

## EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

### Primary Care Innovation Grants – General Practice

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## Overview

Australia's healthcare system is facing significant challenges due to an aging population, increasing healthcare demands, and evolving healthcare needs. Traditional methods of providing primary care highlight the need for innovative solutions tailored to community-specific needs.

Recognising the importance of innovation in enhancing health outcomes, Central and Eastern Sydney Primary Health Network (CESPHN) invite General Practices to apply for the **Primary Care Innovation Grants - General Practices** to the value of \$10,000 each. Funding will be awarded to up to 20 General Practices.

The aim of the grant is to support General Practices in developing innovative approaches and solutions that better support efficiency, effectiveness and co-ordination of locally based primary health care services.

Funding will be allocated to selected General Practices who can demonstrate an innovative service, approach, model, process or product that aligns with one or more of the following focus areas.

- Delivers sustainable improvements that will enable enhanced health and wellbeing outcomes for patients
- Addresses a need or gap identified in population health data
- Increases the access and reach of vulnerable population groups
- Improves system integration and business viability
- Facilitates outreach care to community-based organisations

## 1. Information about Central and Eastern Sydney PHN

### What are primary health networks?

Primary health networks (PHNs) have been established with the key objectives of increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of medical services for individuals, particularly those at risk of poor health outcomes. They also aim to improve coordination of care to ensure people receive the right care in the right place at the right time. PHNs are not for profit, regionally based organisations which aim to strengthen primary care by redirecting frontline health services to improve health outcomes of the community.

### Our vision

Our vision is to achieve healthy and thriving communities and we do this by enabling high quality accessible health care. Our goals are to address community health and wellbeing needs, facilitate connected and quality care and partner to address regional challenges.

### Our region, our community

The Central and Eastern Sydney catchment spans 587 square kilometres. Our region stretches from Strathfield to Sutherland, as far east as Bondi, and includes Lord Howe Island. We are the second largest of the 31 primary health networks across Australia by population, with over 1.5 million individuals residing in our region.

Our catchment population is characterised by cultural diversity, with an estimated 16,225 (1.05 per cent of total population) identifying as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and forty percent of our community born outside Australia, and high population growth. Our boundaries align with those of South Eastern Sydney Local Health District and Sydney Local Health District. Refer to this template list of postcodes within the CESP HN catchment area. For more information about our region visit the 'About CESP HN' page on our website at <https://www.cesphn.org.au/>

## 2. Eligibility

The eligibility criteria include:

- Participating general practices must be located within the CESP HN region.
- Are a General Practice in accordance with the definition of a general practice by the [RACGP](#)
- General Practice's must be connected to LUMOS or willing to connect to the LUMOS program.
- General practice must have an active Australian Business Number (ABN) or Australian Company Number (ACN).
- General practice must have and maintain adequate insurance coverage.

Prioritisation will be given to those general practices that can complete the program by end of the 2025 calendar year.

## 3. Program activities

To successfully complete the Primary Care Innovation Grants – General Practice Program, selected general practices must demonstrate an innovative, service, approach, model, process or product that aligns with one or more of these focus areas:

- Delivers sustainable improvements that will enable enhanced health and wellbeing outcomes for patients
- Addresses a need or gap identified in population health data
- Increases the access and reach of vulnerable population groups
- Improves system integration and business viability
- Facilitates outreach care to community-based organisations

### 4.1 Reporting

General Practices will be required to submit a final report (approximately 2-3 pages) at the end of the activity that outlays the following items:

- Project summary – a brief description of the project, its goals and objectives
- Innovation description – explanation of the innovation, including unique features and benefits
- Development process – outline the development process, methodologies used, and any challenges faced.
- Team and roles – information about the team, their roles and contributions

- Risk Management – identification of risks and strategies implemented to mitigate them
- Outcomes and impact – identify key achievements, including any measurable impact or success metrics
- Future plans – next steps, any future goals and any planned improvements post this project experience

## 4.2 Evaluation

All key staff involved in the project will be required to complete a short online evaluation survey on completion of the program. The evaluation will seek feedback on the program and ask participants to reflect on their learnings and experience.

## 4.3 Connection to LUMOS

### What is LUMOS?

Lumos is a new partnership initiative between Central and Eastern Sydney PHN (CESPHN) and the NSW Ministry of Health (MoH) to assist practices gain a stronger understanding of their patients' journey across the health system. This is an ethically approved program that securely links data across primary, ambulatory and acute care and has launched in February 2020 within the CESPHN region.

If the general practice is not currently connected to LUMOS, CESPHN will co-ordinate with the practice to be connected to LUMOS. This is a free licence connection for the practice.

Note: if your practice is not already sharing de-identified data with CESPHN via POLAR or PenCat, you will need to complete a Data Sharing Agreement to be connected to POLAR.

## 4. Contract term

Participating general practices will enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with CESPHN. The term of the contract is twelve (12) months from the date of the MOA execution.

Please read the draft MOA and familiarise with the terms of conditions.

The MOA will form a legally binding agreement on signing by the parties. The general practice must retain all insurances outlined in the agreement.

## 5. Funding

A total sum of \$10,000 (excluding GST) will be provided as financial support for undertaking the program activities. Entities with more than one general practice within the CESPHN region may submit an application for each eligible practice. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) will be signed for each general practice.

Funding will be distributed in two payments with the first payment of \$8000 made upon executed Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and commencement of the program. The balance of grant sum will be paid upon program completion.

## 6. Submitting your application

Please read this EOI guidance and the Memorandum of Agreement prior to applying to participate in the Primary Care Innovation Grants – General Practice. Applications can be submitted through the CESPHN online application form using the CESPHN online application form.

**Applications will close 9 May 2025.**

## 7. Contact us

All questions related to this EOI are to be directed to [innovationgrants@cesphn.com.au](mailto:innovationgrants@cesphn.com.au)