



ANZACT - the Australian and New Zealand Alliance for Cardiovascular Trials - was formally launched in February 2018, developed from a concept by members of the CSANZ Clinical Trials Council. We are a facilitating clinical trial network, and our core business is to support the development of concepts into successful funding applications through peer review.

WHAT IS ANZACT?

ANZACT provides a framework for collaboration between researchers and between institutions to avoid duplication of effort. Over 200 researchers joined ANZACT within six months, and our first call for committee roles received over 40 applications. We have an inclusive approach to membership with no fees, and have evolved our governance to reflect our core business with four standing committees - the Executive Team, Scientific and Advisory Committees and Community Advisory Group. Our core business is investigator-initiated trials but we are open to business with industry.

We have developed and implemented processes to provide effective peer review, and have formally reviewed 16 projects, of which four are now endorsed by ANZACT and funded through a variety of NHMRC or MRFF clinical trial support schemes. ANZACT recognises the importance of building capacity and interest in future cardiovascular trialists, and have a special interest in supporting the development of early-career researchers.

Our aim is to contribute to better health outcomes and quality of life for the community and people with cardiovascular disease, and improve equity in cardiovascular outcomes.

*To find out more about our workshops call our friendly Executive Officer, **Julia Fallon-Ferguson** on 08 9266 3067*

Our next Peer Review Workshop will be held in August 2021

[Visit our website www.anzact.org](http://www.anzact.org)

Our Peer Review Workshops are a great opportunity to present your application to the NHMRC Clinical Trials & Cohort Studies for refinement by expert peer review. Early Career Researchers are encouraged to apply because it's a great opportunity to network with Australia's senior cardiologists and researchers.

Thinking about starting a clinical trial?

HERE'S SOME TIPS FROM THE EXPERTS:

- **Do your homework – find out what's already being done and what is really needed. Consumers and health service providers likely have very different needs and priorities to what you think**
- **Always include a health economic component and quality of life perspective**
- **Make sure you have a robust statistical analysis plan (and budget! Grant funders will reduce it no matter how lean it is)**
- **Engage with consumers early and repeatedly, their lived experiences provide unique and extremely valuable insights – and the funders will love it**
- **Close the research loop with a plan for dissemination of your research findings and make sure you include your clinical trial participants.**