
	2021 Innovative Therapies for Mental Illness	16	7	43.8%
	2021 International Clinical Trial Collaborations (Round 21.1)	24	4	16.7%
	2021 International Clinical Trial Collaborations (Round 21.2)	24	3	12.5%
	2021 Rare Cancers, Rare Diseases and Unmet Need	97	29	29.9%
	2022 International Clinical Trial Collaborations (Round 22.1)	20	3	15%
	2022 International Clinical Trial Collaborations (Round 22.2)	No outcome available at the time this report was written.		
Clinical Trials Activity and Emerging Priorities and Consumer-Driven Research	2022 Multiple Sclerosis Research	No outcome available at the time this report was written.		
	2022 Pancreatic Cancer Research	9	4	44.4%
Clinician Researchers	2020 Clinician Researchers: Applied Research in Health	181	14	7.7%
	2022 Clinician Researchers: Nurses, Midwives and Allied Health	124	15	12.1%
Coronavirus Research Response	2021 COVID-19 Vaccine-Associated Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome	1	1	100%
	2021 COVID-19 Health Impacts and Vaccination Schedules	26	5	19.2%

Applicants and funded rates by broad research area

- The [MRFF Report on Chief Investigator Data](#) (released September 2024) provides an overview and insight into the characteristics of Chief Investigators (CIs).
- It includes CIs who applied for open competitive and targeted or restricted competitive MRFF grant opportunities (that opened before 31 December 2023 and had applications and outcomes data available as of 24 January 2024).
- One finding (see figure) showed that the broad research area with the most applicants (for both CIs and lead CIs) was 'Clinical medicine and science'.
- This broad research area also had the highest funded rates for both CIs and lead CIs (see figure). Although the broad research area of 'Public health' had less than half the applicants of 'Clinical medicine and science', the funded rates were similar.
- Please refer to the original report for further details.

Figure 14 Number of applicants and funded rates for Chief Investigators and lead Chief Investigators by broad research area, 2017–18 to 2021–22



Engage with the MRFF

1

Subscribe to the [MRFF Fortnightly Newsletter](#) to stay up-to-date on all MRFF news.

2

Register with [GrantConnect](#) to get updates on all open grant opportunities and check out the [MRFF Calendar](#) for current and forecast grants.

3

Nominate yourself to be a part of an MRFF [Grant Assessment Committee](#) and review grant applications.

4

Send any questions to MRFF@health.gov.au.