



Volunteer Position Description

Member – Heart Foundation Research Advisory Committee

Functional Department	Research
Reports to:	Heart Foundation Research Advisory Committee Chair (a Heart Foundation Board member)
Heart Foundation Contact	Anouk Sherman, Executive Officer (Research)
Role location	Remote - online
Commitment:	A minimum of four committee meetings per year, plus out of session consultation as required. Refer to Terms of Reference for details.
Position type:	Volunteer committee member
Start date:	January 2026
Effective Date	December 2025

Volunteer position purpose

As the Heart Foundation takes on the bold mission to make heart health achievable by everyone by 2050, we are working alongside communities, government, industry, researchers, healthcare professionals, supporters, people with lived experience, and volunteers to harness collective knowledge and experience to make our vision a reality. Being a member of the Heart Foundation Research Advisory Committee is a key part of this and gives you an opportunity to influence, shape, advise, and guide us in our ambitious goals as they relate to cardiovascular research.

The Research Advisory Committee (RAC) is established as a sub-committee of the Board to provide strategic and expert advice on strategic research approaches and the Heart Foundation's research funding program.

Some key areas of involvement include:

- Advising on strategic research matters, including framework, policy, and research trends, issues, and priorities
- Advising on strategic research grant calls/schemes, ensuring alignment with Heart Foundation priorities
- Reviewing the annual research funding allocation, ensuring research funding is awarded based on merit, potential impact, equity of distribution, relevance, and strategic alignment where and as appropriate
- Exploring, advising on, and facilitating collaborations, including joint funding or special initiatives with national and international key research stakeholders, such as relevant peak bodies and research and health professionals
- Advising on the monitoring and evaluation of the research funding program and portfolio, including the impact and evaluation framework
- Advising on advocacy of cardiovascular research
- Advising on effective communication to the public and potential corporate donors of Heart Foundation-supported research
- Advising on the activities and policies of other national research funding agencies



A bit about us

The National Heart Foundation of Australia's Vision: Health for Every Heart 2025-2050, has four goals:

1. Advance heart health equity
2. Create environments and systems that enable healthy behaviours
3. Prevent, detect and manage risk early
4. Manage heart disease effectively and prevent further events

Research is one of the eight guiding principles that will inform the Heart Foundation's contribution to this vision. We will continue to invest in research and innovation to deepen our understanding of how to advance the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of heart disease.

The Heart Foundation Research Advisory Committee's structure is as follows: Chair (Heart Foundation Board Member/Director), Deputy Chair (Chief Medical Advisor, Heart Foundation). See the Terms of Reference for more details on other roles within the RAC.

Skills, knowledge, and experience

The Heart Foundation is seeking a balance of members representing diverse expertise related to heart health.

Skills sought include cardiovascular research, clinical cardiology, research translation, primary care, health service delivery, policy and advocacy, health economics, engagement with First Nations communities, patient advocacy, artificial intelligence and data handling.

Members should be able to:

- Actively provide focused contributions and expert advice to enable the points listed under 'Purpose' in this Position Description
- Advocate for the Heart Foundation's Research program in the broader community
- Have capacity to commit to attending the RAC meetings and respond to requests for input

Expressions of Interest

Interested individuals are asked to complete an application form that includes a CV, a statement outlining your interest in joining the RAC and a skills matrix to ensure the RAC has diverse representation.

General requirements

Compliance with Heart Foundation policies, procedures, and systems as required.

Declarations of actual, perceived, or potential conflicts of interest as related to the Heart Foundation and Heart Foundation Research Advisory Committee.

Further information

Please complete the application for on the Heart Foundation website by visiting - <https://www.heartfoundation.org.au/about-us/research-advisory-committee>