

NHMRC Grants awarded to investigate local and global health challenges

2 May 2024

Five researchers from Menzies School of Health Research (Menzies) have been awarded National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Investigator Grants in today's [funding round announcement](#).

NHMRC provides these grants to researchers who can show that their research has a genuine impact, uses rigorous methods and is of the highest quality.

With total funding exceeding \$9 million, Menzies research leaders will work to improve healthcare for First Nations people and work towards eliminating infectious diseases across the globe over the next 5 years.

Under the programs with a focus on northern and central Australia, researchers will enhance models of care in diabetes, as part of one of Australia's largest intergenerational diabetes programs. We will also tackle the evidence-practice gap in ear and hearing health, in a bid to change the trajectory of disadvantage for First Nations children due to hearing loss. Research will examine the decision-making process around blood transfusions for First Nations patients seeking to improve health outcomes.

On a global scale, researchers will work to increase access to life-saving vaccinations for children and to implement innovative strategies to accelerate malaria elimination.

Each will work in partnership with health services and the communities of their region. People living with the health conditions being addressed, such as people with diabetes and families of children with ear infections, will partner in this work.

The following researchers were awarded grants in recognition of their research portfolios:

- [Professor Amanda Leach AM](#), received a Leadership 3 (L3) Grant of \$2,981,630 for her research to tackle the evidence-policy-practice gap in ear and hearing health of First Nations children, particularly in the Northern Territory.
- [Professor Louise Maple-Brown](#), received a Leadership 2 (L2) Grant of \$2,739,264 for her research to work in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to address inequities in diabetes and related health conditions.
- [Associate Professor Kamala Thriemer](#), received a Leadership 1 (L1) Grant of \$2,360,416 for her research in optimising radical cure for vivax malaria to accelerate malaria elimination.
- [Associate Professor Tina Noutsos](#) received an Emerging Leadership (EL1) Grant of \$331,285.36 for her research to transform blood transfusion decision-making and patient blood management for and with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in rural and remote Australia.
- [Dr Beth Temple](#) received an Emerging Leadership (EL1) Grant of \$589,520 for her research to support pneumococcal conjugate vaccine use in low- and middle-income countries through reduced-dose schedules and opportunistic vaccination approaches.

These research programs continue to build upon Menzies' purpose to improve the health and wellbeing of the people in our region, through genuine partnerships and excellence in research, translation and education.

Quotes attributable to Menzies Deputy Director (Research), [Professor Louise Maple-Brown](#):

“We’re proud to see our researchers receive this funding support from the NHMRC.”

“Their research is driven by the concerns and priorities of the communities we work with, and will have a very real impact across the Northern Territory and the global regions where we work.”

“This collaborative work is key to achieving positive outcomes for the health and wellbeing of our local and global community.”

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Menzies School of Health Research

Menzies is one of Australia’s leading medical research institutes dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, and a leader in global and tropical research into life-threatening illnesses. Menzies continues to generate research knowledge and translate this into effective health service delivery in communities across Australia and the Asia-Pacific region.