

**2024: SEEDING GRANTS OF ‘INTEGRATION OF RONGOĀ MĀORI  
PRACTICE, TCM AND WESTERN MEDICINE’**

**SEEDING GRANT GUIDELINES**

**GENERAL**

Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora - Waitematā District is committed to Te Tiriti responsibilities and addressing health equity for all.

In line with this, Health NZ - Waitematā District is offering two seeding grants to stimulate and support original high quality, investigator-initiated research in the area of Rongoā Māori, exploring what Rongoā Māori looks like and its application in the Western medical systems, and how it compares and contrasts with Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM).

The seeding grants are collaborations between Health NZ - Waitematā, Te Aka Whai Ora Māori Health Authority and the Asian/Ethnic Health and International Collaboration of Service Improvement and Innovation, Health NZ.

**2024 Funding Categories**

- 1 x Seeding Grant (maximum of \$15,000), Category 1
- 1 x seeding Grant (maximum of \$15,000), Category 2

**Category 1. Diversity of Rongoā Māori and its collaboration with Western medicine.** The purpose of the Category 1 seeding grant is to understand the diversity of Rongoā Māori and explore its possible applications in Western medical settings, which may lead to trialing the application of Rongoā Māori in medical practice in future funding rounds.

**Category 2. Exploring how Rongoā Māori compares and contrasts with TCM.** The purpose of the Category 2 seeding grant is to clarify the similarities and differences between Rongoā Māori and TCM for better understanding of how potentially Rongoā Māori, TCM and Western medicine can work collectively to improve health outcomes for all New Zealanders.

The level of funding for the seeding grants and future grants may be adjusted from year to year at the discretion of the Research Governance Group (RGG) in partnership with the Asian/Ethnic Health and International Collaboration of Health NZ.

## **PART 1**

### **Eligibility for Funding**

The principal investigator/s for the seeding grants must be an employee of either Health NZ or Te Aka Whai Ora Northern Region (Health NZ – Te Toka Tumai Auckland, Counties Manukau, Waitematā and Northland).

The research must be equity focused and have relevance to mana whenua and other Māori living within the rohe of Health NZ - Waitematā District. Other criteria used to judge applications will be the quality and scientific merit of the proposal and the feasibility of the project overall.

New and emerging researchers are encouraged to apply with the aim of helping to develop and foster research capability.

The grants are intended to support research within Health NZ - Waitematā District, and not to support 'add on' studies of larger, external projects. However, assistance and advice with developing the research project can be accessed from external sources.

### **Locality and Ethics Approval**

If appropriate the seeding grant application must have evidence of manager and clinical leader sign-offs.

Applications must be for health research and may require an ethical review by a Health & Disability Ethics Committee (HDEC), Auckland Health Research Ethics Committee (AHREC) or other Institutional Ethics Committee (IEC).

Where applicable, should the award be granted then confirmation of ethics committee approval and any relevant Health NZ - Waitematā District approvals must be received by the Research & Knowledge Centre before the research activity may proceed.

NOTE: The Three Harbours Health Foundation Trust will not release funds until the Research & Knowledge Centre provides notification of the required approvals.

### **Budget Considerations**

The project budget should be realistic. Budgets must be reviewed by the Health NZ - Waitematā District [Research Management Accountant](#). Expenses can include direct costs associated with the project, such as minor items of equipment, ancillary resource use (e.g. labs, pharmacy, radiology, etc.), creation and printing of surveys and other research forms, data analysis, courier fees, koha etc.

The seeding grants may:

- Finance a project entirely.
- Provide seed funding to obtain preliminary literature or data to support applications for external funding.

## Ineligible Expenses

The seeding grants can not be used to:

- Support post graduate study unless it is research that contributes to a thesis (i.e. not to cover course fees or act as a stipend or scholarship).
- Fund direct salary costs of the investigator or co-investigators including salary buy-back.
- Cover conferences and associated costs unless attendance is to report on the outcomes of the funded research project.
- Major items of equipment (costing more than \$2000).
- Computers.

## Term of Awards

- Funds are for costs incurred within the agreed period of the funded project as stated in the Award letter. Application for extensions (for a defined period) will be considered upon written request prior to Award expiry.
- Awarded funds will be held in a Three Harbours Health Foundation research trust account and must be used for the purpose intended and according to the approved budget.
- Unused funds will be returned to the 'seeding grant' research fund.
- If the applicant receives simultaneous funding from another source for the same project, so that the total support available exceeds the amount required, the 'seeding grant' fund must be reimbursed for the excess amount.

## Reporting

- Quarterly reports emailed to [research@waitematadhb.govt.nz](mailto:research@waitematadhb.govt.nz)
- Submission of a final report to the RGG and the Asian/Ethnic Health and International Collaboration, Health NZ.
- Submission of annual and final reports to the Ethics Committee (if EC approved).

## **Publications /Presentations**

All publications and/or presentations arising from the seeding grants must:

- Acknowledge the support of Health NZ - Waitematā District “Integration of Rongoā Māori Practice, TCM and Western Medicine” seeding grants.
- Notify the Research & Knowledge Centre of journal publications, conference abstract / posters and any other form of dissemination related to the project (email to [research@waitematadhb.govt.nz](mailto:research@waitematadhb.govt.nz))

## **PART 2**

### **Application Instructions**

The **seeding grant application form** is available online from the [Waitematā District website](#).

The grant closes at **1pm on Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> 2024**.

The **Proposal** section (**2A**) of the application, excluding references and tables, must not exceed **six (6)** pages in length in Arial font size 12. The **Equity** section (**2B**) must not exceed **(one) 1** page. Biographical sketches are to be a maximum of **three (3)** pages for each investigator / advisor.

### **The application should include:**

- Summary of proposed research in educated lay terms to facilitate review of the application by members of the RGG who may not have a background in that area of research.
- A statement of the objective/s of the literature review or theory development.
- Review of the background literature (if any) evidencing the purpose and importance of the project.
- Details of the research plan and/or experimental design, including the kind of data and the method of data analysis. Justification of the number of participants should be included. Qualitative research should include discussion of methodology, participant population and sampling strategy, type of data collection or generation method, analysis framework.
- Discussion of feasibility, anticipated difficulties and alternative approaches, the availability of equipment and support personnel should be noted.
- Evidence of the applicants' competence in the proposed field of endeavour.
- Clear description of the roles of the applicant and any co-applicants / advisors.
- Detailed project budget and justification of all identified project budget items as well as evidence of budget review.
- Existing signed Approval of Research form or signed Section 8 of this application form.
- Any additional supporting documents e.g. Ethics approval, letters of collaborations.

To submit the seeding grant application:

- Save the application form as a pdf.
- Include a covering list of any accompanying documents e.g. Ethics correspondence, letters of recommendation or support, cost justification (quotes/invoices) to support budget. See Section 7, question 2.
- Hard copies of any supplementary documents should be scanned and named as per the list in Section 7, question 2.
- Send the completed application form with attachments by email to: [research@waitematadhb.govt.nz](mailto:research@waitematadhb.govt.nz) by **1pm Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> 2024**.

Late applications, incomplete applications, applications sent in the wrong format, incorrect versions of the application form or which exceed the maximum length, may not be considered.

The Research Governance Group (RGG) will review the proposals for funding and applicants will be notified of the outcome by the end of June 2024. The RGG's decision will be final.

Please note:

If this or another grant committee has previously reviewed the proposal, copies of the reviewers' comments should be included. In a cover letter, the applicant should explain how the comments have been addressed in this application.

The application should be prepared with care and attention to detail. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the application is accurate and complete.

Any queries should be sent to: [research@waitematadhb.govt.nz](mailto:research@waitematadhb.govt.nz)