



# FERTILITY SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

## FERTILITY SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND RESEARCH GRANTS CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

### *“Merck FSANZ ‘Leaders in Innovation/ Fertility’ Research Grant”*

The Fertility Society of Australia and New Zealand (FSANZ) is currently seeking applications from financial members of the Society for financial support of research projects in 2021-2023.

#### **Research:**

Each year grants to a total of \$50,000 (with a maximum of \$25,000 per grant) will be available through the “Merck FSANZ ‘Leaders in Innovation/ Fertility’ Research Grant” to support research projects in the areas of:

- Innovations in ART Patient care and patient-reported outcomes
- Real-world evidence generation and/or analysis
- New models of care with telemedicine and digital health

FSANZ acknowledges Merck for their generous sponsorship of these research grants.

#### **Eligibility criteria:**

FSANZ Research grants are intended to provide financial assistance to early career researchers working in the field of reproductive medicine, reproductive biology and reproductive epidemiology.

Early career researchers are those pursuing a Masters by research or a PhD, or those who are <5 years (on the application submission deadline) after the PhD was awarded to them.

Researchers that do not hold other significant research funding (e.g. Cat 1 funding) for their research activities will be preferred.

Applicants should be citizen(s) or permanent residents of Australia or New Zealand, currently working within or in collaboration with medical, academic or research organisations of Australia and New Zealand.

Whilst research projects will not be required to conclude within a specific timeframe, grant recipients will be required to submit an abstract to the FSA conference the following year, presenting on their findings or progress to date. Merck will be noted as the grant donor during this presentation.

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Applicants need to abide by the rules and policies of these research grants, including annual reporting to the FSANZ of the research progress, the allocation of funds, as well as acknowledgement of the FSANZ and Merck in any presentation or publication that is produced as a result of this research (i.e. “Merck FSANZ ‘Leaders in Innovation/ Fertility’ Research Grant”).

Research funds are awarded for discreet projects; research funds cannot be used to generate income for recipients or their organisations, nor for ‘everyday’ running of clinics and/or departments

The Head of the Department where the research will be performed needs to formally endorse (sign) the application.

A fully completed application with all necessary supporting documentation needs to have been submitted by the deadline.

The applications should be in the format indicated and of sufficient detail to allow critical appraisal by a panel of experts. The grants will be judged on:

1. Innovation/ Significance of research question
2. Quality of research design
3. Feasibility/ Prospect of completion within the proposed time-frame
4. Alignment with the nominated research priorities
5. Track record of researchers and supervisory success

Only one submission per applicant will be accepted. Multi-year projects are allowed if properly justified but the funds will be paid each year conditional on the progress achieved during the previous year.

Applications for the 2021 round can be submitted between 1 April and 14 May 2021. For the 2022 and 2023 funding round, applications can be submitted between 1 June and 31 July in 2021 and 2022, respectively.

Each application will be assessed by a panel of experts (nominated by the FSANZ Board), with the help of external reviewers if required. Recommendations on which grants should be funded and the level of funding will be made by the panel to the FSANZ Board.

Notification of successful applicants for 2021 will be made by 31 July 2021 and the funds will be provided by 31 August 2021. For years 2022 and 2023, notification of successful applicants will be made during the FSANZ Annual Scientific Meeting of 2021 and 2022, respectively, and the funds will be provided by December of the same year.

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Grant recipients need to submit a progress report (including progress of research and allocation of the funds) by 30 November of each year to the FSANZ Board.

Please upload your grant application, in either PDF or Word format to the FSANZ Secretariat, [Kim O'Dea](#) at the link below:

**[MERCK GRANT SUBMISSION UPLOAD](#)**

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# FSANZ Research Grant Application Format

## *Merck FSANZ 'Leaders in Innovation/Fertility' Research Grant*

Applications are to be submitted on A4 paper, Arial font 10 point and no longer than 6 pages excluding list of all references and track record. The preferred referencing style is the Vancouver.

Applications must include the following information.

| Applicant Information    |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Name:                    |  |
| Institution:             |  |
| Current Position / Role: |  |
| Email:                   |  |
| Phone:                   |  |
| Supervisor's Name:       |  |
| Supervisor's Position:   |  |

| Qualifications <i>(start from the most recent)</i><br><i>(include more rows if required)</i> |             |               |
|--|-------------|---------------|
| Date   | Institution | Qualification |
|  |             |               |
|  |             |               |
|  |             |               |

| Evidence of Esteem / Awards / Prizes / Research Funding <i>(start from the most recent)</i><br><i>(include more rows if required)</i> |                            |                               |
|---|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Date  | Organisation / Institution | Award / Prize / Grant / Other |
|   |                            |                               |
|   |                            |                               |
|   |                            |                               |

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**Previous research experience (start from the most recent)**

*(include more rows if required)*

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Organisation / Institution</b> | <b>Position / Role</b> |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
|             |                                   |                        |
|             |                                   |                        |
|             |                                   |                        |

**Research publications (start from the most recent)**

*(include more rows if required)*

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Publication   Citation</b><br><i>(Vancouver bibliographic format)</i> | <b>Candidates Role</b> |
|-------------|--|------------------------|
|             |  |                        |
|             |  |                        |
|             |  |                        |

**Presentations/ Invited Lectures (start from the most recent)**

*(include more rows if required)*

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Conference Meeting</b> | <b>Presentation / Lecture Title</b> |
|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|             |                           |                                     |
|             |                           |                                     |
|             |                           |                                     |

**Applicant's statement on the significance of this grant for their career progression**

*(maximum 200 words)*

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**Supervisory success (maximum 200 words)**

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**Endorsement of Supervisor**

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Name:      |  |
| Signature: |  |

**Confirmation of Infrastructure and Support - *to be completed by Head of Department***

As Head of Department, I confirm that the necessary infrastructure and support are in place for the conduct of the research to which this application relates, **including the acceptance and management of the funds.**

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Name:      |  |
| Signature: |  |

**Project details** (no longer than 6 pages excluding list of all references and track record)

**Project Title:**

- 1) Type of Grant
  - i) New Project
  - ii) Continuation of Current Project
- 2) Background (max 500 words)
- 3) Hypotheses to be tested, aim(s) of research and significance of research to the field of human reproduction and fertility
- 4) Experimental design
  - Include study design: prospective/retrospective, controlled, randomised, qualitative etc.
  - Include patient inclusion and exclusion criteria
  - Include description of methodology
  - Include number of subjects evaluated (patients, oocytes, embryos etc.) as well as justification of this number
  - Include primary and secondary endpoints (with their definition)
  - Include description of statistical analysis
  - Include GANTT chart with proposed timeline
- 5) Ethics approval
  - i) Obtained (include copy of approval)
  - ii) Applied for (indicate Ethics Committee and expected time of approval)
- 6) Budget (provide adequate detail/ breakdown to allow proper budget review)
  - i) Personnel
  - ii) Materials
  - iii) Capital Equipment
  - iv) Travel and other technical support (e.g. survey development; web hosting)
- 7) Proposed dissemination of results/ knowledge generated by this project
- 8) Suitability of setting and delivery within time-frame (justify why this project can be conducted in the proposed institution and completed within the proposed time-frame/ max 300 words)