

# 20TH ANNUAL HEALTH & MEDICAL RESEARCH AWARDS

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## **NOMINATION & SELECTION CRITERIA**

## INTRODUCTION

Research Australia's Awards are an opportunity to shine a light on those who are working hard within our sector, who are making incredible discoveries and advancements, and who have tirelessly advocated and supported health and medical research.

Research Australia Award recipients can be individuals, teams or organisations that have dedicated themselves to improving outcomes for all Australians, be it through their own research, or through their support of research.

The Awards are in line with Research Australia's strategic objective of highlighting the breadth of the sector. Equally importantly, the Awards are an important opportunity to raise the profile of health and medical research amongst the broader community and enhance community engagement.

## AWARD NOMINATION PROCESS

### Who can nominate?

Two nominators are required for each nomination. The primary nominator must be a member of Research Australia and a citizen of Australia. A second nominating member or organisation is required; the seconder does not need to be a Research Australia member.

A person can be a primary nominator across **a limit of 2 award categories**. They must be the key signatory/approver of the nomination.

### Who can be nominated?

Nominations can be for any individual or organisation that meets the criteria for that Award. Research Australia Membership is not a prerequisite, nor is it of any advantage or disadvantage in selecting the final winner for an Award.

### Can I nominate myself or my organisation?

Yes, a person can nominate themselves. If they are nominating themselves then they would be a primary nominator. A second different nominating member or organisation is required; the seconder does not need to be a Research Australia member.

### Can an individual or group be nominated for more than one category?

Yes any individual or organisation can be nominated for more than award as long as the nomination meets the criteria for that Award.

The criteria for the subsequent nomination must separately address the criteria for the new nomination. A copy of the same award criteria for various nominations will not be accepted as meeting the award criteria.

Research Australia Membership is not a prerequisite, nor is it of any advantage or disadvantage in selecting the final winner for an Award.

### **Nominations and Research Australia Board Members**

A current board director **cannot** be nominated for an award.

A current board member **can** nominate for an award outside their organisations only.

Current board members' organisations **can** be nominated.

### **Why nominate?**

As the national peak body for health and medical research, Research Australia's Awards are highly regarded by stakeholders across the health and medical research sector. Successful nominations will be selected by the Research Australia Awards Committee, made up of high-profile sector leaders. All nominees and finalists have the opportunity to increase their profile within the industry through recognition on Research Australia's media channels as well as our partners' media channels. All winners will be profiled through social media channels post awards celebrations. Nominations can drive opportunities for you and your team in future research.

Submissions will be reviewed by the Awards Committee and finalists will be notified from the 20<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

### **When will the finalists be notified?**

Finalists will be named approximately four (4) weeks prior to the Gala Dinner being held. To ensure the importance of the event is embraced by all we strongly encourage all finalists to attend the Gala Dinner. We understand that there may be rare situations where a finalist is unable to attend the Gala Dinner. In those situations, we would suggest that a suitable proxy is able to attend the Gala Dinner and represent the finalist.

### **When will the winners be notified?**

The winners will be announced at the Gala Dinner to be held in Sydney 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2023.

Winners' names will remain confidential and only finalists in each category will be announced prior to the event.

### **What are the key nomination dates?**

Nominations will open **14 April 2023**

Nominations will close **Midnight, 9<sup>th</sup> August 2023**

## AWARD CATEGORIES

### Advocacy Award

This award recognises excellence within advocacy and congratulates exceptional contributions made by advocates (either an individual, group, or an organisation) that help raise community awareness and understanding of the importance of health and medical research.

The Awards Committee will be looking for examples and evidence of advocates who have shown outstanding practice in the past 12 months of helping and enabling communities within Australia.

The application may also explore the personal strength of the nominee that is through time, skills and resources, given to any region around Australia and made a difference or inspired others to contribute to their community.

#### **Questions for the nominators to complete:**

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 and motivated others?
4. What are the future goals and objectives of the nominee – what is the longevity of their advocacy project(s)?

### Data Innovation Award

The importance of promoting the value of data as a national resource both within and external to the health and medical research sector is more prevalent today than ever before.

In its third year, the Data Innovation Award is presented to an individual or team that has developed the most innovative method of gathering, making available, processing or interpreting data in a way that advances health and medical research, including matching of data and data sets which have not previously been linked.

Individuals and teams from all fields of health and medical research are eligible for nomination, not just those who specialise in the manipulation of data. Innovations that provide new methodologies for research or have increased the availability of data for research are encouraged.

This year we are searching for a team or organisation that has demonstrated the importance of community understanding as a pivotal role in their project for collection and use of big data.

#### **Questions for the nominators to complete:**

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 has this data innovation been applied or translated; or if it has not yet concluded, what is the research's intended application?
3. How did the nominee differentiate the innovation from existing data practices being used in the HMR sector?
4. How has the nominee disseminated or promoted the innovation to the relevant end users?

### 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 or family to Australian health and medical research.

Please note that while we require information regarding "scale of financial contribution made or the impact generated", this data helps inform the decision only. The size of the contribution made will not define the award recipient.

The scale of the financial contribution can remain unpublished, please clearly note this preference on any application.

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

1. Achievements of a philanthropic individual, couple, family or organisation;
2. Engendering leadership and advocacy to give with impact, offering examples of good practice for others in the philanthropy sector;
3. Scale of financial contribution made or generated; and
4. Recognition of philanthropic achievements in at least the last five years (since 2018).

Please keep your submission to 700-800 words.

### Discovery Award

The HMR 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 or research higher degree) whose paper/patent/discovery has already demonstrated its importance or impact.

#### ***Questions for the nominators to complete,***

Please provide your reasons for nomination and 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 in the research field.

4. What is the actual or potential for translation of this research, and the broader impact on health outcomes?
5. Provide evidence that you meet the criteria of an early career researcher anytime from qualification but not more than 5 years post PhD or Masters by research (not by course work).

### 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 complete,***

Please keep your submission to 700-800 words.

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

### Frontiers Award Sponsored by ANU

The Frontiers category showcases Australia's potential to extend beyond existing knowledge and boundaries to transformative practical application. Australia is already a global leader in health and medical research excellence, the challenge is to leverage this advantage through bold leadership and game changing innovation.

This category recognises transformative research by an individual, team or corporate that could revolutionise health outcomes within Australia and potentially internationally. A frontier outcome could be, but is not limited to, applying emerging capabilities in areas such as machine learning, artificial intelligence or robotics; understanding how humans' function in extreme environments; reducing healthcare costs without compromising patient outcomes; or ground-breaking transformative medicine.

#### ***Questions for the nominators to complete,***

Please keep your submission to 700-800 words.

1. What are the potential impacts (societal and economic) of this research?
2. What specifically makes this research 'Frontiers'?

3. What makes it different from existing practice or application?
4. How could this be globally competitive?

### Digital Health Technology Award – NEW AWARD Category

The rate of advancement in the development of digital health technologies is unprecedented. This inaugural Award seeks to recognise innovators who are at the forefront of digital health technologies.

The Digital Health Technology Award is presented for an emerging, innovative technology that advances healthcare delivery and/or enables healthcare users and providers to improve health outcomes.

Eligible technologies will have been supported through Australian health and medical research, they will have at least one Australian individual, institution, or organisation as a collaborating partner.

This award will go to the individual, team or organisation who has developed, trialled, or implemented the technology.

Applications should demonstrate how the technology can have a significant impact on digital transformation of the health sector and be implementable in a scalable manner.

Note - We have used the definition of [Digital Health](#) as by the one outlined by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

#### Questions for the nominators to complete:

Please keep your submission to 700-800 words.

1. Describe how the nominee has demonstrated innovation in the design and development of digital health technologies.
2. How did the nominee differentiate the innovation from existing practices being used in the delivery of healthcare?
3. What is the actual or potential for translation of this innovation, and the broader impact on health outcomes?
4. How has this digital health innovation been applied or translated; if the technology has been trialled in practice the outcome of the trial should be outlined.

### The Peter Wills Medal

The Peter Wills Medal was created in honour of 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 are welcome from any individuals who have made an outstanding contribution in the field and should not be regarded as being limited to researchers.

***Questions for the nominators to complete,***  
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 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?



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **What are the criteria for each Award?**

The criteria for each Award are described on the pages above. Please contact Research Australia on 02 9295 8545 or email [awards@researchaustralia.org](mailto:awards@researchaustralia.org) if you have questions about the suitability of a nominee for an Award.

### **Can someone be nominated for more than one Award?**

Yes, individuals, teams or organisations can be nominated for more than one Award. There is no limit to the number of nominations that can be made.

### **What if some of the questions on the Nomination Form are not relevant to my nominee?**

If any question is not relevant to your nominee, simply write “not applicable” for that section.

### **Can I supply additional information in support of my nomination?**

Yes, supplementary information is encouraged where it will support and add to your written reasons for nomination. This information can be sent as an attachment(s) along with the Nomination Form.

Note that curriculum vitae (CVs), lengthy lists of publications, citations, Awards, conference presentations and the like may be edited before being sent to the Awards Committee for consideration. While these lists are relevant for verification purposes, such histories should also be summarised very briefly in the body of your reasons for nomination if you believe that information is important. Maximum size: 5 pages.

### **How much should I write?**

The maximum page limit for each question under the criteria is outlined separately for each Awards Category and varies, so please take note of this.

Nominators are encouraged to include supplementary information (maximum 5 pages) if it is relevant to the nomination.

Note that all nominations are considered on their merits and the quantity of information supplied is not a factor; succinct nominations will receive the same consideration as lengthy ones.

### **When are the finalists notified?**

Nominations will be considered by the Awards Committee at their September 2023 meeting. The primary nominating organisation of each award finalists will be informed in the first instance, and they will advise if they wish to advise the finalist or request that Research Australia gives them the good news.

All finalists will be encouraged to purchase tickets or a table to the Awards Gala Dinner at a discounted rate.