

# AAAPC News - February 2024

Hello everyone,

Happy belated new year! Hope you all have had a wonderful kick off to 2024. AAAPC has hit the ground running this year, with lots of news for you! Make sure not to miss any exciting updates including:

- Upcoming webinar March 7
- Membership renewals coming up March 1
- Hardship awards open now
- Conference abstracts and registrations open now

And much, much more...

Happy reading

## Upcoming webinar! Connecting research with the real world: consumer engagement and co-design.

Associate Professor Darshini Ayton will share their experience with consumer engagement and co-design in health services research and how it applies to primary care research. Register today to hear useful tips and recommendations for your research. The session will be hosted by AAAPC's Early Career Academics subcommittee and will be presented **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> of March, 6pm AEDT; 8pm NZDT.**

[Register](#)



## AAAPC Membership renewal due March 1<sup>st</sup>

AAAPC annual membership fees are due March 1<sup>st</sup>. Don't miss out on renewing your membership, or you might miss out on all the news and opportunities in AAAPC for 2024! Individual membership remains at \$175(AUD) per year, with discounts available for students and registrars. Keep an eye out for your renewal email in your inbox later this month.

## AAAPC Hardship Equity Awards

In recognition of AAAPC's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, AAAPC introduced a new member award to recognise members who are experiencing financial hardship and other disadvantages. The award will provide up to \$3000 for a member to support attendance at the AAAPC conference in 2024. **Applications close 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024.** Find out how to apply on [our webpage](#).



## AAAPC is now on LinkedIn

AAAPC's [LinkedIn](#) profile is live! Follow AAAPC to keep up to date with academic primary care news, AAAPC events, and what AAAPC is doing for academic primary care. Help AAAPC to increase reach and influence by liking, sharing, and commenting on our posts when you can.



## AAAPC 2024 Conference Updates

The AAAPC Annual Research Conference for 2024 is set for **Thursday and Friday August 15-16, 2024** and will be hosted by Western Sydney University. The conference theme is *Striving for health equity through research and education*. Details are now up on our [webpage](#).

## Conference registration

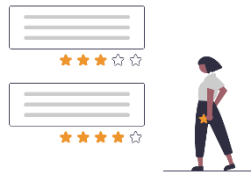
The 2023 Annual Research Conference will be in person at Western Sydney University's Parramatta campus, from 15-16<sup>th</sup> of August 2024. The theme of this years conference is ***Striving for health equity through research and education***. Early bird registration

starts at \$500.00 for members (discounts available for students and registrars). Early bird rates will end 21<sup>st</sup> of June 2024 – Get in soon to reserve your spot!

[Register Now](#)

## Conference abstracts open now

Abstract submissions are now open for oral paper presentations, poster presentations and workshops for the AAAPC 2024 Annual Research Conference! Contributions are welcome from all aspects of primary care practice, research, education and policy across multidisciplinary perspectives. Abstracts should be 300 words or less. For more details and to submit an abstract check out our conference [webpage](#). **Abstract submissions close 5pm 19<sup>th</sup> of April, 2025.**



## Call for abstract reviewers

The AAAPC Conference committee invites you to help in the independent, double-blind peer review of conference abstracts. If you will be available in early May, please consider reviewing a handful of abstracts to ensure this AAAPC conference is of high-quality and interest to all our members. Reviewing is made easy with [prespecified criteria](#), and a mentor-mentee program for anyone looking to develop their skills in reviewing or mentoring. Fill out the [expression of interest form](#) online to put your name down.

## Members Noticeboard

The AAAPC [members noticeboard](#) is *the* space to post national and international primary care opportunities: jobs, research projects, guidelines and resources – really whatever you like!



Keep up to date with all the news by getting regular updates on noticeboard posts in your emails. Click [here](#) to subscribe, or navigate to the AAAPC members noticeboard (requires login) and click the subscribe button.

## Using the noticeboard is as easy as 1 - 2 - 3!

1. Sign into the AAAPC website and go to the [Members Only Section >> Noticeboard](#)
2. Underneath the big blue rectangle there is a 'Subscribe' button you can click to receive regular messages to your inbox.
3. If you would like to leave a message for other members, click the 'Create topic' button underneath the big blue rectangle.

## AAAPC Executive and Subcommittee Updates

**Executive committee updates:** The AAAPC remains in the green and is continuing to re-invest available funds into organisational and member benefits. Member awards are currently being considered (hardship award, travelling fellowship) for payment out over the coming months. Income is expected to rise in March with renewal of memberships, this will be used to support conference organisation, ongoing organisation administration (website, insurance etc) and member awards. The executive committee will raise the topic of a membership fee increase for members to vote at the Annual General Meeting 2024 as membership has remained stagnant for 5 years. The executive committee will meet again in March 2024.



AAAPC has 5 subcommittees dedicated to advancing the [AAAPC strategic plan](#) and building excellence in academic primary care.

Would you like to contribute to AAAPC in an official capacity? Build your networks and share your leadership expertise by getting involved as a member! Email your interest to [secretariat@aaapc.org.au](mailto:secretariat@aaapc.org.au)

## Subcommittee updates

**Academic Policy & Advocacy:** Has analysed a survey of active members and is making a plan to address member interests and concerns over the next 12 months. The focuses include advocacy for Primary Care funding and transparency of funding; the workforce crisis for all primary care professionals and the primary care scope of practice review; follow up on the 10yr primary care plan and Strengthening Medicare report; as well as

building relationships with local and federal policy influencers. The subcommittee will meet in the next month to discuss strategies moving forward.

**Membership Engagement:** Has analysed our last membership survey and presented findings to executive committee and is working on a plan to ensure value for members through regular webinars and workshops. The subcommittee continues to produce media and marketing materials for the organisation with an increasing focus on the 2024 conference – keep an eye on our twitter and LinkedIn page to get all the latest news and updates!

**Conference:** Has been busy with registrations and the abstract portal now open! The subcommittee has secured the venue, catering, and a few keynote speakers (to be announced soon!). The conference subcommittee will be on a sponsorship drive for the next month seeking funding from like-minded organisations to support a fantastic conference experience. This subcommittee will meet in Mid February to keep the momentum rolling, and even start discussing AAAPC2025!

**Education:** Has finished a draft discussion paper on Multidisciplinary team care in general practice and will work with the APA subcommittee on the potential development of a AAAPC position statement. The discussion paper will be shared widely with members once finalised via publication and/or AAAPC position statement. This subcommittee is also planning a webinar for members in June 2024 – watch this space for details!

**Early Career Academics:** Has matched the mentors and mentees for the Early Career and will lead two introductory sessions in the next couple of months for mentors and mentees. The subcommittee has drafted ethics application for program evaluation for submission through one academic institution. The subcommittee is also hosting a webinar in February by Associate Professor Ayton on consumer engagement and co-design.

## Upcoming Primary Care Opportunities

### International research funding opportunities

The **NIHR Health Technology Assessment Programme** in the UK has a long-standing collaboration with the Australian NHMRC and advertise joint commissioned calls inviting collaborative international research proposals to address shared research priorities. These collaborative commissioned calls are announced on the [NIHR](#) and funding [NHMRC](#) websites. There is also opportunity to suggest research topics that could go through the NIHR prioritisation process for future funding consideration. Joint funding applications between the UK and Australia may be one way to provide opportunity and solidify international relationships in primary health care research. Please contact the Secretariat if you have a research idea and we can put you in touch with the Society for Academic Primary Care (SAPC) in the UK who may be able to assist with facilitating collaboration with NIHR.

The **NHMRC-EU Collaborative Research Grant Scheme** supports Australian participation in international collaborative research under Horizon Europe. Several topics streams are available, with primary care applications for all streams. Find out more about how to apply [here](#), via GrantConnect.

### Australian primary care specific funding opportunities

A few primary care relevant grant opportunities that may be of interest for you or your team members:

- [MRFF Indigenous Health Research Fund- 2023 Indigenous health research opportunity](#). To improve the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of over 11 years. Due 6 March, 2024.
- **MRFF EPCDRI – 2023 Childhood mental health research grant opportunity**. To build knowledge of the factors that contribute to mental illness in children and keep children mentally healthy or to develop assessments, treatments, preventions or improve understanding of therapeutics for childhood mental illness and psychological distress. Due 27 March, 2024.
- **MRFF – EPCDRI &PHCRI – 2023 Multidisciplinary Models of Primary Care Grant Opportunity**, stream 1. To support a competitively selected primary care led national consortium that will focus on ways to think about primary care delivery through multidisciplinary team-based care. Applications or urban or a regional, rural and remote will be considered separately. Due 10 April, 2024.
- **MRFF – EPCDRI &PHCRI – 2023 Multidisciplinary Models of Primary Care Grant Opportunity**, stream 2. To prospectively evaluate patient registration and how effective it is in different settings. Applications or urban or a regional, rural and remote will be considered separately. Due 10 April, 2024.
- [MRFF – EPCDRI &PHCRI – 2023 Multidisciplinary Models of Primary Care Grant Opportunity](#), stream 3. TO develop and implement collaborative consortia that uses existing data assets to inform value-based care, promote information sharing, empower patients, and drive insights for planning resourcing and continuous QI. Due 10 April, 2024
- **MRFF – EPCDRI &PHCRI – 2023 Multidisciplinary Models of Primary Care Grant Opportunity** streams 4. To develop and implement multidisciplinary collaborative, regional consortia that design, implement and evaluate system level reform strategies for local integration. Applications or urban or a regional, rural and remote will be considered separately. Due 7 August, 2024.
- [NHMRC-European Union Collaborative Research Grant 2024](#). To facilitate collaboration and strengthen research impact and innovation for global health challenges. Potential primary care applications for streams in personalised prevention of non-communicable diseases; comparative effectiveness for healthcare interventions; and pandemic preparedness and response (adaptive platform trials for pandemic preparedness). Due 16 October, 2024.

**Remember to subscribe to GrantConnect.** GrantConnect provides a centralised publication of all forecast and current Australian Government grant opportunities via an online portal. To receive personalised research grant updates, make sure to input your research key words (separated by commas) when you register!

## UoW Rural Health Conference 2024

University of Wollongong Rural Health Research Conference 15 & 16 March, 2024. [Find out more here.](#)



**—Celebrating AAAPC Members**





Congratulations to some of our members on successful publications:

- **Michelle Gooley** and team: [Childhood obesity prevention in general practice: supporting implementation through co-ideation](#). *Family Practice*, January 2024.
- **Sally Hall** and team: [A novel methodological approach to participant engagement and policy relevance for community-based primary medical care research during the COVID-19 pandemic in Australia and New Zealand](#). *Health Research, Policy & Systems*, January 2024.
- **Emma Baillie** and team: [Early-career general practitioners' antibiotic prescribing for acute infections: a systematic review](#). *Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy*, January 2024.
- **Sarah Dennis** and team: [Improving musculoskeletal physiotherapists' confidence in patient centered care informed by acceptance and commitment therapy: a descriptive study](#). *Musculoskeletal Science and Practice*, January 2024.
- **Tim Stokes & Felicity Good-year Smith**: [The new coalition government: a step forward for primary care funding?](#) *Journal of Primary Health Care*, December 2023.
- **Catherine Spooner** and team: [Access to general practice for preventive health care for people who experience severe mental illness in Sydney, Australia: a qualitative study](#). *Australian Journal of Primary Health*, January 2024.
- **Liz Sturgiss** and team: [Pilot test of Consensus Reporting Items for Studies in Primary Care](#). *Primary Health care Research & Development*, January 2024.
- **Grant Russell** and team: [Leading primary care under the weight of COVID-19: How leadership was enacted in six Australian general practices during 2020](#). *Australian Journal of Primary Health*, January 2024.

This list does not comprehensively include the achievements of all of our members (sorry). Please send me an email at [katelyn.barnes@anu.edu.au](mailto:katelyn.barnes@anu.edu.au) when you or another member you know has an achievement that we can all celebrate! Some previous examples include a new PhD completion, publication, or an award. Remember to also tag @AAAPC\_ANZ in tweets about achievements in primary care -- we would love to share the joy!

### Welcome to New AAAPC Members

We would love to introduce all new members in the newsletter - it is a great way to build networks within our community, highlight your areas of research interest and projects you might be working on. If you would like your bio to be published in the monthly newsletter, please email [secretariat@aaapc.org.au](mailto:secretariat@aaapc.org.au) or [katelyn.barnes@anu.edu.au](mailto:katelyn.barnes@anu.edu.au). We are excited to meet you!

Until next time!

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