

Implementation Research Pilot projects

ABOUT SYDNEY VITAL

Sydney Vital is a Translational Cancer Research Centre based in Northern Sydney and funded by the Cancer Institute NSW (CINSW). Its members come from a number of institutions and hospitals including, the University of Sydney, Macquarie University, University of Technology, Sydney, the Kolling Institute, Royal North Shore Hospital, Northern Sydney LHD, the Mater Hospital, and others. More details are available on the **Sydney Vital** website (www.sydneyvital.org.au).

Sydney Vital has been established to develop and translate new cancer research discoveries into improved patient outcomes. It is a functional aggregation of collaboration facilities in basic, clinical and population based research. A primary function of the centre is to foster collaboration between researchers and clinicians.

ABOUT THE EOI

Sydney Vital is calling for proposals for implementation research pilot projects via an Expression of Interests (EOI) process.

Sydney Vital will provide financial support for a number of implementation research projects in the 2015-2016 calendar year.

This expression of interest (EOI) may include (but are not limited to) the following themes:

- Educate Sydney Vital member network on implementation (T3) of evidence based supportive care strategies for cancer symptoms and treatment side effects.
- Develop Health Professional Education modules using e-learning techniques which can be made available to clinicians in NSW.
- Identify new clinical pathways or techniques based on the evidence based guidelines suitable for implementation
- Test methods for delivery of psychosocial support and reduction of treatment toxicity
- Identify ways to improve management of survivorship issues in cancer patients including cognitive dysfunction.
- Implement communication skills training or other self- care strategies for staff working with late stage cancer patients.
- Test new methods of care or prognostic factors for patients with late stage cancer.

FUNDING AVAILABLE

Up to \$25,000 in funding to support the undertaking of an implementation research project. The funding must be spent within 12 months of receiving the award. Management team may allocate funding to one or more projects.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

This funding is open to all **Sydney Vital** members with a primary affiliation to the Centre (as opposed to another Translational Cancer Research Centre). To become a Sydney Vital member please follow the link: <http://www.sydneyvital.org.au/membership/why-join-sydney-vital/>

Selection Criteria:

The Proposed Project:

1. The pilot project has potential to produce results to support the development of a substantive research project and to attract leveraged funding from other competitive schemes
2. The research translation strategy and future application of the research have been justified
3. The budget is feasible and the expenditure justified

4. The project has support from Clinical Unit / Institution where the research will be based with evidence of relevant infrastructure to support the position and a letter of support has been provided.

The Applicant:

5. Experienced researcher in translational cancer research in the T3 (evidence into practice) area.
6. Demonstrated achievement including publications in translational research, particularly in an area relating to the clinical setting of the project.
7. Demonstrated high level written and verbal communication skills.
8. Ability to work effectively within a multidisciplinary research team and interact with the wider health care community.

Conditions of the Award:

The recipient will be required to submit a written report within 1 month of the end of this project and present the findings of their research at a forum to be determined by **Sydney Vital**. It is a requirement of this funding that this project be acknowledged on all publications and research outputs associated with its award.

Submission and Closing Date:

Applications must be submitted by email in **pdf form** to Sydney Vital Administration at: SydneyVital.admin@sydney.edu.au, by **Friday December 11th 2015**. Professor Fran Boyle, can be contacted on 0419 128 168 or email frances.boyle@sydney.edu.au assist with any queries.

Applications received after **Friday December 11th, 2015** will not be accepted.

The pdf document must include the following:

SECTION A: PERSONAL INFORMATION

- (i) Name
- (ii) Degrees and other postgraduate qualifications (including institutions and dates of award)
- (iii) Current position including level of appointment
- (iv) Prior positions/appointments, since January 2010
- (v) Expected starting date if awarded the project

SECTION B: TRACK RECORD (assessed relative to opportunity).

- (i) **Statement not exceeding 1 page**, outlining **(a)** evidence of your capacity to conduct high quality, innovative translational research – this may include comments on research training, awards received, significant publications, student supervision and other teaching, collaborations, other research highlights, career interruptions, etc., and **(b)** your career research objectives with specific description of the translational nature of this proposal.
- (ii) Publications (career total) are to be listed under the following headings: refereed journal articles, scholarly book chapters, peer-reviewed reviews, and other. Include citations and impact factors where appropriate.
- (iii) Research conference, symposium and other research speaking opportunities.
- (iv) Research grants and funding (career total): Investigators, title, years funded, funds each year, indicating proportion of funds going to you if multi-investigator grants.

SECTION C: RESEARCH ENVIRONMENT

- (i) Institution and Department where this Project will be held.

- (ii) Name and qualifications of mentor/supervisor (must be a Sydney Vital member).
- (iii) Brief description of research facilities, academic activities etc. within the host department/campus, opportunities for you to be mentored by senior staff, etc.

SECTION D: RESEARCH PROPOSAL

(Not to exceed 3 pages, including any figures and references).

- (i) Proposal Title
- (ii) Summary of proposal: in no more than 100 words of **plain language**, summarise aims, significance and expected outcomes.
- (iii) Brief Project Description including Background, Aims, Research Plan, Translational Significance and References.
- (iv) Budget, indicating how funds will be spent and a justification of the expenditure in the context of the proposed project

REFEREES REPORTS (not part of the single pdf document)

Please arrange for reports from two referees, who may comment on both your research proposal and your suitability for project funding, to be emailed directly to SydneyVital.admin@sydney.edu.au, by **Friday December 11th 2015**.

One of these two referees should be the head of the clinical unit where you intend to hold this Project. This report must include confirmation of the mentoring/supervisory arrangements for the nominated project, the source of any additional salary funds if relevant, and an assurance that the necessary facilities and funding will be available to undertake the proposed research.

The application will be reviewed by SydneyVital Director and the Sydney Vital Management Team. Members of the SydneyVital Management Team who have a conflict of interest or are in a close working or personal relationship with the applicant will not review applications.