

Introduction

Cancer Council WA is committed to funding research on all aspects of cancer, including cancer prevention, detection and treatment, as well as understanding and improving the emotional (psychological) and social impact of the disease. Our research program aims to fund the highest quality research and researchers in Western Australia.

This Initiative has been made available through the generous provision of the late Sandra O’Keeffe by including a gift in her Will to make this research possible.

What is the objective?

To direct funds into Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumour (GIST) research in order to advance the diagnosis and treatment of Gastrointestinal Stromal Cancer.

Who can apply?

Applications will be accepted from appropriately qualified researchers and /or clinicians and/or research teams who will be conducting the research at an administering institution in WA. The institution can be within a university, affiliated to a university or major hospital, or an appropriate independent medical or scientific research institute. The work should primarily be conducted in Western Australia; however this does not preclude funding the Western Australian component of research involving interstate or international collaboration.

Potential application of the funds

Researchers / research teams / institutions seeking the funding are at liberty to propose any viable model for the application of the funds. This may include but is not restricted to:

- The appointment of a new Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumour research fellow, research postdoc, other level of researcher or buy-out of clinical time to undertake the research.
- The institution may wish to build a larger entity or program of work into which this funding might sit.
- Substantive contribution to national or international research collaborations in Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumour.

What funds are available?

\$464,000 is available for the research with the expectation that funds will be expended over three years. There will be **no indexation** of the amount awarded under the grant.

Note: the funds are not available to cover overhead costs levied by the administering institution. Specifically, the indirect costs of research; or research infrastructure; or institutional overheads and administrative charges levied to pay for institutional research; and general infrastructure.

How to apply?

A full application is invited from all interested candidates, the application form available on the website - www.cancerwa.asn.au/research/funding/.

Applications must be accompanied by a letter of support from the administering institution or the Chief Investigator A's primary institution.

2020 Timeline

12 August	Applications OPEN
14 October (4pm)	Applications CLOSE
Early December	Notification of applicants for interview (if required)
Week of 14 Dec	Interview to be held (if required)
Jan/Feb 2021	Notification of applicants
2021	Announcement at the Cancer Council WA Research Awards Lunch

Please note this schedule is subject to change

How does Cancer Council WA decide which research is funded?

Applications will be assessed by an Assessment Panel comprised of internationally recognized researchers with the relevant research expertise, and trained community representatives who have a personal connection to cancer.

If necessary an interview process will be conducted for shortlisted candidates.

Applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

1. Strategic relevance (10%)
 - Where appropriate the research should be multidisciplinary and collaborative. Consideration should be given to:
 - i. Advancing the quantity, quality and relevance of Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumour research and advice in Western Australia;
 - ii. Building Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumour research capacity in WA - including a strategy for fostering early career researchers is not essential but would be considered favourably;
 - iii. Demonstrating collaboration across government, non-government, clinical and research institutions to advance the quality, quantity and relevance of Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumour research in WA.
2. Scientific quality (25%)
 - The scientific quality of the proposed research; applicants should provide a detailed description of the scientific projects that will be undertaken as part of the grant and their potential for contribution to knowledge.
3. Track Record of the Research Team (25%)
 - Track record of the researcher and /or research team and achievements relative to this award, this includes publications, presentations, contribution to research training and translation of research. Where the proposal involves recruiting new staff, the track record of the team members supporting staff will be taken into consideration.

4. Cost effectiveness (10%)
 - Cost effectiveness, including the amount of external sponsorship and institutional contributions (including in-kind support) and the credibility of the financial proposal.
5. Community Review Criteria (30%)
 - Completing the Community Review Criteria Application Form. The application form and supporting documents are available on our website.

Other funding sources

Due to increasing competition for cancer research funding, Cancer Council WA will examine closely other sources of support that may be available for this research. Applicants accepting an offer of funding from other funding bodies are requested to notify us immediately.

Tobacco Industry

Cancer Council WA will not provide a research grant to any researcher who:

- is an applicant for or is in receipt of funds from the tobacco industry, or organisations deemed by the Cancer Council to be associated with the tobacco industry, regardless of whether the funds are received directly, through collaborators or by other means (the Smoking and Health Research Foundation of Australia is deemed to be associated with the tobacco industry);
- is employed in a research institute or organisation or, in the case of universities, Faculty or School that allows applications or receives funds from the tobacco industry, whatever the use of those funds may be; or
- is employed in a University that accepts funds from the tobacco industry for health related research or services, wherever in the University that research may be done or those services supported.

Cancer Council WA will terminate support for a research project if the above provisions relating to support from the tobacco industry are breached or we believe that the integrity of the research is threatened by influence from tobacco interests.

Researchers in receipt of funds from other organisations in conflict with the prevention of cancer will be examined closely to determine if a conflict of interest exists.

It is important to note

In circumstances where documentation in the form of guidelines, rules or practices relating to the administration of this funding are not explicitly addressed, any determination will be guided by the rules and practices of the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) <http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/grants/apply-funding/program-grants>.

Cancer Council WA has the right to make the final decision over which research it funds. This may include making no award, or awarding part of the total funding pool.

Grant recipient and administering institution obligations

There can only be one Administering Institution for this grant. Cancer Council WA will make grant payments to the Administering Institution nominated in the successful application. That institution will be held responsible for the proper administration and expenditure of the grant and for ensuring that all reports required by us are provided on time.

The Administering Institution also guarantees that the infrastructure necessary to support the research will be available. The Administering Institution will also meet all infrastructure costs pertaining to the work supported by the grant and not covered in the funds of this grant. Its explicit support for and commitment to the application is therefore essential before any application can be considered.

Publicity and Acknowledgement

The ability of Cancer Council WA to fund research is dependent entirely on our ability to raise money through public donation. Public awareness of our role in funding research, particularly successful research, is therefore crucial.

Where a media release or conference is planned, it is the responsibility of both the CIA and the institution's media office to give us adequate notice of the release or organisation of the conference, and to accommodate reasonable requests for our participation in the publicity.

In addition, researchers may be called on to participate in Cancer Council WA's promotional initiatives such as presentations to major donors, the preparation of promotional materials and providing a verbal presentation at such local research forums such as the Cancer Council WA Research Day, or Science on the Swan.

Cancer Council WA will invite the successful applicant to attend our annual "Research Awards" where they will be awarded a certificate of achievement recognising success in securing this funding. This event will provide an opportunity to showcase leading researchers and to create a forum where researchers and potential donors can meet. We ask that the CIA or a senior member of the research team is available for this event.

Cancer Council WA may also, at its own initiative, ask investigators to release details of their research to the media. Sensitivities relating to pre-publication release will be respected in such circumstances.

Publications arising from grants

Cancer Council WA encourages the publication of results and the dissemination of other information from research funded by us. Such publications would occur through the normal acceptable scientific channels and there should always be an acknowledgment that Cancer Council WA funding has been provided (with the following footnote included: "This work was carried out during the tenure of a grant from Cancer Council Western Australia"). A copy of the published paper should also be forwarded to us.

Reporting Obligations

Upon receiving the award the grant recipient will articulate and negotiate with Cancer Council WA Key Performance Indicators they aim to achieve over the duration of the grant. Reports shall be submitted as per the funding agreement with an end-of-project report to be submitted within three months of the conclusion of the research. Failure to submit a report at this time will render all chief investigators on the grant application ineligible for further funding from Cancer Council WA until the grant report is received.

The CIA is also required to provide brief annual updates on outcomes from the research for up to five years after the project has completed. Update content is to be added to the final report and re-submitted. This is important for the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of our research funding program.

The reports shall be prepared by the CIA and will be used to monitor progress and for reporting the results of our research funding. A reporting template will be provided by us.

What if there is a change in circumstances directly relating to the chief investigators?

Changes in circumstances for, or resignation of, a CI (including change of research location or institution, changes in time commitment, or relocation to another state/country) during the tenure of a grant may result in termination of a project before expiration of the approved term of support. Because of the importance of the CIs in the initial grant review, it is essential that the commencement or continuation of the grant is re-assessed. The CIA must advise in writing regarding what, if any, arrangements will be made to complete the research for which the grant was offered and give a written report of progress to that date. A decision to continue funding will be made on the basis of the information supplied and following any other investigations that are deemed necessary.

Intellectual Property Policy

In the event of any discovery with a potential for commercial exploitation that arises as a result of research supported by Cancer Council WA grants, the Applicant is bound by the conditions of the award to notify the Cancer Council WA accordingly. Award Intellectual Property will be owned by and immediately vest upon the administering institution, or with whoever they assign it to. The Applicant agrees to disclose in confidence to the Cancer Council WA, any inventions or discoveries that arise in the course of the research.

How do I claim funding if my application has been approved?

- 1) Payments commence no earlier than January of the year following the application submission.
- 2) Payments in respect of any funding shall be within the terms and conditions specified in the grant offer.
- 3) The research must commence within a 6 month period from the date that funds are made available.
- 4) If the project start date will be delayed more than 6 months from the date of fund availability will require reassessment and approval to proceed.
- 5) Research not commenced after one year of the date of fund availability, will forfeit the funding.
- 6) Amounts granted are exclusive of GST. All claims are to be made via a tax invoice from researchers GST registered Administering Institution. Invoices must include the institution's ABN and GST on top of the total grant amount (ie your invoice must include 10% extra for the GST).
- 7) Funding is paid on receipt of a tax invoice from the Administering Institution. The initial invoice for claims must be generated at the commencement of the research.
- 8) At the conclusion of the funded research, any variations of 10% or more from the expenditure against individual budget categories outlined in the original application need to be reported to us for approval by the Research Grants Advisory Committee.
- 9) We require you to advise us if your initiative is receiving funding from other sources.
- 10) In exceptional/extenuating circumstances, and upon formal application, Cancer Councils WA's Chief Executive Officer may, at his/her discretion, approve a variation to the payment method outlined above.
- 11) A financial acquittal report is to be provided with the final report or at any other time reasonably requested by CCWA
- 12) At the completion of the funding period, all funds that are uncommitted must be repaid to Cancer Council WA unless you seek and obtain permission in writing to use any residual funds to complete work specified in the original application.
- 13) The funds must be spent wholly for the purposes for which it was requested and so certified by the investigators and the Administering Institution.
- 14) In the event where a need arises for the administration of a grant to be transferred from one institution to another, a written request for this transfer must be made to us giving reasons for the transfer. The transfer must not be made without our written agreement.

Further enquiries: Research Admin Officer, Cancer Council WA, Level 1, 420 Bagot Rd, SUBIACO WA 6008
Telephone: 08 9388 4343

E-mail: Cancercouncilwa.research@cancerwa.asn.au

Appendix 1: Research Outcome Categories for Development of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

Notes:

- This is intended as a “menu” of possible outcomes to use a starting point to develop appropriate KPIs for an individual initiative.
- We generally expect 6-10 KPIs.
- There is no requirement to have KPIs for all 6 categories and commonly KPIs are most likely to come from categories 1-3; however, we encourage you to consider if there are any appropriate KPIs from categories 4-6.
- KPIs should be specific, measurable and include a timeframe, e.g. to publish 6 papers a year in high quality journals; to obtain \$1M of project funding by the end of 2023 to conduct research into x; to set up a consumer panel by September 2021 to provide input into the development of our research design, participation information sheets and consent forms; to have our recommendations adopted as a policy platform by at least one of the major political parties by the end of the initiative; my recommendations for changes to the process for treating x to have been adopted by at least one of the major Perth cancer hospitals by 2023.
- KPIs should be stretching but achievable. This will be assessed as part of the selection process.

1. Knowledge production	2. Research capacity	3. Dissemination & engagement	4. Informing decision making & development	5. Behaviour changes / adoption	6. Final outcomes (health & economic)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No of journal articles & citation rates • No & type of conference presentations • Other publications e.g. books & chapters, research reports, editorials • Patents granted • Awards received (& other recognition) • Other research outputs e.g. research databases, research models, non-traditional outputs 	<p>Personnel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New skills developed / techniques mastered • Training attended • Career progression during / after • New collaborations formed &/or existing collaborations maintained / expanded • Involvement with research networks • Supervision of research staff / students <p>Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No of new grant applications developed (& scores where possible) • Amount & type of further funding gained • Access to new / enhanced research tools, platforms, equipment, facilities <p>Future Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of new research studies / ideas • Improvements to research methods &/or development of new research methods • Improved capacity to use existing research knowledge from elsewhere <p>Academic Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New responsibilities taken on e.g. committee or board memberships, editorial and review activities, teaching (NB must be additional to what was in place at the start of the initiative) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations to non-academic audiences • Media stories • Articles in newsletters etc • Lab tours • School visits • Consumer involvement (no involved, how involved, impact on research) • Industry / government partnerships 	<p>Decision Making / Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved info bases for decision making • Changes to policies (new/revised) • Changes to processes (new/revised) • Changes to guidelines • New / improved public health campaigns <p>Product Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of new pharmaceuticals or therapeutic techniques • Clinical trials undertaken • Spin-out companies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of new policies / practices by health practitioners • Use of new pharmaceuticals & therapeutic techniques • Behaviour changes by patients and the public • Disinvestment in ineffective or redundant treatments or services • Improvements to services 	<p>Health Benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less people get sick (reduced morbidity) • Better outcomes for those who get sick • Improved equity • Improved quality of care <p>Economic Benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased efficiency • Cost savings • Income from commercialisation