

Innovative Methods in Trials- Design & Analysis Collaboration Opportunity

The *Australian Trials Methodology (AusTriM) Research Network* is an NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence devoted to the development, evaluation and application of innovative clinical trial methodology. The network is offering clinical trialists the opportunity to receive advice and support to answer important clinical questions using innovative methods. The successful applicant / team can expect us to collaborate with them to either i. design a new clinical trial (Stream A) or ii. analyse existing trial data (Stream B).

What is on offer

STREAM A: TRIAL DESIGN	STREAM B: DATA ANALYSIS
Do you have a clinical question and wish to design a trial using innovative methodologies to answer it?	Do you have existing trial data to be (re)analysed using innovative approaches?

Our Investigator team can collaborate with you to utilise methodologies such as the following:

Adaptive platform trials	Compliance-adjusted analysis in randomised trials
Multi-arm multi-stage (MAMS) designs	Methods for missing data
Cluster randomised crossover trials	Composite endpoints
Stepped wedge trials (e.g. with time-to-event endpoints)	Treatment mechanisms and surrogate outcomes
Partially clustered trials	

Further details

Stream A is intended to support the early stages of trial protocol development. If subsequent methodological or statistical support is required from the AusTriM Investigator, this is to be funded by the applicant (for example, from a joint grant application).

Applicants are strongly encouraged to bring their project proposals to us while in the early stages of development. Applicants are expected to further develop and agree upon a work plan with an AusTriM Investigator before submitting their final application.

The core collaborative effort may be organised as a 1 or 2 week visit to the AusTriM Investigator's institution, although note that funding will not be available to support travel. Remote collaboration of a similar duration may be considered, with the final arrangements to be decided upon by the applicant and the relevant AusTriM Investigator.

For more complex projects, whether at the design or analysis stage, it is expected that the applicant will have engaged a trial statistician who can receive guidance and mentorship from the AusTriM Investigator.

The successful applicant is expected to follow the [ICMJE Recommendations](#) with respect to authorship of any publications that arise from the project, including acknowledging AusTriM in any related publications as a result of this research project.

Applications will be considered on the following criteria:

- **Significance**
- **Alignment with AusTriM areas of research**
- **Feasibility**
- **Track record / career stage**

Please see our website for details of AusTriM Investigators' previous work and examples of innovative trial projects: <https://www.monash.edu/medicine/sphpm/austrim>

Application

Please liaise with one of our Investigator team prior to submitting your application. Applicants are welcome to contact Investigators directly. If you require contact details please email austrim@monash.edu.

Please send your application to austrim@monash.edu including the following:

- i. Project / trial aims (1-2 pages)
- ii. Team (with CV of principal investigator)
- iii. Intended Grant scheme / opportunity (if relevant)
- iv. Innovative methods to be considered
- v. Any potential conflicts of interest
- vi. AusTriM researcher/s consulted about the project aims

Applications for the 2023/24 round will close on 8 December 2023 and applicants will be notified of the outcome by February 2024.