

PCFA Priority Impact Research Award (PIRA) 2019

Frequently Asked Questions

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Definitions

What does near-term mean?

Near-term impact studies are those that are expected to begin producing an impact on the lives of men living with prostate cancer, their partners or their families within 5-7 years of being funded.

Who are consumers?

Men diagnosed with prostate cancer, their partners and families.

What does “fit for purpose” mean?

Research proposals that address the needs of men living with prostate cancer, their partners and families.

Eligibility information

Who is eligible to apply for a PCFA Priority Research Impact Award (PIRA)?

Researchers at all stages of their career (i.e. from early career researchers to established investigators).

I am not a prostate cancer researcher, am I eligible to apply.

Yes, provided that the project addresses one of the Priority Research Areas and your existing skills and knowledge translate well to the proposed project. You must, however, have at least one person with experience in prostate cancer research or practice as a co-investigator.

I am currently located at an overseas institution; can I apply for a PIRA?

Yes, but only if you will be located in Australia from 1 January 2020, remain in Australia during the life of the award and are an Australian citizen or a permanent resident of Australia. All PCFA grants must be administered by an Australian institution. You can, however be a co-investigator on a grant while resident overseas.

About Priority Impact Research Awards

What is the term of the Awards?

From 6 months to 3 years.

Is a long-term project favored over a short-term project?

No.

What is the maximum funding I can request?

You can request up to \$200,000 a year for up to three years.

Can I budget for a salary and how much can I request?

Yes, provided you can demonstrate institutional support to complete the proposed project. Salary requests must be in line with NHMRC personnel support or salary support packages. Details can be found [here](#).

Can I apply for more than one PIRA in a single funding round?

You can apply for one PIRA as a Chief Investigator per call for applications. You can be named as a Co-Investigator on one other proposal.

What is PCFA's peer review process?

Applications undergo a two-step peer review process:

- Up to three External Expert Assessors are assigned to each submitted application and assess it using current NHMRC assessment and scoring criteria.
- PCFA's Research Advisory Committee (RAC) review the external assessments, rank the proposals and recommend to PCFA's National Board those that merit a PIRA.

What is meant by “Be available to be used by PCFA to present brief and easily understood evidence-based summaries for specific audiences.”

From time to time PCFA may need to use your research findings, including information and images, in presentations to various audiences. These audiences include but are not limited to: donors, investors and funding bodies, consumers including men with prostate cancer, their partners and families, PCFA staff and Board members and the PCFA website

PCFA will not share any of your unpublished research findings without your written permission.

What are the reporting requirements for a PIRA?

Annual Scientific and Financial reports are due one month after completion of the first year for *grants of more than 12-months*.

Final Scientific and Financial reports are due one month after completion of the term of the award.

Post-Completion reports are due 18 months after the completion of the award.

Only a Final report and a Post-Completion report are required for *grants of 12 months or less*.

Why does PCFA require a Post-completion report?

Research is a lengthy process. Results are often published well after the work has finished. To be able to determine the impact of its research investment, PCFA tracks the research it funds well beyond the life of the award. The information obtained is used to update donors and the community at large on the results and impact of this work. The outcomes also inform future research strategies.

Priority Research Areas

How were the Priority Research Areas selected?

During 2018 and with the help of the Sax institute, PCFA consulted widely with the prostate cancer community, including prostate cancer clinicians, PCFA's Research Advisory Committee, men with localised prostate cancer, men with advanced prostate cancer, National Support and Community Outreach Committee, and PCFA staff. Through this process, the top research priorities of the Australian prostate cancer community were identified. This call for applications focuses on two of the priority areas. A copy of PCFA's research strategy is available at <https://pcfa.org.au/research/apply-for-funding>.

What are the Priority Research Areas for this PIRA call?

Priority Research Area 1:

Research that uses existing, predominantly Australian, repositories of biological samples from men with prostate cancer to better predict prostate cancer progression.

Priority Research Area 5:

Research that advances knowledge and understanding of the impact of prostate cancer on men's lives and the lives of their partners and their families.

What types of repository biological samples can be used under Priority Research Area 1?

Any already collected and appropriately conserved biological samples collected in Australia from men with prostate cancer can be used. Such samples can be supplemented by similar samples collected from men in other countries if the numbers available from Australian collections are insufficient to meet quality or sample size requirements. Written agreement of all relevant repository custodians to supply the samples will be required before funds awarded are made available.