

# Metro South Research Weekly Update

**Tuesday, 28 April 2020**

To all MSH researchers and clinicians,

Whilst Queensland is tracking well due to our collective public health efforts in Australia, Metro South Research is cognisant of challenges facing our research community posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Metro South Research recognises impacts on current research projects and is committed to assisting our research community to undertake vital research.

## **Ethics and Governance Update**

### **Ethics**

From 1 May 2020, MSH HREC can approve multi-centre, multi-jurisdictional data linkage studies under the National Mutual Acceptance Model. Please ensure the [HREA Form](#) is completed to facilitate the review along with clear identification of the sites to be covered under the approval.

The use of the LNR Form has significant limitations with respect to single ethical review across multiple institutions and jurisdictions.

Researchers are required to limit use of the LNR Form to projects [defined as Quality Assurance](#) (audits, service evaluations, quality registries etc.) intended for publication, or research which meets Negligible Risk criteria, as defined within the [National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research](#) (2007: updated 2018).

For Low or Greater than Low Risk applications, please submit a HREA Form and indicate the requested review pathway at Question 4.5, therein.

Please note that applications appearing on an invalid form may be declined for review. Please contact Metro South Research for review pathway advice as needed.

## **Research Funding**

### **Grants**

- The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) provides a list of all current and upcoming [funding schemes and calendar](#) dates and releases the latest [news and alerts](#) on their News centre site.
- The follow agencies have also released the following information regarding grants and research funding opportunities:
  - Emergency Medicine Foundation's [research grants calendar](#).

- Heart Foundation has a number of grant opportunities [closing soon](#).
- Cancer Council Queensland [Accelerating Collaborative Cancer Research \(ACCR\) Grants](#) EOI's close 14 May 2020.
- Cancer Australia announced the 2020 round of the [PdCCRS](#) is now open.
- Australian Cancer Research Foundation [2020 Grant round](#) closes Friday 29 May 2020.
- [Australian Orthopaedic Association](#) 2020 grant round postponed.
- [Brain Foundation](#) supporting research projects in clinical neurosciences since 1970 – has put a hold on the research application process for 2020.

## COVID-19

### Queensland Health Research

Currently, there are 28 studies with a focus on the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic within Queensland Health.

Below is a snapshot of the number of studies that have been received by Queensland Health HREC and RGO offices, specific to each HHS. Topics are broad, covering Personal Protective Equipment audits, disaster preparedness, pathology, oncology, endocrinology, paediatrics, maternity, qualitative staff experience surveys and database analysis.

Facility	Number of Covid-19 Research Studies
Cairns and Hinterland HHS	1
CHQ	2
Darling Downs HHS	4
Gold Coast HHS	16
Metro North HHS	26
Metro South HHS	8
Sunshine Coast HHS	3
Townsville HHS	2
West Moreton HHS	2
Wide Bay HHS	1

### National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce

The [Taskforce](#) brings together the peak health professional bodies across Australia whose members are providing clinical care to people with COVID-19. They undertake continuous evidence surveillance to identify and rapidly synthesise emerging research in order to provide national, evidence-based guidelines for the clinical care of people with COVID-19.

Find COVID-19 studies around the world and in Australia [here](#).

### COVID-19 Expert Database - Australian Academy of Science 20 April 2020

- The COVID-19 Expert Database has been created to provide a mechanism for governments, the business sector, the research sector, and other decision-makers to easily access the expertise they need to inform their decision making.

- Australia's ability to navigate this fast-changing environment and to recover from it needs inputs from a range of researchers and other experts. All fields of expertise, including science, technology, engineering, mathematics, health, humanities, arts, and social science are needed.
- [Access database](#)

## PRAXIS

### New Webinar Offerings: Building Resilience in times of Covid-19

- The Praxis webinar series will now be generously supported by the NSW Health's Office for Health and Medical Research, and will now be offered as FREE services.
- Free registrations will be effective from 4pm AEST on 16 April 2020. Places in these sessions are strictly limited.
- Enrol here: <https://praxisaustralia.com.au/enrol-now>

Webinar Menu	Date
Best Practice Guidance for Clinical Trial Sites in Covid-19: Consolidating the information	20 April 2020: 11am-12pm FREE
Remote Monitoring and IMP Dispensing in Covid-19	27 April 2020: 11am-12pm FREE
TransCelerate endorsed GCP training	08 May 2020: 9am -1pm FREE
Strategies for participant recruitment, retention and effective communication in clinical trials	18 May 2020: 11am-12pm FREE
Leadership and management skills in times of uncertainty	09 June 2020: 11am-12pm FREE
Writing SOPs - the basics	06 July 2020:11am-12pm FREE
Quality Management Systems: An introduction	24 July 2020: 11am-12pm FREE

### Other items of interest

If you need help or support contact the Metro South Research team via the relevant email address:

- Clinical Research Facility (CRF) - [CRF@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:CRF@health.qld.gov.au)
- MSH HREC Office - [MSH-Ethics@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:MSH-Ethics@health.qld.gov.au)
- Research Governance - [MSH-RGO@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:MSH-RGO@health.qld.gov.au)
- PowerTrials - [MSH-Powertrials@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:MSH-Powertrials@health.qld.gov.au)
- MSH Research Support Scheme - [MSH-RSS@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:MSH-RSS@health.qld.gov.au)
- General enquiries - [MSH-Research@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:MSH-Research@health.qld.gov.au)



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