



Australian Government  
National Health and Medical Research Council

# NHMRC TARGETED CALL FOR RESEARCH into Nutrition in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Call-Specific Funding Rules

These Call-Specific Funding Rules must be read in conjunction with the *2018 Funding Rules for NHMRC's Targeted Calls for Research Program* and the *2018 NHMRC Funding Rules*. These documents will be available when the call opens on 14 November 2018.

## 1 Background and Justification for the Call

Diet and nutrition are essential to promote good health and reduce the risk of chronic disease. It is also a contributing factor in social and economic disadvantage<sup>1,2,3</sup>. Diet is the most important behavioural risk factor that can be improved to have a significant impact on health while reducing costs to the healthcare system. In addition, the quality and quantity of foods and drinks consumed has a significant impact on the health and wellbeing of individuals, society and the environment. Diet and nutrition therefore plays an important role in quality of life, protection against disease, infection and premature death<sup>4,5</sup>.

The underlying factor common to the growth of nutritional problems experienced by many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples is extreme social disadvantage including low levels of education, high levels of unemployment, low incomes and a sub-standard physical environment including poor availability, affordability and accessibility of nutritious food. A lack of food security and access, and poor nutritional health results in high levels of both growth impairment and overweight and obesity in childhood. These factors contribute to high rates of chronic disease in adulthood<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Lee A, Ride K. *Review of nutrition among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people*. s.l. : Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet, 2018.

<sup>2</sup> Australian Government. *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan 2013-2023*. s.l. : Commonwealth of Australia, 2013.

<sup>3</sup> *Poverty and obesity: the role of energy density and energy costs*. Drewnowski, A. and Specter, S. E. 79, USA : American Society for Clinical Nutrition, 2004, Vol. Special Article. 6-16.

<sup>4</sup> *Food and nutrition programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians: an overview of systematic reviews*. Browne, J., Adams, K., Atkinson, P. et al. Melbourne : Australian Health Review, 2017

<sup>5</sup> Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. *Food Security in Remote Indigenous Communities*. Canberra : Australian National Audit Office, 2014. Report No. 2 2014-15.

Obesity is now a societal and public health problem. Food choices and diet quality have been shown to be influenced by social and economic factors<sup>6</sup>. Economic approaches to address this issue must include a better understanding of how food prices affect consumer food choices and the selection of a healthy diet<sup>3</sup>.

It is therefore important to embrace Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' definition of health. This definition includes the physical wellbeing of an individual and the social, emotional and cultural wellbeing of the whole community<sup>6,7</sup>. Improving nutrition is an essential component in any strategy to improve health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples<sup>4</sup>. Poor nutrition is a major risk factor for many of the diseases with higher prevalence among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and it is estimated that 19% of the national Indigenous burden of disease is attributable to poor diet and physical inactivity<sup>8</sup>.

Since colonisation, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have seen a gradual shift from a traditional, varied and nutrient-dense diet that is high in fibre, high in protein and low in fat and refined carbohydrates. This has shifted significantly to an energy dense westernised diet that is high in fat and refined sugars. The changes in diet have been problematic for many individuals<sup>9</sup>. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are twice as likely to report 'no usual daily fruit consumption' and seven times as likely to report 'no usual daily vegetable consumption' as non-Indigenous people of the same age<sup>10</sup>. This contributes to malnutrition and higher rates of overweight and obesity, adding to related chronic diseases<sup>11</sup>.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples living in remote communities experience the poorest health outcomes of any population group in Australia largely due to low access and affordability of nutritious foods, leading to a poor quality diet. Food items in remote areas are, on average, 60% and 68% more expensive than urban areas<sup>12</sup>. Therefore, diet, nutritional status, food security and access by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are influenced by many factors such as socioeconomic disadvantage, geographical location and environmental conditions.

## 2 NHMRC Aims in Implementing this Call

The aim of implementing this call is to provide funding for rigorous, culturally-safe and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led research into improving the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples by addressing poor nutrition and its social determinants. Quality evidence generated from co-designed research will allow for better planning, funding and implementation of policies and services to improve nutritional health in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities.

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<sup>6</sup> *Improving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nutrition and health*. Lee, A.L., Leonard, D., Moloney, A.A., et al. 10, Online : Medical Journal of Australia, 2009, Vol. 190. 547-548.

<sup>7</sup> **World Health Organisation**. *Interventions on diet and physical activity: what works summary report*. Geneva : WHO, 2009

<sup>8</sup> **Council, National Health and Medical Research**. *Australian Dietary Guidelines*. Canberra : s.n., 2013.

<sup>9</sup> *What do we know about the diets of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Australia? A systematic literature review*. Whalan, S., Farnbach, S., Volk, L. et al. 6, s.l. : Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health, 2017, Vol. 41. 579-584

<sup>10</sup> **Australian Institute of Health and Welfare**. *Closing the Gap Clearinghouse: Healthy lifestyle programs for physical activity and nutrition*. s.l. : Australian Government, 2012. Resource sheet no. 9

<sup>11</sup> **Australian Institute of Health and Welfare**. *A picture of overweight and obesity in Australia*. Canberra : Australian Government, 2017. Cat. no. 216

<sup>12</sup> *The comparative cost of food and beverages at remote Indigenous communities, Northern Territory, Australia*. Furguson, M., O'Dea, K., Chatfield, M. et al. Suppl. 1, s.l. : Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health, 2016, Vol. 40. 21-26

This Targeted Call for Research follows a public call for research priorities in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health conducted in 2016 and consultations in 2017 for the development of NHMRC's [Road Map 3: a strategic framework for improving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health through research](#). Improving the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples is considered a major issue for NHMRC.

Nutrition is also identified as a priority in the [National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan \(2013-2023\)](#) and the [Implementation Plan for the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan \(2013-2023\)](#).

### 3 Definition and Scope

This Targeted Call for Research aims to support research that addresses the following research question:

*Identify strength-based approaches that are feasible, sustainable and culturally-safe for best practice in nutritional health in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.*

Specifically, the scope of this TCR is research into:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander definitions and concepts of healthy dietary intake behaviour<sup>8</sup>.
- Evidence-based, culturally appropriate, and best practice health promotion and interventions to improve nutrition at the individual, community or system level.

### Research Not Supported Under This Call

This Targeted Call for Research does not support research projects that have any laboratory based research, including animal-based research or research based on animal models. Research focusing solely on alcohol related health problems is not supported under this call.

### 4 Objectives to be addressed in the Research Proposal

The objectives of this Targeted Call for Research are, for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across the life course, to identify strength-based, action-orientated approaches that are feasible, sustainable and culturally-safe for best practice in nutritional health to:

- contribute to reducing the burden of chronic diseases, leading to closing the gap in life expectancy and improved quality of life through improved dietary behaviour and food security and access
- recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' concepts of health and well-being, looking at the life-course in relation to healthy dietary intake behaviour and measure health improvements through this project
- increase cultural responsiveness of mainstream and community-controlled health services, health promotion and support services, individually and as a system in a sustainable manner.

To address the aims and objectives of this TCR, applicants should provide a research proposal including details on:

- The research design, including a description of the population and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community and consumer engagement, study design, methods for recruiting participants, intervention to be

used, what the comparators will be, what outcomes will be measured, how they will be measured and associated statistical rigour and reproducibility of the study.

- How the research aligns with the scope, objectives and expected outcomes of the call.
- The relevant experience and expertise of the research team in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health.
- A description of the disciplines, sectors and policy and practice partners that will be involved in the research and the contributions of each of these.
- How the research will address the social determinants of health, where appropriate.
- How the research findings will be translated into changes in policy, and/or used to develop new health services or programs in a sustainable manner.
- How the research will build the capacity and capabilities of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce and communities.

### ***International collaborations***

As part of this call, NHMRC is encouraging applications that involve collaborations between groups in Australia, New Zealand and Canada (as all three countries have signed a [Tripartite Agreement](#) on International Indigenous Health Research) if such collaborations are relevant and will value-add to the research.

### ***Indigenous Research Excellence Criteria***

Qualifying applications must address the NHMRC Indigenous Research Excellence Criteria (see section 6.3 of the *2018 NHMRC Funding Rules*). This includes:

- Ensuring community engagement that shows how research and potential outcomes are a priority for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.
- Demonstrating the potential health benefit of the project by addressing an important public health issue for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- Demonstrating how the results of the project have the potential to lead to achievable and effective contributions to health gain for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, beyond the life of the project.
- Demonstrating how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, communities and researchers will develop relevant capabilities through partnerships and participation in the project.

## **5 Expected Outcomes**

The key expected outcomes from funded grants will be:

- A body of evidence that will influence, inform and improve public policy in the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in relation to nutrition.
- Effective best-practice, particularly those that are community-led, to address the nutritional health in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- Contribute to a practical, action-based nutritional framework to prevent and reduce onset of disease and reduce risk factors for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals, families and communities.

## 6 Budget

A total of \$5 million has been allocated to support a number of research projects identified via this call. Funding will be provided to the top ranked applications until the allocated funding is expended. The number of projects funded is therefore dependent on the size of the grants.

NHMRC reserves the right not to expend the amount allocated to this TCR if, in the assessment of the independent expert Peer Review Panel, applications of sufficient quality are not received.

Funding will be available over the period of five years, unless applications specify a shorter period. Applications must clearly justify the requested duration and budget and how it will support the proposed outcomes of the research. The Peer Review Panel will consider this information and may adjust the duration and budget to ensure the research can be achieved while ensuring value-for-money.

## 7 Critical Dates

Process	Date
Open for Submissions in RGMS	14 November 2018
Minimum data due in RGMS*	20 February 2019
Close of Submissions in RGMS	6 March 2019
Completion of Peer Review	June 2019

\*Minimum data must be entered into NHMRC's Research Grants Management System (RGMS) by **5.00 pm** AEDT on the specified due date to allow the NHMRC to start sourcing suitable assessors. Applications that fail to satisfy this requirement will not be accepted. Applicants are also reminded to complete the recommended fields with correct information. Using placeholder text such as "text", "synopsis" or "xx" etc. are not acceptable as minimum data.

Minimum data for NHMRC TCRs consists of the following:

- General – Application Information: You must complete fields for Administering Institution, Application Title, Synopsis and Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander Research (yes/no) and Consent to provide information to International Assessors.
- A-RC Research Classification.
- A-RT Research Team and Commitment (core team with other members listed as TBA if not yet known).

**Please note: Failure to meet this deadline will result in the application not proceeding** (see section 10.7 of the *2018 NHMRC Funding Rules* for further information).

Research Administration Officers (RAOs) are not required to certify applications for the purpose of minimum data; applications should only be certified once complete and ready for submission (see section 10.4 of the *2018 NHMRC Funding Rules* and section 6 of the *2018 Advice and Instructions to Applicants*).

Completed applications must be submitted to the NHMRC in RGMS by **5.00 pm** AEDT on the specified closing date. Late applications will not be accepted.

## 8 Assessment of Applications

Applications will be assessed by peer review against: 1) the scientific quality and likelihood of the proposed research project successfully answering the research question(s) posed by the Targeted Call for Research (50%) and, 2) whether the team has all the necessary skills and expertise to achieve the expected outcomes of the Targeted Call for Research (50%). In doing so, assessors will also give consideration to the NHMRC Indigenous Research Excellence Criteria (see *section 6.3 of the 2018 NHMRC Funding Rules*).

Assessment of applications will include the following considerations:

- Relevance of the scientific approach to the scope, aims and objective of the call.
- Strengths and weaknesses of the research design.
- Appropriateness and robustness of the technical and methodological aspects.
- Suitability and calibre of the team to ensure delivery of the Targeted Call for Research, relative to opportunity (outlined in the *2018 NHMRC Funding Rules* at section 6.2), and recognising applicant's industry relevant expertise (outlined in the *2018 NHMRC Funding Rules* at section 6.1) and relevant career disruptions (outlined in the *2018 NHMRC Funding rules* at section 6.2.1).
- Likelihood of successfully completing the proposed research.

**Note:** It is recognised that Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander applicants often make additional valuable contributions to policy development, clinical/public health leadership and/or service delivery, community activities and linkages, and are often representatives on key committees. If applicable, these contributions will be considered when assessing research output and record of achievement.

Further information on the scoring of applications against the category descriptors is available at [Attachment A](#).

## 9 Additional Reporting Requirements

Administrative obligations and processes specific to successful applicants to this Targeted Call for Research grants team awardees are outlined below. Unless otherwise stated, these are in addition to the general requirements set out in the [NHMRC Funding Agreement](#), section 12 of the *2018 NHMRC Funding Rules* and on the [NHMRC website](#).

Applicants who are successful in receiving funding under this TCR must be willing to provide additional reporting on their completed research at the close of a grant or at any time subsequently at the reasonable request of NHMRC. This may, for example, be in the form of a written report for inclusion on the NHMRC website at any time during or after the conclusion of a grant.

# Attachment A: NHMRC Targeted Call for Research Category Descriptors and Assessment Criteria for Health Research Involving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

The following category descriptors are used to assess an application. Categories 1-3 are considered non-competitive and will not be funded ('unfunded'). Categories 4-7 are potentially fundable, subject to the availability of resources.

Category	<i>Scientific Quality and Relevance to Successfully Delivering the Expected Outcomes of the TCR (50%)</i>	<i>Record of Achievement of the Team in Areas and Disciplines Relevant to the TCR – relative to opportunity (50%)</i>
<b>7 Outstanding</b>	<p>The <b>research proposal</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is <b>highly relevant</b> to the call</li> <li>• is <b>without question, highly feasible</b> and <b>will successfully</b> achieve the expected outcomes of the call</li> <li>• has objectives that are <b>well-defined, highly coherent</b> and <b>strongly developed</b></li> <li>• has a <b>near flawless</b> design</li> <li>• will provide <b>very high quality</b> evidence that addresses the expected outcomes of the call</li> <li>• is <b>highly competitive</b> with the best comparable research proposals internationally</li> <li>• is <b>highly likely</b> to be translated into changes in the practice of clinical medicine, public health or in health policy</li> <li>• will almost certainly result in highly influential publications.</li> </ul>	<p>The <b>applicant team</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• has a track record that <b>specifically targets</b> the proposed research both in terms of depth and breadth</li> <li>• has <b>all</b> the required skills and expertise to successfully achieve the expected outcomes.</li> </ul>
<b>7 Indigenous Criteria</b>	<p><b>Sustainability and transferability</b></p> <p>The <b>research proposal</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is <b>outstanding in demonstrating</b> how the research and potential outcomes are a priority for the community</li> <li>• will definitely lead to <b>major and effective</b> health gains for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples</li> <li>• will have a <b>very high impact</b> on health services delivery or other community priorities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Benefit</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The outcomes from the proposal will have a <b>strongly significant</b> health benefit for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</li> </ul> <p><b>Building capability</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The applicant team has an <b>outstanding track record</b> in working with communities and building capability among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</li> <li>• The research proposal <b>outstandingly</b> demonstrates how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, communities and researchers will develop <b>outstanding</b> capabilities through partnerships and participation in the project.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Community Engagement</b></p> <p>The <b>applicant team</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrates <b>outstanding</b> levels of community engagement, ensuring that the proposal is <b>highly feasible</b> and will build <b>outstanding capability</b> among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</li> </ul>

<b>6 Excellent</b>	<p>The <b>research proposal</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is <b>very relevant</b> to the call</li> <li>• is <b>highly feasible</b> and is <b>highly likely</b> to achieve the expected outcomes of the call</li> <li>• has objectives that are <b>clear, logical</b> and <b>well developed</b></li> <li>• is <b>excellent</b> in design</li> <li>• will provide <b>high quality</b> evidence that addresses the expected outcomes of the call</li> <li>• is <b>competitive</b> with strong comparable research proposals internationally</li> <li>• is <b>very likely</b> to be translated into changes in the practice of clinical medicine, public health or in health policy</li> <li>• is <b>very likely</b> to result in highly influential publications.</li> </ul>	<p>The <b>applicant team</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• has a track record that is <b>highly relevant</b> to the proposed research in terms of depth and breadth</li> <li>• has <b>all</b> the required skills and expertise to successfully achieve the expected outcomes.</li> </ul>
<b>6 Indigenous Criteria</b>	<p><b>Sustainability and transferability</b></p> <p>The <b>research proposal</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is <b>excellent in demonstrating</b> how the research and potential outcomes are a priority for the community</li> <li>• will lead to <b>considerable and effective</b> health gains for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples</li> <li>• will have a <b>high impact</b> on health services delivery or other community priorities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Benefit</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The outcomes from the proposal will have a <b>significant</b> health benefit for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</li> </ul> <p><b>Building Capability</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The applicant team has an <b>excellent track record</b> in working with communities and building capability among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</li> <li>• The research proposal demonstrates <b>excellently</b> how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, communities and researchers will develop <b>excellent</b> capabilities through partnerships and participation in the project.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Community Engagement</b></p> <p>The <b>applicant team</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrates <b>excellent</b> levels of community engagement, ensuring that the proposal is <b>highly feasible</b> and will build <b>excellent capability</b> among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</li> </ul>
<b>5 Very Good</b>	<p>The <b>research proposal</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is <b>relevant</b> to the call</li> <li>• is <b>feasible</b> and is <b>likely</b> to achieve the expected outcomes of the call</li> <li>• has objectives that are <b>clear</b> and <b>logical</b></li> <li>• raises a <b>few minor concerns</b> with respect to the study design</li> <li>• will provide <b>some high quality</b> evidence that addresses the expected outcomes of the TCR</li> <li>• may <b>not be highly competitive</b> with comparable research proposals internationally</li> <li>• <b>may</b> be translated into changes in the practice of clinical medicine, public health or in health policy</li> <li>• may result in influential publications.</li> </ul>	<p>The <b>applicant team</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• has a track record that is <b>very relevant</b> to the proposed research in terms of depth and breadth</li> <li>• has <b>most of</b> the required skills and expertise to successfully achieve the expected outcomes.</li> </ul>

<b>5 Indigenous Criteria</b>	<p><b>Sustainability and transferability</b></p> <p>The <b>research proposal</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>clearly demonstrates</b> how the research and potential outcomes are a priority for the community</li> <li>• will lead to <b>effective</b> health gains for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples</li> <li>• will have <b>an impact</b> on health services delivery or other community priorities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Benefit</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The outcomes from the proposal will have <b>some</b> health benefits for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</li> </ul> <p><b>Building Capability</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The applicant team has a <b>very good track record</b> in working with communities and building capability among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</li> <li>• The research proposal demonstrates well how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, communities and researchers will develop <b>very good</b> capabilities through partnerships and participation in the project.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Community Engagement</b></p> <p>The <b>applicant team</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrates <b>very good</b> levels of community engagement, ensuring that the proposal is <b>likely to be feasible</b> and will build <b>very good capability</b> among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</li> </ul>
<b>4 Good</b>	<p>The <b>research proposal</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is somewhat <b>relevant</b> to the call</li> <li>• raises <b>some concerns</b> regarding feasibility and likelihood to achieve the expected outcomes of the call</li> <li>• has objectives that are <b>clear</b></li> <li>• raises <b>some concerns</b> regarding the study design</li> <li>• will provide <b>some evidence</b> that addresses the expected outcomes of the TCR</li> <li>• is <b>not likely to be competitive</b> with similar research proposals internationally</li> <li>• <b>may</b> be translated into changes in the practice of clinical medicine, public health or in health policy</li> <li>• may result in <b>modestly</b> influential publications.</li> </ul>	<p>The <b>applicant team</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• has a track record that is <b>somewhat relevant</b> with the proposed research in terms of depth and breadth</li> <li>• has <b>some</b> of the required skills and expertise to successfully achieve the expected outcomes.</li> </ul>
<b>4 Indigenous Criteria</b>	<p><b>Sustainability and transferability</b></p> <p>The <b>research proposal</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrates how the research and potential outcomes are a priority for the community</li> <li>• <b>may</b> lead to effective health gains for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples</li> <li>• may have <b>an impact</b> on health services delivery or other community priorities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Benefit</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The outcomes from the proposal <b>may have some</b> health benefit for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</li> </ul> <p><b>Building capability</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The applicant team has a <b>good track record</b> in working with communities and building capability among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</li> <li>• The research proposal demonstrates how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, communities and researchers will develop <b>good</b> capabilities through partnerships and participation in the project. Raises <b>some concerns</b> about feasibility.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Community Engagement</b></p> <p>The <b>applicant team</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrates <b>good levels</b> of community engagement which may build <b>good capability</b> among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples—this raises <b>some concerns</b> about feasibility</li> </ul>

<b>3 Marginal</b>	<p>The <b>research proposal</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is <b>not particularly relevant</b> to the call</li> <li>• raises <b>several concerns</b> regarding feasibility and likelihood to achieve the expected outcomes of the call</li> <li>• is <b>somewhat unclear</b> in its objectives</li> <li>• raises <b>several concerns</b> regarding the study design</li> <li>• may provide <b>limited</b> evidence that addresses the expected outcomes of the TCR</li> <li>• is <b>not competitive</b> nationally or internationally</li> <li>• <b>unlikely</b> to be translated into changes in the practice of clinical medicine, public health or in health policy</li> <li>• may result in publications of marginal influence.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Community Engagement</b></p> <p>The <b>applicant team</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• has <b>limited</b> track record in the field of the proposed research</li> <li>• has minimal skills and expertise required to successfully achieve the expected outcomes.</li> </ul>
<b>3 Indigenous Criteria</b>	<p><b>Sustainability and transferability</b></p> <p>The <b>research proposal</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• may lead to <b>limited or short-term</b> health gains for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples</li> <li>• may have a <b>moderate</b> impact on health services delivery or other community priorities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Benefit</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The outcomes from the proposal are likely to have a <b>minimal health benefit</b> for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</li> </ul> <p><b>Building capability</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The applicant team has a <b>marginal track record</b> in working with communities and building capability among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</li> <li>• The research proposal <b>minimally</b> demonstrates how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, communities and researchers may develop <b>minimal</b> capabilities through partnerships and participation in the project. This raises <b>several concerns</b> that the proposal is feasible and achievable.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Community Engagement</b></p> <p>The <b>applicant team</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrates <b>limited community engagement</b> and may build <b>minimal capability</b> among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples— this raises <b>several concerns</b> that the proposal is feasible and achievable</li> </ul>
<b>2 Unsatisfactory</b>	<p>The <b>research proposal</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• raises <b>several major concerns</b> regarding feasibility and likelihood to achieve the expected outcomes of the call</li> <li>• is <b>unclear</b> in its' objectives</li> <li>• raises <b>several major concerns</b> regarding the study design</li> <li>• is <b>not adequately relevant</b> to the call</li> <li>• is not competitive nationally or internationally</li> <li>• unlikely to provide evidence that addresses the expected outcomes of the TCR</li> <li>• very unlikely to be translated into changes in the practice of clinical medicine, public health or in health policy</li> <li>• unlikely to result in influential publications.</li> </ul>	<p>The <b>applicant team</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• has a track record which <b>does not relate well</b> to the proposed research</li> <li>• is <b>deficient in many</b> of the required skills and expertise to successfully achieve the expected outcomes.</li> </ul>

<p><b>2 Indigenous Criteria</b></p>	<p><b>Sustainability and transferability</b></p> <p>The <b>research proposal</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is <b>unlikely</b> to lead to any health gains for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples</li> <li>• is <b>unlikely</b> to have any impact on health services delivery or other community priorities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Benefit</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The outcomes from the proposal are likely to have little or no health benefit for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</li> </ul> <p><b>Building capability</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The applicant team has an <b>unsatisfactory track record</b> in working with communities and building capability among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</li> <li>• The research proposal is <b>unlikely to build capability</b> among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and researchers—therefore the proposal is <b>unlikely to be feasible</b> and achievable.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Community Engagement</b></p> <p>The <b>applicant team</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• has <b>little or no community engagement</b> and is <b>unlikely</b> to build capability among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples—therefore the proposal is <b>unlikely to be feasible</b> and achievable.</li> </ul>
<p><b>1 Poor</b></p>	<p>The <b>research proposal</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• contains a research plan that <b>does not seem to be feasible</b> and is <b>unlikely</b> to be successfully completed</li> <li>• is <b>very unclear</b> in its objectives</li> <li>• contains a study design that is <b>not adequate</b></li> <li>• is <b>not relevant</b> to the call</li> <li>• is not competitive nationally or internationally</li> <li>• very unlikely to provide evidence that addresses the expected outcomes of the TCR</li> <li>• no potential to be translated into changes in the practice of clinical medicine, public health or in health policy</li> <li>• very unlikely to result in influential publications.</li> </ul>	<p>The <b>applicant team</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• does <b>not have a relevant</b> track record in the field of the proposed research</li> <li>• is <b>deficient in most</b> of the required skills and expertise to successfully achieve the expected outcomes.</li> </ul>
<p><b>1 Indigenous Criteria</b></p>	<p><b>Sustainability and transferability</b></p> <p>The <b>research proposal</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>will not</b> lead to any health gains for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples</li> <li>• <b>will not</b> have any impact on health services delivery or other community priorities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Benefit</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The outcomes from the proposal will have <b>no health benefit</b> for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</li> </ul> <p><b>Building Capability</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The applicant team has a poor track record in working with communities and building capability among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</li> <li>• The research proposal will not build any capability among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, communities and researchers —will not be feasible.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Community Engagement</b></p> <p>The <b>applicant team</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• has <b>no community engagement</b> and will <b>not build any capability</b> among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples—will <b>not be feasible</b>.</li> </ul>