

2023 SEEDING GRANTS

Tips for grant success from the PRF Grants Review Committee

Part of the purpose of the PRF Seeding Grant application process is to enhance physiotherapists' grant writing skills so they can be more competitive for this and other funding opportunities. To this end, the Grants Review Committee has provided some suggestions based on their experience assessing PRF and other grant applications.

- 1. Ensure you directly address the evaluation criteria.**
 - Read the evaluation criteria carefully as applications that do not address these will not score highly.
 - Use key words from the criteria and directly outline how your project addresses them.

- 2. Make sure the methodology you are using, including your statistical analysis, is appropriate to answer each of the research questions proposed.**
 - If your proposed study is a pilot/ feasibility trial, ensure you utilise appropriate outcomes.

- 3. Qualitative research components need to be adequately discussed in mixed-methods studies.**
 - Allot a proportionate amount of the application to the qualitative aspects of the project.
 - Describe the qualitative methodology, sampling framework, sample size, methods and analysis in detail.
 - Use references to indicate sufficient knowledge about your chosen methodology.
 - Ensure trustworthiness and rigour discussions for the qualitative aspect of your project are appropriate for qualitative research (e.g., not 'reliability' or 'bias' but 'richness/depth', 'transferability', 'reflexivity' or similar).
 - Discuss how you will ensure qualitative rigour in your application (e.g., you have a qualitative researcher on your team or your team has sufficient experience in qualitative methodologies and methods).

- 4. Ensure adequate details are included for the knowledge translation strategy.**
 - This section requires further detail than simply saying you will publish your findings in a peer-reviewed journal and present at a particular conference (as these are considered as passive dissemination strategies).
 - The strategy does not have to be completed within the project timeframe: it can include future plans of how you see your research findings being translated by, and generate impact for, relevant stakeholders, including healthcare providers, managers, policy-makers, informal caregivers, patients, and the public in the improvement of health.
 - Consider including a variety of elements of knowledge translation such as knowledge synthesis, knowledge dissemination, knowledge exchange and knowledge application.
 - The strategy should be appropriate for the project. For example, for basic science research, knowledge translation may also comprise application of the findings to future research (and an explanation of how this will be achieved).
 - Describe how you will access your target populations (e.g., team members have existing connections)

- 5. Make sure you have a research team with the appropriate skills, expertise and time commitment to support your project.**
 - Where appropriate, please consider including consumers / people with lived experience of the condition on the team.



6. Consider your audience.

- Your application might be reviewed by people who may not have specific expertise in this area. Have someone not associated with the project carefully read the application to identify any areas that are not clear or inconsistent. Offer to do this for other people too! Reading other grants is a great way to improve your skills.

7. Address feedback from the EOI stage in the full application (only applicable if shortlisted to this stage)

- Make sure you carefully consider any issues identified by reviewers.
- While you do not necessarily need to provide a formal response, make sure it is clear in your full proposal any concerns will be addressed.