

Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists Clinical Trials Network (ANZCA CTN) Strategic Research Workshop - 2025 Emerging Investigator Prize Guidelines

Aims

The session aims to provide a platform for new and emerging investigators in the fields of anaesthesia, pain, and perioperative medicine to showcase their research. It seeks to foster innovation and academic excellence within the CTN community.

Prize Criteria

The Emerging Investigators Prize will be awarded to the presenter who delivers the most outstanding contribution during the 2025 ANZCA CTN Annual Strategic Research Workshop. The award recognises the lead author of the submitted abstract, who must have conducted the majority of the research design personally, under the mentorship of experienced colleagues.

Eligibility

1. Emerging investigator refers to someone who:
 - a. Has not previously been listed as a CIA or CIB on a competitive category 1 funding grant with the exception of ANZCA grants.*
 - b. Has not previously been the chief investigator (CIA) of a large (i.e. ≥ 5 sites) multi-site study.
2. Fellows of ANZCA and the Faculty of Pain Medicine (FPM)
3. Applications from ANZCA and FPM trainees are eligible if they have a nominated supervisor who is a fellow of ANZCA or FPM for their application.
4. Fellows and trainees of other specialist medical colleges will be considered at the discretion of the CTN which will also require that the team (including at least one co-investigator) consists of ANZCA/ FPM fellows with a key leadership role. Non-ANZCA / FPM fellows should contact the CTN office to discuss before submitting an application. Eligibility will be decided by the Executive Chair.
5. The Emerging investigator must be registered as a delegate for the CTN workshop and be available to present in person on Friday 8 August, from 3.30 to 5.30pm.

Additional Considerations For Eligibility

The following will be taken into consideration:

- The research aligns with fields of anaesthesia, pain medicine and/or perioperative medicine
- Any track record of engagement with ANZCA funded research
- It is planned to develop and lead the study at an Australian or New Zealand hospital site within the anaesthesia and pain management department.

- The study has potential to attract large competitive grant funding in Australia and New Zealand and will utilise the network ANZCA CTN sites.
- The planned level of engagement with the CTN office
- There is a plan for CTN endorsement for the definitive trial
- They have previously presented at a CTN workshop

*The definition of category 1 funding is: Australian Competitive Grant Research Income. The grants classified as Category 1 opportunities are highly competitive and available to researchers Australia-wide. The major funding bodies that fall within Category 1 are Australian Research Council (ARC), National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), and Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF).

Application for the Prize

1. Applicants for this prize session should apply through the Abstract Submission process for the CTN Workshop.

Triaging

2. Applications will be triaged by the ANZCA CTN Executive based on the eligibility criteria above and criteria outlined in the abstract submission guidelines. Please note that not all applicants may be invited to present in this session.
3. If there are more eligible applicants than presentation slots available, the applications will be triaged based on scientific merit outlined in the abstract submission guidelines.

Judging the Prize

1. Judges will be appointed annually by the chair of the ANZCA CTN Executive.
2. The prize will be judged by a panel of individuals:
 - a. Two members of the ANZCA CTN Executive, and
 - b. One non-Exec member who is an expert in the field
3. The judges will use the attached template to judge the prize.
4. Only one prize will be awarded – the prize cannot be split among the eligible presenters.
5. The prize will be awarded at the annual conference dinner by the chair of the ANZCA CTN Executive.

The Prize

1. The prize will consist of a certificate and a cheque for A\$1,000 donated by the ANZCA Foundation.
2. Award of the prize does not imply endorsement of the project by the ANZCA Clinical Trials Network.

**The ANZCA CTN Prize for the Best Presentation by and Emerging Researcher
at the 2025 ANZCA CTN Strategic Research Workshop**

CRITERION	AVAILABLE POINTS	ALLOCATED POINTS
ABSTRACT		
1. Conforms with guidelines for meeting abstracts	4	
2. Clear statements of justification, methods, opportunities, risks and challenges	4	
3. Aligns with oral presentation	2	
Sub-total	10/100	
PRESENTATION CONTENT		
1. Originality, relevance, importance of concept	8	
2. Critical review of literature	8	
3. Clear hypotheses and primary outcome variable	8	
4. Sound design and project plan	8	
5. Appropriate statistical analysis plan	8	
Sub-total	40/100	
PRESENTATION STYLE		
1. Timing (ineligible if speaks for more than the allotted time; score = 0 if speaks for the whole allotted time [even if additional time is allowed for questions])	10	
2. Clarity and accuracy of slides	10	
3. Clarity of verbal presentation	10	
4. Discussion and responses to questions	10	
5. Communication style	10	
Sub-total	50/100	
TOTAL	100	

Change control register

Version	Author	Approved by	Approval Date	Modifications
1.0	Paige Druce	CTN Executive	4 March 2025	