



**Victorian
Cardiovascular
Research Network**

VICTORIAN CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH NETWORK MEMBERSHIP GUIDELINES

1. BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

The Victorian Cardiovascular Research Network (Vic CVRN) is a cross-institutional, multi-disciplinary network of people with an interest in the cardiovascular research sector in Victoria. Established in 2023 with support from the National Heart Foundation of Australia (Heart Foundation) and the Stroke Foundation, the Vic CVRN aims to facilitate interdisciplinary collaboration across Victorian institutions and to promote cardiovascular research for the benefit of the Victorian population.

The purpose of these Guidelines is to outline the eligibility criteria, categories and definitions for membership of the Vic CVRN.

2. ELIGIBILITY

Membership of the Victorian CVRN is open to any individual or organisation (medical research institute, university, health service, non-governmental organisation, private industry) with an interest in cardiovascular research and improving cardiovascular outcomes in the Victorian population. Eligibility for membership includes but is not limited to:

- fundamental, clinical, public health and health services researchers,
- clinicians and clinician-scientists,
- community members including those with lived experience as patients or carers,
- government representatives.
- industry employees,
- tertiary institutions, medical research institutes,
- hospitals and primary health networks
- pharmaceutical, medical device and biotechnology companies.

3. CATEGORIES AND DEFINITIONS

1. Individual

An individual who has an interest in cardiovascular or cardiovascular-related research in Victoria.

2. Organisation

An organisation or entity that engages in or has an interest in cardiovascular or cardiovascular-related research in Victoria.

3. Life

An individual who has been a member for 30 or more years. Life membership will bestow free admission to all Vic CVRN events.

4. APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Individual

Individuals can apply to be members of the Vic CVRN by completing the [Victorian Cardiovascular Research Network Membership Application](#) form. Note that completion and submission of the form constitutes agreement to comply with the [Victorian Cardiovascular Research Network Code of Conduct](#) once the membership application is approved. Individuals are not charged any fee for membership.

2. Organisation

Organisations can apply for membership by writing to the Vic CVRN Steering Committee Chair, care of the Vic CVRN Manager (viccvm@heartfoundation.org.au), outlining their interest in joining the network. Applications will be considered by the Vic CVRN Steering Committee at the next scheduled meeting and organisations will be advised of their application outcome via email. The Vic CVRN Steering Committee will also actively contact organisations relevant to the network and extend an invitation to join.

For 2024, membership for all organisations will be free. From 2025, all organisations with the exception of hospitals and primary health networks, will be charged an annual membership fee. The fees will be based on the size of the organisation and the number of staff and students who are members. Member organisations will be advised individually of fees due three months in advance.

3. Life

Life membership will be automatically awarded to individuals after 30 years of membership.

5. TERM

An individual will remain a member of the Vic CVRN for as long as they maintain an interest in cardiovascular research in Victoria. The Vic CVRN Manager will conduct a tri-annual review of membership by way of a call for confirmation of membership details. Membership will be revoked for any members who do not respond to the call in a timely manner. Members must keep their details up to date in the membership portal or alternatively, notify the Vic CVRN Manager of any changes via email to viccvm@heartfoundation.org.au.

6. REVIEW, AMENDMENT, MODIFICATION OR VARIATION

These Guidelines will be reviewed and endorsed annually by the Vic CVRN Steering Committee. They may be amended, modified, or varied after consultation and agreement by a majority vote of Vic CVRN Steering Committee members.

7. REVIEW AND DOCUMENT CONTROL

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