

**To:**

Dr Masha Somi  
Chief Executive Officer  
Health and Medical Research Office

**MEDICAL RESEARCH FUTURE FUND (MRFF) – CORONAVIRUS RESEARCH RESPONSE – 2020 COVID-19  
VACCINE CANDIDATE RESEARCH GRANT OPPORTUNITY**

**OUTCOMES OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST ASSESSMENT PROCESS – ROUND 1**

**Purpose**

As Program Delegate for the MRFF 2020 COVID-19 Vaccine Candidate Research Grant Opportunity, that you

**APPROVE:**

s 22

- the NHMRC to notify unsuccessful applicants and Administering Institutions of the outcomes of the EOI assessment process under embargo, prior to Ministerial announcement.

and **SIGN:**

- the recommendations on page 4 of this Minute.

**Approval Timing**

ss 22 & 47E

**Issues/Sensitivities**

The grant assessment committee convened on s 47E to assess all eleven submitted EOIs against the merit criteria for this open competitive grant opportunity (**Attachment A**). EOIs were assessed against three merit criteria:

1. Project Impact
2. Project Methodology
3. Team Capability and Resources.

A qualitative rating scale was used to rate EOIs:

- **Strongly Met** where the response to the criterion addresses all or most sub-criteria to a higher than acceptable standard. Evidence is available and confirms good performance against this criterion. Referred to as 'Highly Met' in **Attachment A**.
- **Met** where the response this criterion addresses most sub-criteria to an acceptable standard. Some evidence is available and provides some support for claims against this criterion.
- **Not Met** where the response to this criterion is poor and addresses some or none of the sub-criteria. Evidence is unavailable, not relevant or lacking in detail. Referred to as 'Unmet' in **Attachment A**.

To be considered to invite to submit a formal application, EOIs must receive a rating of 'Met' or 'Strongly Met' for each merit criterion. Seven of the eleven EOIs received a rating of 'Not Met' for at least one merit criterion and are therefore ineligible for further consideration. The four eligible EOIs are listed in **Attachment B**.

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## Background/Context

**Division:** Health Economics and Research Division

**Program area contact & extension:** s 47F

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Health and Medical Research Office

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**TRIM File Number:** s 22

## Description

s 47E



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## Recommendations

As Program Delegate for the MRFF 2020 COVID-19 Vaccine Candidate Research Grant Opportunity, that you:

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4. <b>APPROVE</b> the NHMRC to notify unsuccessful applicants and Administering Institutions of the outcomes of the EOI assessment process under embargo, prior to Ministerial announcement	<b>Approved / <del>Not Approved</del></b>

*[Authorised electronically]*

Dr Masha Somi  
Chief Executive Officer  
Health and Medical Research Office  
12 August 2020

## Attachments

s 22

C. 2020 COVID-19 Vaccine Candidate Research Grant Opportunity Guidelines

s 22

Contact officer: s 47F

Phone: s 47F

EA Corro Ref: N/A

TRIM ref: s 22