

May 2026 - Recognising International Clinical Trials Day

Message from Professor Ian Chubb AC FAA FTSE FACE FRSN



Colleagues,

The Budget outcome represents an important next step to progress national reforms for clinical trials in Australia.

The 2026-27 measure provides \$15.8 million to progress reforms, including the next stage of the National One Stop Shop (NOSS). Much of this funding is to provide ramp-up support over the next six months to:

- Approach the market and appoint a NOSS delivery partner
- Design an accreditation scheme for Human Research Ethics Committees
- Progress related national reform initiatives, such as review of National Standard Operating Procedures for Clinical Trials in Australia (National SOPs)
- Extend the Australian New Zealand Clinical Trials Registry (ANZCTR).

The ambition and scope of the national reforms (including NOSS) remain unchanged. I look forward to making progress on this important work with you through this next period.

Kind regards,

Ian

Chair, Inter-Governmental Policy Reform Group (IGPRG)

Shaping Tomorrow, Together

Australia's clinical trials reform in action



International Clinical Trials Day

Recognising those conducting and participating in clinical trials, turning evidence into better care

Shaping tomorrow, together: Australia's clinical trials reform in action

Today, we mark International Clinical Trials Day (ICTD), a global celebration recognising the contributions of clinical research professionals, research participants, healthcare professionals, and policy makers who advance medical science. The day also serves as a platform to raise public awareness of the importance of clinical trials, promote education and collaboration, and highlight innovation in clinical research globally.

IGPRG is leading national reforms to improve the clinical trial operating environment. This work will ensure a stronger, easier and more consistent national approach to health research.

To support this year's theme, [Shaping Tomorrow, Together](#), downloadable posters are available to help you celebrate and promote awareness within your organisation.

Consultation on the revised National Standard Operating Procedures for Clinical Trials in Australia (National SOPs)

Have your say on updating the National Standard Operating Procedures for Clinical Trials in Australia

australianclinicaltrials.gov.au



Consultation on the **National SOPs** is open. Your input will support national consistency in the conduct of clinical trials in Australia and strengthen our standing as a preferred destination for high-quality clinical trials.

Consultation has been **extended** and is now open until **Wednesday 3 June 2026**.

Scan the QR code or click the link to have your say.

Please get in touch if you would like to arrange an information session with your team to discuss the National SOPs.

Accredited ethics review

The development of a **National Quality Standard** and an **Accreditation Scheme** for Human Research Ethics Committees (HRECs) reviewing health and medical research (and their host institutions) aims to enhance the consistency and efficiency of ethics review and build trust and confidence for reciprocal HREC approvals.

A Summary Report on Public Consultations for the draft Quality Standard and an Accreditation Scheme for HRECs and their Host Institutions will be released to the public shortly.

ARCS International Clinical Trials Day Symposium - Shaping Tomorrow, Together

To mark International Clinical Trials Day, ARCS Australia is hosting a national symposium bringing together leaders across the clinical research ecosystem to explore the challenges and opportunities shaping the future of clinical trials.

Date: TODAY 20 May 2026

Time: 11:30 am to 2:00 pm AEST

Format: Online

Cost: Free

This event is open to all stakeholders involved in clinical research, including government, industry, academia and clinical sites.



[Learn more and register](#)

WHO launches the Global Clinical Trials Forum

On 7 October 2025, the World Health Organization (WHO) launched the [Global Clinical Trials Forum](#) (GCTF), a global, multi-stakeholder network to strengthen clinical trial environments and infrastructure at national, regional and global levels. The network aims to enable activities of partners for implementation of WHO's Guidance for Best Practices for Clinical Trials, guidance developed at the request of [World Health Assembly resolution WHA 75.8](#). The [Global Action Plan for Clinical Trial Ecosystem Strengthening](#) re-articulates the WHO guidance in the form of key actions for implementation. ... [Read more](#)

NHMRC and MRFF Open Science Policy

A new open science policy has been [launched](#) by the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing with the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) to boost access and collaboration in health research. ... [Read more](#)

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We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to Elders both past and present.

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