



# REGU/REGIS Newsletter | Issue 23 | 10 December 2024

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## What we achieved in 2024

**Audience:** Everyone

As we approach the end of the year, the Research Ethics & Governance Unit (REGU) and REGIS teams wanted to take a moment to reflect on some of the significant progress and accomplishments we have achieved. It has been a year of hard work and continuous improvement, with some key highlights below:

- **Released draft 1 of the NSW Health Research Handbook**
- **Revamped a new look NSW Metrics Report**
- **Released the REGIS Fundamentals for Researchers & Coordinators eLearning Module for NSW, TAS & Bellberry**
- **Launched and held 6 Directors of Research Meeting (DORM)**
- **Launched the inaugural NSW Health Research Administrator Awards and held the NSW Health Research Administrators Appreciation Day**
- **REGIS Functionality Changes**

- **Implemented the CTMS decision tree to assist research applicants to correctly categorise their study type**
- **Release 1 of 3 to improve Head of Department experience**

We want to express our gratitude for your continued support throughout the year and please know that our team's achievements would not have been possible without the trust and collaboration we have with you.

We are excited about the opportunities that 2025 will bring us and wish you all a safe and Merry Christmas and a happy New Year. See you in 2025!



*1 - Meowy Catmas!*



*2 - Santa Paws is coming to town!*



*3 - Have a purrrfest Christmas!*

## Head of Department Improvement - Release Notes: 12 December 2024

**Audience:** Heads of Department and Research Offices



*4 - Reg our busy Head of Department BEFORE the updates*

The REGIS team are making enhancements and configuration updates to the Head of Department process in REGIS which have come from the feedback provided by the 91 Heads of

Department that responded to the Use and Barriers of REGIS survey that was distributed in September 2024.

There will be a series of enhancement and configuration changes from 12 December 2024 through early 2025 with the aim of incremental improvements. We encourage all Heads of Department to provide feedback on the changes, to ascertain if they have provided a better experience and what we can do to further improve.



*5 - Hold tight Reg, not long until we release the improvements!*

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[Check out the release notes here!](#)

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## The NSW CVRN Rural, Regional, Remote (RRR) Project Grant Application Now Open

### **Supporting cardiovascular research in rural, regional and remote New South Wales**

NSW CVRN is pleased to launch the NSW CVRN Rural, Regional, Remote (RRR) Project Grant.

This new initiative from NSW CVRN aims to build or enhance the track records of RRR researchers, increasing opportunities for future funding success, supporting early- and mid-career researchers (EMCRs), and encouraging cross-institutional collaboration. NSW CVRN may award up to two grants, with a total combined value of \$70,000 (excluding GST).

This grant is for research projects led by researchers in rural, regional, and remote locations in NSW. Funding can be used for any activity justified to advance cardiovascular research, including but not limited to kick-start project funding, pilot studies, personnel, co-design, or minor equipment. For clinical trials, NSW CVRN will help facilitate access to additional support provided through the R3 clinical trial enabling program.

**To apply**

- please ensure you have read and understood the attached guidelines (failure to do so may affect your application)
- complete and submit the [digital application form](#)

For full details, please visit our webpage: <https://www.heartfoundation.org.au/research/nsw-cvrn-rrr-project-grant>

Applications close at **5:00pm AEDT on Monday 3 March 2025**.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

The CVRN Management Team



**NSW CVRN – Rural, Regional, Remote Project Grant**

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*All questions should be directed to the CVRN Management Team [cvrn@heartfoundation.org.au](mailto:cvrn@heartfoundation.org.au)*

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## NSW Research Handbook

### Feedback Due 20 December

The OHMR REGU team has developed and released the NSW Health Research Handbook and associated documents. The Handbook provides guidance to ensure safe, high-quality research that meets regulatory and institutional standards, applicable to all NSW Health employees, non-employed staff, and external individuals or entities involved in research within NSW Health.

The Handbook is designed to be a living document, allowing Local Health Districts and Specialty Health Networks to customise it for their day-to-day operations without altering the core content. Yellow highlighted sections in the Handbook are intended for local adaptation.

We encourage you to share this Handbook widely and utilise it extensively. To contribute your insights for an updated release by January 2025, please submit feedback using the [Feedback Form](#) by 20 December 2024. Let's shape a research-enabling culture together!

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[Access the NSW Health Research Handbook](#)

[NSW Health Research Handbook Feedback Form](#)

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## Rural, regional and remote communities welcome Pathology Research Coordinators

**Audience:** Everyone

NSW Health Pathology and the Office for Health and Medical Research are pleased to announce the commencement of two Pathology Research Coordinators to support clinical trials activity in pathology units in Rural, Regional, and Remote areas of NSW.

- Michelle Andrews will cover Northern areas of NSW
- Saba Al Iedani will cover Western and Southern NSW

In the coming weeks the coordinators will be meeting with pathology staff, clinical trials coordinators and researchers to understand the needs and identify areas for improvement.

We encourage you to share this important news with your networks.

The employment of the two Pathology Research Coordinators is a pilot project supported by the [Rural, Regional, and Remote Clinical Trial Enabling Program \(R3-CTEP\)](#).

## 2025 CCLHD Research & Innovation Symposium: Enabling a Healthier Future

**Audience:** Researchers and staff involved in Clinical Trials

The 2025 CCLHD Research & Innovation Symposium; Enabling a Healthier Future, will bring together leading experts to explore key issues affecting global health systems. Professor Jeffrey Braithwaite will provide insights into improving health systems, particularly in relation to climate change and sustainability.

The event will be held at the Central Coast Clinical School and Research Institute in Gosford from 11 February - 13 February 2025 and offers a comprehensive look into how health systems can adapt and thrive in the face of climate change, new technologies, and evolving healthcare challenges.



To register to attend the symposium, [you can use this link](#) (an Oxford Abstracts account is required, if you do not already have one, you will need to create one).

Please contact [CCLHD-ResearchSymposium@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:CCLHD-ResearchSymposium@health.nsw.gov.au) for further information.

## Survey Corner

The Research Ethics and Governance Unit (REGU) is committed to continuous improvement and delivering the best possible experience and resources for our stakeholders. To help us achieve this, we regularly seek feedback to:

- **Improve our current processes** and ensure we are meeting your needs.
- **Gather input on stakeholder-facing documents** as we work to make them more clear, relevant, and user-friendly.
- **Identify areas for innovation** based on your insights.



Your feedback is essential to shaping the work we do and ensuring that it aligns with your expectations, we are also conscious of the potential for 'survey fatigue' so that is why we have created a dedicated survey section in this newsletter called 'Survey Corner'.

Here we will group together surveys we are seeking your feedback on, and share surveys from our colleagues in the Office for Health and Medical Research.

We would like to invite you to take a few minutes to complete the short surveys below, based on your role which is identified in the 'Audience' section. Your thoughts and suggestions truly matter to us!

[Site Dashboard - Metric 4: Feedback Needed](#)

**Audience:** Research Office Managers/Research Governance Officers

The eHealth REGIS team is constantly working on updating and enhancing the dashboards and are actively seeking feedback from Research Office managers and Research Governance Officers on the design and usability of the Site Dashboard - Metric 4, in particular the following sections;

- Major Indicators Breakdown
- Study Type Breakdown
- Workflow Breakdown

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*A [short walkthrough video](#) has been created which we recommend watching before completing the [short survey](#) that has been created for feedback to be provided, which we ask Research Office Managers and Research Governance Officers to complete.*

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## Upcoming events and dates

**Audience:** Research Office/Researcher



### 2024 Dates and Events

**12 December:** REGIS Release, Head of Department Improvements, Round 1

**REGIS Research Office Lunch & Learn 2024:** The Lunch & Learn webinars for 2024 is now complete! Dates for 2025 will be scheduled shortly. [Click here to view the themes, topics and previous Lunch & Learns.](#)

**Research Office REGIS Training:** Research Office training for 2024 is complete! Training dates for 2025 will be released in the new year.

**Researcher REGIS Training:** Researcher training for 2024 is complete! Training dates for 2025 will be released in the new year.

### 2025 Dates and Events

**2025 Research & Innovation Symposium:** This symposium will be held over three days, 11 February - 13 February.

## Previous Versions of REGU/REGIS Newsletter

**Audience:** Research Office/Researcher

All previous version of the fortnightly email are available from the REGIS website: <https://regis.health.nsw.gov.au/news-and-events/regis-office-webinars/>

*REGU/REGIS Newsletter: Inspiring other units within OHMR and LHDs since February 2021*