Health and Medical Research Awards

The Peter Wills Medal

The Peter Wills Medal was created in honour of Research Australia’s Deputy Chairman, Peter Wills AC, a great leader whose work led to the inception of Research Australia. The Peter Wills Medal is the flagship award and recognises someone who has made an outstanding, long-term contribution to building Australia’s international reputation in areas of health and medical research and fostering collaboration for better health.

Nominations should not be regarded as being limited to researchers. We welcome submissions for individuals who have made an outstanding contribution in the area of health and medical research, for harnessing government, research, industry and philanthropic collaborations - all to promote a healthier community.

Questions for the nominators to address - please keep your submission to 700-800 words:

1. Please tell us about the person you are nominating and why you believe their work should be recognised and rewarded.
2. Provide specific examples of the nominees work that you feel highlights the reason why they deserve the award.
3. What are the major contributions to the health and medical research sector this work has achieved?
4. How has the nominee contributed to building Australia’s international reputation?
Great Australian Philanthropy Award

This Award profiles personal philanthropy that is outstanding in its generosity, effectiveness, vision, high impact and transformative quality. The Award recognises and encourages personal philanthropic donations over a period of time by an individual(s) or family to Australian health and medical research.

The Awards Committee will consider nominees that can display evidence of:

1. Achievements of an individual(s) philanthropist (not an organisation or paid professional)
2. Scale of financial contribution made or generated
3. Leadership taken to engineer giving with impact, offering examples of good practice for others in the philanthropy sector
4. Recognition of philanthropic achievements in at least the last five years (since 2014), for an individual (not an organisation or paid professional).

Health Services Research Award

Embedding research in Australia’s health system can ultimately deliver safer, more effective, evidence-based, efficient health care. Translating research findings quickly and efficiently into changes in clinical practice is one of the keys to improving patient management, reducing adverse events and readmissions, and reducing wasted spending on unnecessary tests and treatments.

This Award is for an individual who has provided leadership and made an outstanding contribution to health services research; driven research that has led to a significant improvement in healthcare; and/or has championed the development of the health services research field.

Questions for the nominators to address - please keep your submission to 700-800 words:

1. Please detail how the nominee has provided leadership to the field of health services research (including positions held etc.)
2. At what stage of their career is the nominee?
3. How has the nominee provided leadership and contributed to the development of the health services field?
4. Please provide information, including examples, of how and where the nominee’s research has been translated and the resulting improvements in the health system and/or healthcare delivery.
Data Innovation Award

Change is the only constant in data, with new sources and uses emerging all the time. Research Australia is a passionate advocate for promoting the value of data as a national resource both within the sector and externally. The Data Innovation Award recognises an individual or team whose innovation is considered to represent one of the most impactful new data innovations in the HMR sector within the past five years. Nominees from all fields of HMR are eligible, not just those specialising in data. Innovations that provide new methodologies for research or have increase the availability and access of data for research are also encouraged to nominate.

Questions for the nominators to address - please keep your submission to 700-800 words:

1. Describe how the nominee has demonstrated innovation in the management, design and development or use of data.
2. How did the nominee differentiate the innovation from existing data practices being used in the HMR sector?
3. How has this data innovation been applied or translated? Or what is its intended application if the research has not yet concluded?
4. How has the nominee disseminated or promoted the innovation to the relevant end users?

Griffith University Discovery Award

The health and medical research sector is committed to support and develop early career researchers. This award recognises an early career researcher (anytime from qualification but no more than 5 years past PhD whose paper/patent/discovery has already demonstrated its importance or impact. Please confirm that the nominee has no more than five years post-doctoral experience.

Questions for the nominators to address - please keep your submission to 700-800 words:

1) Outline the intended impact of the nominee’s project.
2) Provide details of the nominee’s paper, patent or discover.
3) Describe the importance/impact of the nominee’s work on the research field
4) What is the actual or potential for translation of this research, and the broader impact on health outcomes?
**Advocacy Award**

This award recognises and congratulates exceptional contributions made by research champions who help raise community awareness and understanding about the importance of health and medical research.

The Awards Committee will be looking for examples and evidence of corporates, individuals or teams who have exhibited excellence in supporting or enabling Australian communities through the championing of health and medical research.

The application may explore the personal strengths of an individual, the corporate commitment of an organisation or the innovative approach of a group of people who have made a difference and inspired others to contribute to their community through the support of health and medical research.

Questions for the nominators to address - please keep your submission to 700-800 words:

1. How has the nominee raised awareness in supporting and promoting health and medical research?
2. How has the nominee championed change in their community to positively benefit the health and medical research sector?
3. How has the nominee inspired others?
4. What are the future goals and objectives of the nominee – what is the longevity of their advocacy project(s)

**Frontiers Research Award**

Australia’s strong track record in health and medical research excellence positions it well to lead the world in health innovation. This award recognises the success of innovative health and medical research that extends existing knowledge, boundaries and/or understandings within health and medical research. This category will recognise transformative research by an individual, team or corporate that will enable Australia’s health system to position itself as a global leader.

A frontier outcome could be but is not limited to:

A. applying emerging capabilities in machine learning or artificial intelligence to identify new symptoms for diagnosis or
B. new robotic technologies to deliver safe surgeries or
C. how humans function in extreme environments.
D. reducing healthcare costs without compromising patient outcomes
E. groundbreaking genomic transformative medicine

Criteria to be addressed:

1. How is your research Frontiers?
2. What sort of collaboration and/or partnerships have been sought to deliver this research.
3. In what way will the outcomes of this research affect Australia’s health system to position it as a global leader in innovation.
4. How has or will the nominees research change the world?