ACADEMIC HEALTH SCIENCE PARTNERSHIP

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR CLINICAL ACADEMIC STREAMS GUIDELINES

June 2016
Academic Health Science Partnership (AHSP)

Background

In November 2015, representatives from a number of organisations met and agreed to establish an integrated health science network of global significance in New South Wales, which is able to work together to recruit and retain the very best clinicians and academics, drive top quality research and education, foster excellence in clinical leadership and multidisciplinary patient-centred care, improve health outcomes and work closely with industry to generate economic prosperity. This initiative will deliver major benefits for the care of people and the wellbeing and prosperity of our populations. The partner organisations and their representatives all emphasised that this AHSP is about all components of the discovery-translational-applied pipeline. It encompasses and gives equal priority to research, education, clinical/healthcare and economic opportunities.

The AHSP was founded on the basis of partnership and collaboration, recognising that in this new economic and rapidly developing scientific research and healthcare environment single institutions struggle to remain internationally competitive. Only through recognising the strengths of others and collaborating to combine the very best academic, clinical and industry expertise can we achieve our full potential and have maximum impact on the challenges facing the health economy.

Members of the AHSP include:

- Black Dog Institute
- Centre for Eye Health
- Children’s Cancer Institute
- Garvan Institute of Medical Research
- Ingham Institute
- Neuroscience Research Australia
- South Eastern Sydney Local Health District
- South Western Sydney Local Health District
- St Vincent’s Health Network (SVHN)
- Sydney Children’s Hospitals Network (SCHN)
- The University of Technology, Sydney
- University of New South Wales
- Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute
- Western Sydney University
- New South Wales Ministry of Health (Ex-officio)

The AHSP members have agreed to allocate a minimum of 0.05% of their annual turnover to drive the rapid development of the AHSP. This will total, approximately $25m over 5 years and the intention is to secure matching funding from many other sources. Approximately 15% of the funds will be used to appoint a Director and small secretariat. The remainder will be used to drive cross cutting activity via accredited ‘Clinical Academic Streams’ as explained below.
Purpose and objectives of the AHSP

The aim of the AHSP is to integrate outstanding research, top quality education and professional practices across partner organisations to improve health outcomes, deliver better healthcare, generate economic benefits, and be a magnet for recruitment and retention of staff and investment in health and research. The AHSP has four key objectives:

1. Strong alignment between partners that result in improved care and health outcomes for local populations.
2. Enhanced educational and learning experiences in a variety of clinical and non-clinical settings.
3. Research discovery and rapid translation of those discoveries and innovations to patient and population benefit.
4. Strong relationships with industry and local communities to improve health and generate wealth.

The AHSP will direct funding at building interdisciplinary teams and facilitating cross cutting thematic efforts traversing research, education, clinical care and industry links that will tackle major health questions. The first stage to achieving this will be in the establishment of accredited clinical academic streams. It is a requirement that these streams draw on the broad reach of expertise and potential from across the organisations in the AHSP. No particular disease entity, health challenge or organisation will be favoured.

AHSP funding will be available to members of an accredited Clinical Academic stream.

Clinical Academic Streams

The intention is that a series of Clinical Academic Streams will be accredited which bring together clinicians and academics from across the partnership, which set out plans across the spectrum of research, education, clinical care, industry and which span the discovery-translation-applied spectrum. Clinical Academic Streams will have a track record of internationally recognised achievement in at least some of these areas as a foundation for delivery of their objectives but need not be internationally recognised in all areas. For example outstanding clinical care could provide a strong foundation for building research strength and/or outstanding basic science could provide a foundation for translational and economic objectives. Successful Streams are likely to encompass a broad range of professions, multiple levels of academic and health service appointments and a research, education and clinical capacity building track record. The Streams will be expected to describe a platform for sustainable research activity, growth, effective research translations, high quality education and outstanding clinical care which will attract industry partnerships and economic benefit.
Accreditation Process of Clinical Academic Streams

Academics and clinicians from across the partnership will be invited to come together to bid for accreditation of their specialist streams (example of which could hypothetically be cardiovascular, mental health, genetics, cancer or public health - but none are specified in advance). The process of accrediting Clinical Academic Streams will involve 3 phases:

Phase 1. Expressions of interest
Phase 2. Full written applications of long listed expressions of interest
Phase 3. An interview process for short listed bids, conducted by the full AHSP Council

As part of the accreditation process, applicants will be required to provide evidence to demonstrate mechanisms for working in partnership with other entities by:

- Undertaking outstanding basic science, translational and clinical/population health research
- Delivering excellence in education
- Enhancing clinical care
- Working in partnership with industry

Applicants will be required to demonstrate that they have a vision and agreed systems and processes that will enable them to work together effectively, hold each other to account and deliver specific functions and projects. A track record of collaborative activity whether research education, clinical care or industry partnership will be expected. Applicants are encouraged to broaden their existing collaborations within the AHSP group as part of the accreditation process. Completely novel ideas and ventures will be encouraged and will also be given very serious consideration. Potential for excellence will be very much part of the assessment process.

Successful Clinical Academic Streams will be able to bid for AHSP funding to support their plans.

Who can apply?
To be eligible for accreditation for a Clinical Academic Stream from the AHSP, applicants must be from the staff of one or more of the AHSP partner organisations.
Selection Principles

To be eligible to bid for selection as a Clinical Academic Stream, bids must demonstrate that they meet all components of the eligibility criteria in their application. Clinical Academic Streams will be assessed and ranked using the following criteria:

1) **Generate new knowledge that leads to improved health outcomes**

Clinical Academic Streams will be expected to have an excellent record of research and/or educational outcomes, both in terms of quality and impact. Evidence of successful translation of research outcomes via commercialization, clinical trials, and educational initiatives that are likely to change clinical practice or policy should be highlighted. Applicants should highlight the following:

- clarity of research, capacity and educational objectives, and theoretical concepts
- aims and concepts of the research and/or education that are innovative or pioneering
- likelihood that significant new findings will be produced, and substantially advance knowledge in the field
- likelihood of changing models of care and/or improving the health of the community
- potential of plans for industry partnership

2) **Facilitate collaboration**

Clinical Academic Streams are required to outline past and/or proposed collaborative arrangements within the applicant team, and address the means whereby the collaborators will ensure the cohesive running of the research or educational program during a funding period, including but not limited to:

- likely effectiveness of working collaborations and intellectual exchange
- the relationship with other groups in the particular field of research and education
- integration and cohesiveness of the team

3) **Record of Research, Education, Clinical Care and Economic Achievement - relative to opportunity and quality of future plans**

Record of Achievement may encompass the national and international standing of the applicants based upon their achievements, relative to opportunity, including but not limited to:

- outputs - most recent significant publications; publications that illustrate innovation and significance to past accomplishments; impact or outcome of previous research and/or educational achievements; health care contributions including innovations, effects on health care practices or policy; awards or honours in recognition of achievements
- contribution to discipline or area - invitations to speak at international meetings, editorial appointments, specialist and high level health policy committee appointments
- impacts on health by changes in policy or practice or via the broad dissemination of outcomes; e.g. via mainstream media, the community or industry involvement

Record of Research Achievement and quality of future plans
Record of Educational achievement and quality of future plans
Record of Clinical achievement and quality of future plans
Record of Industry partnership and quality of future plans

In the full application submission as a Clinical Academic Stream, the AHSP Council will want to ensure that their application considers the following:

- How important are the questions that the Clinical Academic Stream will address?
- Does the Clinical Academic Stream take full advantage of the cross cutting nature of the theme?
- Do the Clinical Academic Stream members have the track record and skills needed to tackle the problem?
- Does the Clinical Academic Stream have a record of working together effectively?
- Is the Clinical Academic Stream designed to address questions in a rigorous and feasible manner?
- Are the outcomes of the Clinical Academic Stream likely to make a major impact on health in New South Wales and beyond?
- Is the Clinical Academic Stream, once set up, likely to attract funding from the AHSP and other funding agencies.

Application and Selection Process

**Phase 1. Expressions of Interest**
Before full applications are invited an expression of interest must be submitted for consideration. Should expressions of interest be considered suitable for progression full applications will then be invited.

All Expressions of Interest must be submitted in the format set out in the AHSP EOI Template (see below).

Expression of Interest and attachments must be emailed to Josephine Chow at Josephine.chow@sswhs.nsw.gov.au by 5pm, 12 August 2016.

Applications will be assessed by the AHSP Council, including representation from a number of key parties and experts. In addition to submitting an application, all applicant representatives will be required to partake in an interview process. The AHSP Council will make decision to approve the application, approve it with conditions or defer the application.

Review process and timelines:

- All submissions will be scored against the assessment criteria. After the initial assessment the AHSP Council may request further information from the applicant(s).
- Results will be announced late October 2016.
- All applicants will be advised in writing of the outcome of their application at the conclusion of the process.
### AHSP indicative program timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phase 1. Call for Expressions of Interest</td>
<td>14 June 2016. Closing date 12 August 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phase 2. Full applications invited</td>
<td>19 August 2016. Closing date 14 October 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phase 3. Interview of full application teams</td>
<td>Week of 24 October 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Announcement of successful applicants</td>
<td>31 October 2016</td>
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**Further Information**

Enquiries may be directed to Professor Les Bokey, AHSP Interim Director via [Josephine.chow@sswahs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Josephine.chow@sswahs.nsw.gov.au)
Expressions of Interest for AHSP Accredited Clinical Academic Stream

SECTION A - OVERVIEW

| Contact person: |  |
| Clinical Academic Stream Title: |  |
| Disease Modality or Service: |  |
| Summary (300 words): |  |

**Summarise your objectives and proposed approaches how the clinical academic stream will generate new knowledge that leads to improved health outcomes**

SECTION A - PARTNERS:

List essential partners required for successful conduct of the project and implementation (e.g. LHD Director of Clinical Governance, Director of Nursing, Director of a University Research Centre, other LHDs)

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SECTION B – TEAM

1. Contact person details

Full Name:

Position:

Organisation:

Contact Phone Number:

Email:

Postal Address:

2. Co-applicants

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Add Rows for More Applicants

3. Biographies

Please attach a brief biography (no more than one page) for each member of the team. Achievements relevant to the proposal should be included in the biography such as publications, grants and clinical trials.
1. What are the key questions your team will address and state why they are important (200 words)?

2. Describe your team’s current record of achievement of national and international standing (200 words).

3. Describe why this program of work is a priority. Include reference, where appropriate, to relevant State or Local Health District (LHD) strategic plans (200 words).
4. Governance structure - Provide a brief description of the governance structure for the clinical academic stream including links to the LHD/Universities/Research Institutes (150 words).

5. What are the three year expected outcomes for this clinical academic stream (assuming availability of funding) (150 words)?

6. Innovation and impact

What new or relevant evidence will your clinical academic stream generate for policy and/or practice? What are the likely impacts of the results of the project on disease prevention at a population level, individual patient care or health service delivery? (200 words)
7. Capacity building

Comment what anticipated outcomes from the clinical academic stream research can be generalised, scaled, translated or embedded into practice. How will you ensure this occurs? (200 words).

8. Stakeholder engagement

Describe your track record of collaboration and how stakeholders (e.g. clinicians, consumers, policy makers, community and patient groups etc.) have been involved in the development of the clinical academic stream proposal and how they will continue to be involved in implementing the program and its outcomes (200 words).

If you have questions about the completion of this form please e-mail Josephine Chow at Josephine.Chow@sswahs.nsw.gov.au. This form, together with other requested attachments must be submitted by 5:00pm, 12 August 2016.
## Full Application Submission for AHSP Accredited Clinical Academic Stream

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Add Rows for More Applicants

**SECTION C - ABSTRACT**

Present the specific aims, goals and objectives of the clinical academic stream (200 words).
SECTION D – CLINICAL ACADEMIC STREAMS

Describe the aims and objectives of the clinical academic stream and how will it contribute to the objectives of the AHSP (1000 words).

Describe how the clinical academic stream will contribute to the further integration of research, health care and/or patient care and how this will lead to improvements in patient care and population health (1000 words).

Provide a description of how the clinical academic stream will involve and enhance multi-disciplinary working (500 words).
SECTION E – RESEARCH

Describe the way in which the clinical academic stream will add value to research currently conducted in the AHSP (up to 500 words).

SECTION F – EDUCATION

Describe the way in which the clinical academic stream will add value to education currently conducted in the AHSP (up to 500 words).

SECTION G – CLINICAL CARE

Describe the way in which the Clinical Academic stream will add value to clinical care currently conducted in the AHSP (up to 500 words).
SECTION H – ECONOMIC BENEFIT

Describe the way in which the clinical academic stream will add value to the economic impact of the AHSP (up to 500 words).

SECTION I - GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP

Detail the governance and leadership arrangements for the proposed clinical academic stream (500 words).