

Implementation Science Grant Guideline

The Leukaemia Foundation are committed to investing in research that improves the lives of Australians living with blood cancer.

Implementation Science is the study of methods, strategies, and processes that facilitate systematic uptake of research evidence and evidence-based practices into routine clinical and community settings. Its central aim is to improve the quality, effectiveness, equity, and sustainability of health services and, ultimately, health outcomes.

Purpose

The Leukaemia Foundation's Implementation Science Grants are designed to accelerate the adoption of proven, evidence-based innovations across the health system and address persistent gaps in care experienced by people living with blood cancer.

The Grants aim to:

- Drive systematic and sustainable uptake of evidence and guidelines into real-world clinical practice, improving outcomes, safety, experience, and equity.
- Build national capacity in implementation science, growing a pipeline of clinician-researchers, academic partners, and services equipped to embed evidence-based care in haematology and related fields.
- Strengthen the evidence-to-practice pipeline, ensuring that research discoveries, diagnostics, models of care, and technological advances translate more quickly and reliably into routine care.
- Support health services to identify and address complex system challenges, including fragmented care pathways, variations in practice, disparities in access, and unmet supportive care needs.

By investing in implementation science, the Leukaemia Foundation aims to change the conditions of care, not simply generate new interventions – ensuring that people with blood cancer benefit from the best available evidence everywhere, every time.

Objectives

Funded projects must:

- Address known challenges faced by people living with blood cancer
- Address complex problem(s) in the Australian health system
- Translate evidence-based interventions, guidelines, pathways, or models of care into routine practice
- Promote equity, inclusion and cultural safety

Project Focus

Projects can focus on any known gaps or challenges faced by people living with blood cancer in Australia.

Examples can include epidemiological modelling of disease, PRO, PROM and PREM collection, addressing disparities among underserved populations, survivorship care research, improving access to treatment and therapies, improving quality of care, embedding genomic testing into routine care, integration of psychosocial care into routine practice, etc.

Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Hold academic, clinical or research appointment at an eligible institution (Australian university, hospital, health service, or research institution) with institutional support for the duration of the project
- Have demonstrated expertise in implementation science, health services research, or translational research and clinical or research experience in haematology or oncology
- Have knowledge of implementation science, including use of established frameworks (e.g. Proctor's outcomes, RE-AIM, CFIR, TDF). If the Chief Investigator (CI) does not have this expertise, the project must include an Associate Investigator (AI) who does.
- Have experience of collaboration with clinicians, health services management, policy partners, and consumers
- Demonstrate the ability to lead a multidisciplinary project, manage timelines and budgets, and work effectively with clinical services.
- Show commitment to cultural safety and equity
- Have the ability to secure ethics approval and comply with national research governance standards

Projects must:

- Clearly specify a complex, real-world challenge in blood cancer care
- Apply at least one core implementation science framework (e.g. Proctor's outcomes, RE-AIM, CFIR, TDF)
- Aim to implement an evidence-based blood cancer intervention, guideline, pathway, tool, measure or model of care; OR
- Adapt an existing evidence-based practice for a new population or setting; OR
- Evaluate implementation strategies for scaling or sustaining an existing service
- Include engagement with consumers and relevant stakeholders (e.g. patients, carers, policy makers, clinicians, etc.)
- Clearly describe implementation strategies to be used and a plan to measure outcomes and a plan for scalability and sustainability

Basic science, laboratory-based translational research, or projects focused on testing intervention efficacy only are out of scope and will not be considered.

Proposal

Applicants must address the following in their proposal:

- Project title
- Summary of project
- Background
- How the project addresses a significant gap or need in blood cancer care in Australia
- Alignment with at least one core implementation science framework, theory, or model
- Implementation strategy/process and feasibility of the proposed research design
- Stakeholder identification and engagement strategies
- Significance and expected impact of the proposed research
- Project budget and timeline
- Track record and team experience
- Letter of support from affiliated institution or health service

An application form will be available to download from the relevant grant opportunity webpage on the [Leukaemia Foundation website](#).

Submitting an application

Applications must be submitted using the Leukaemia Foundation grant application form and emailed to research@leukaemia.org.au before the closing deadline.

Application open and closing dates are published on the [Leukaemia Foundation website](#).

Assessment Process

Proposals will firstly be reviewed for eligibility by the Leukaemia Foundation and then assessed by an external expert review panel who will score proposals against the selection criteria. Final funding decisions are made by the Leukaemia Foundation Board.

Selection Criteria

Project selection criteria are largely based on the INSPECT framework (Implementation and Improvement Science Proposals Evaluation Criteria) which includes:

- The care, quality, community gap/need
- Alignment to Implementation Science framework & rationale
- Stakeholder engagement
- Setting and feasibility of the project
- Implementation strategy and research design
- Outcome measurement, indicators, and evaluation
- Sustainability and system Impact

Budget and Financial Management

Funding of **up to \$100,000 per project over 2 years** will be provided to successful applicants. Applicants may be asked to scale their research project accordingly.

The Leukaemia Foundation will enter into a funding agreement with the Administering Institution using the standard Leukaemia Foundation's Research Memorandum of Agreement (MoA).

The recipient and host institution must agree to the specific conditions outlined in the MoA, including but not limited to:

- Publication of the successful applicant, institution and project title on websites, publications, media releases and other reports/publications by the Leukaemia Foundation.
- Participation in media and stakeholder activities
- Acknowledgement of Leukaemia Foundation funding in any publication or presentations arising from the funded work.

Grant funds must be spent solely on the approved research project. Funding will cover any institutional overhead costs.

Examples of costs that will be funded:

- Salary support for research assistants, support officers/managers, or consultants for research-related activity
- Costs associated with consumer reimbursement and remuneration
- Direct research costs

Examples of costs that will not be funded:

- Publication fees
- Professional memberships/subscriptions
- Travel costs
- Indirect research or infrastructure costs

The administering institution must provide an annual income and expenditure statement certified by a Finance Officer.

Reporting Requirements

Annual reporting of progress is required. For a 2-year project, this includes:

- A mid-project progress report
- A final report at project completion

For any further questions, please contact our Research Team via email at research@leukaemia.org.au