

East Metropolitan Health Service

Mental Health Research Fund



Prospectus



About the fund

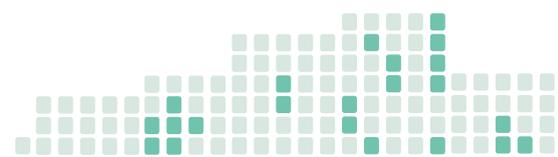
East Metropolitan Health Service (EMHS) has identified mental health as a key priority and has allocated \$1 million to fund research into improving the services provided to consumers experiencing mental illness within our community.

EMHS is one of the largest providers of both inpatient and community mental health services in Western Australia. Our services are extensive and varied, ranging from hospital inpatient clinics, to community outreach, to phone-based emergency triage. We care for youth, adults and older adults, and also provide specialist Aboriginal services, all across a large geographical area.

In addition to the inherent challenges faced by many consumers who may be experiencing mental illness, our dedicated staff and teams have identified a number of challenges to effective service delivery including ensuring effective transition of patients from inpatient to

community care. Front line staff are uniquely positioned to identify areas of potential improvement in how we deliver mental health services, or gaps in knowledge about mental illness, and to lead research and evaluation projects that can turn these insights into enduring practice changes and improved patient outcomes.

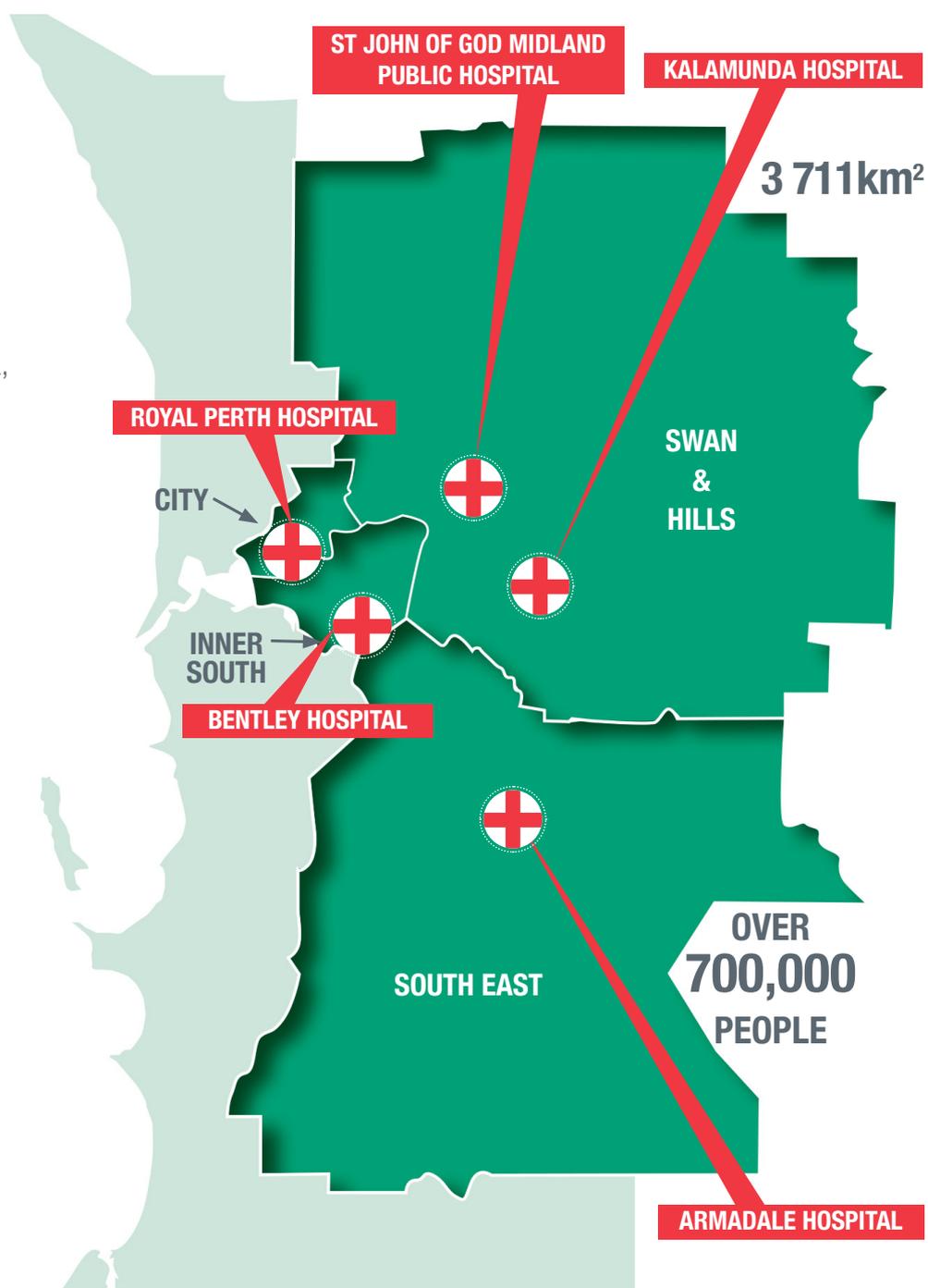
With this fund, EMHS hopes to encourage our staff and partners to develop their ideas into innovative and ambitious solutions to service delivery challenges by conducting rigorous research and evaluation projects that translate into improved services and better outcomes for our patients.



About the East Metropolitan Health Service (EMHS)

EMHS comprises an extensive hospital and health service network that aims to maintain and improve the health and wellbeing of more than 700,000 Western Australians in its catchment area.

Our network works together to provide a combination of tertiary, secondary and specialist health care services including emergency and critical care, state trauma, elective and emergency surgery, general medical, mental health, inpatient and outpatient services, aged care, palliative care, rehabilitation and women's, children's and neonates services.



Our Vision

Healthy people, amazing care.

Koorda moort, moorditj kwabadak.

EMHS Service delivery principles

EMHS has developed a range of service delivery principles that guide all aspects of our health service. Research is central to the service delivery principle of 'Intellectual curiosity', - particularly projects that directly translate into practice improvements, better patient outcomes and a healthier more skilled workforce.



High performing systems and teams

Developing and maintaining high performing systems and teams to ensure our stakeholders have confidence in the care that we provide, both now and in the future.



Supporting cultural diversity

Partnering with Aboriginal and culturally diverse communities to provide networks that are free from prejudice and are culturally informed.



Consumer-centred

Providing consumer-centred care that empowers individuals to optimise their health and wellbeing.



Intellectual curiosity

Exploring and leading the translation of research into evidence based practice and innovations that will deliver excellent health outcomes.



Active partnerships

Working with our partners to build and facilitate health and wellbeing in our communities.



Valuing our staff

Standing out in our field as an employer of choice.



Doing the right thing

Encouraging and empowering our staff and consumers in making the right decisions to support better health outcomes.



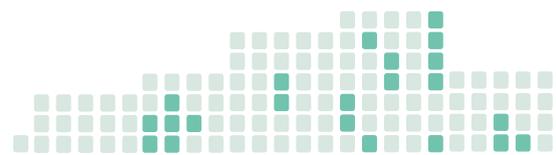
EMHS Research strategy 2019-2022

This investment in mental health research aligns with EMHS's vision for research: *Improving the health of our patients and communities, and delivering amazing care through health research.*

EMHS launched a new research strategy in mid-2019, which highlights the increasing focus the health service places on research.

Our research strategy focuses on:

- Embedding research into core business, removing barriers to research and increasing research capacity
- Translating knowledge gained through research into evidence-based practices and technologies that improve patient outcomes and deliver outstanding care





About EMHS mental health services

EMHS is one of the largest providers of both inpatient and community mental health services in Western Australia.

EMHS hospitals offer a range of inpatient mental health services. In the Eastern corridor, Armadale Health Service provides 33 adult inpatient beds (Moodjar and Karri wards) and a high dependency unit (Yorgum). Bentley Hospital has an extensive range of adult and older adult inpatient mental health services and, in June 2018, opened a new dedicated youth mental health ward, called the East Metropolitan Youth Unit (EMyU). This unit is a 12 bed inpatient service that provides 24/7 mental health inpatient care for young people aged 16 to 24 presenting with complex and acute mental health issues, with a focus on early episode interventions.

Mental health services at Royal Perth Hospital (RPH) currently consist of an adult open unit (Ward 2K) that provides care for voluntary acute patients aged 18 to 65 and the RPH Addiction, Psychiatry, Intervention and Discharge (RAPID) Service is a 24/7 service that provides psychiatric assessment within the RPH Emergency Department

(ED). A dedicated Urgent Care Clinic (Toxicology) within the RPH ED provides specialist treatment to drug and alcohol affected patients; while a new Mental Health Emergency Centre (MHEC) will open in late 2019 and will provide eight treatment spaces for short stay voluntary patients. Planning for a new authorised Mental Health Unit at RPH is also underway.

St John of God Midland Public Hospital's 56-bed Mental Health Unit provides a multidisciplinary service to people who need mental health care.

EMHS community mental health services provide a range of outpatient services including treatment, urgent assessment and intervention. The City East and Midland Community Mental Health Services provide access to adult outpatient mental health services including treatment, urgent assessment and intervention. Their multi-disciplinary team includes psychiatrists, nurses and allied health staff who provide

triage, assessment and short-term care and treatment options for patients.

The Wungen Kartup Specialist Aboriginal Mental Health Service supports both Aboriginal consumers and carers in accessing mainstream mental health services, and in better meeting the needs of Aboriginal people.

EMHS also operates a Mobile Clinical Outreach Team (MCOT) that provides a coordinated model of care for those sleeping rough and the 24/7 Mental Health Emergency Response Line (MHERL) that provides assessment, specialist intervention and support for people experiencing a mental health emergency.

Objectives

The EMHS Mental Health Research Fund supports research and evaluation projects designed to improve our knowledge of mental illness, the effectiveness of the provision of mental health services to the EMHS community, as well as improved patient outcomes.

EMHS has identified a number of target areas for investigation:

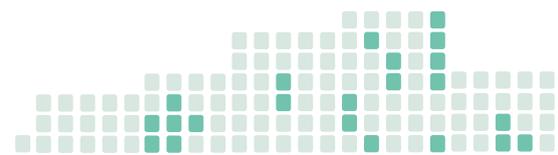
1. Improving service delivery models, clinical pathways and care transition

- How can we better predict fluctuations in demand for EMHS mental health services?
- Is the seven day community care follow up KPI the ideal time point?
- How can we involve patients and their families in care planning to improve discharge and prevent re-admission, especially for patients with chronic mental illnesses?
- How can we better understand the patient journey and opportunities to improve this?
- How can we remove barriers to accessing mental services to people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) backgrounds?
- How can we integrate culturally informed and evidence based diagnosis and treatment into our mental health services for Aboriginal people?

- How can we strengthen mental health models of service delivery, especially focussing on service provision in the community?
- What strategies might be deployed to better manage and reduce violence?
- How can we better support our staff and ensure their wellbeing?

2. Improving our understanding of the causes, prevention and treatment of mental illness

- What early intervention or health promotion programs are effective in reducing the burden of mental illness?
- Can a better understanding of the social determinants of mental illness improve prevention and treatment?
- How can we improve the physical health of patients with mental illness?
- How might we mitigate the increase of disorders such as Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and autism?



Eligibility criteria

Projects must relate to the provision of mental health services within EMHS.

- Projects must have the potential to be of value to EMHS and the broader health service and to be translated into meaningful and enduring improvements to mental health services within a 2 year timeframe (1 January 2020 to 31 December 2021).
- There must be a significant contribution to the project by EMHS employees, although the lead researcher can be from a partner organisation.
- The work must be substantially undertaken within the East Metropolitan Health Service (EMHS) (i.e. Royal Perth Hospital, Bentley Hospital, Armadale Health Service, Kalamunda Hospital, St John of God Midland Public Hospital, EMHS Population and Community Health Programs).
- Collaboration between multiple EMHS hospitals, services and departments and partnerships with other health services, primary care networks and universities is strongly encouraged.
- It is expected that partner organisations will match the funding provided by EMHS with in-kind support and/or a monetary contribution.
- Projects that incorporate a research capacity building component and provide a lasting legacy for the EMHS site/s (e.g., an ongoing academic partnership; new internal EMHS collaborations; up-skilled staff; research-specific equipment/infrastructure) are highly desirable.





Available funding

It is anticipated that the fund will provide a maximum of \$200,000 per project for periods up to 2 years. However, acknowledging the breadth of scope of projects envisaged, the total funding will be determined based on the needs of each project.

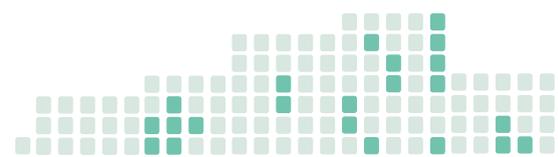
Other factors, including the level of in-kind support or matched funding from partner organisations, will be taken into account.

Funding is available to cover the **direct costs of the project**, including:

- Project-specific salary support for research personnel (eg project coordinator; research associate)
- Materials and consumables
- Specialist equipment essential for the project (the equipment will remain the property of EMHS)
- Expert services (eg biostatistical or health economist services)
- Dissemination, engagement and translation activities (these are considered key aspects of projects to be funded)

Funds **cannot** be used for:

- Salary recovery for investigators already employed by EMHS or a partner
- Infrastructure costs – such as building, basic services and utilities – or the cost of large equipment
- Organisational overheads and indirect costs
- Travel and overseas allowances
- Non-research related activities



Expressions of interest

Expressions of interest are due by **5pm Friday 22nd November 2019**.

Applications can be made using the **Expression of Interest Form** which can be found at: www.emhs.health.wa.gov.au/research/funding

Applications will be assessed by a Review Panel that will determine if the proposed project has merit, is feasible and is aligned with the objectives of the Fund, particularly with respect to the potential impact and translation into improved services.

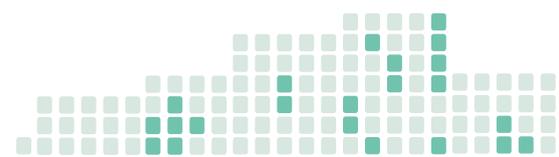
The Review Panel may seek further information from applicants and/or request a meeting with applicants before making a final decision.

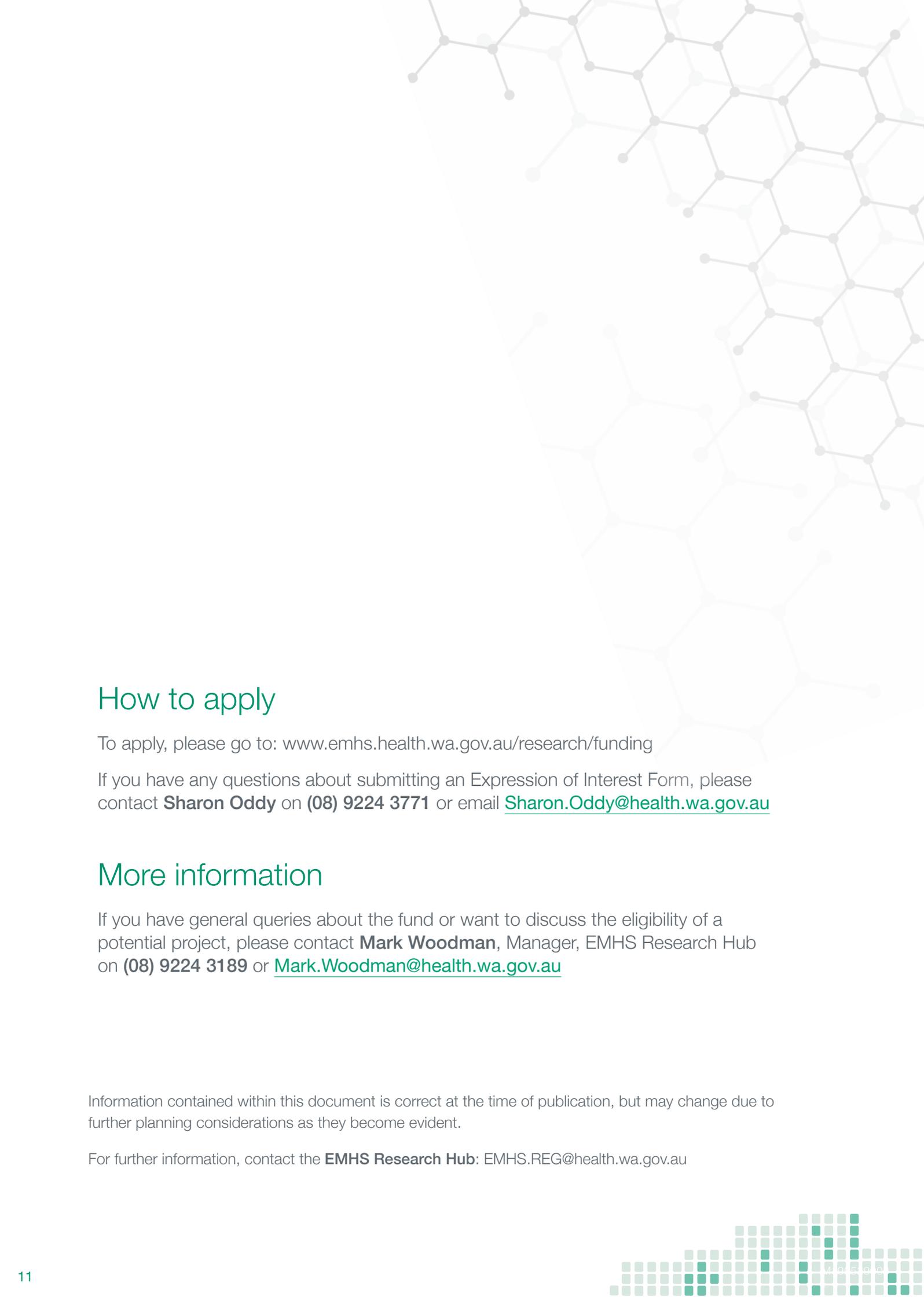
The purpose of this fund is to support close-to-practice research and evaluation projects with high potential to translate rapidly into improved EMHS mental health services.

It is understood that these projects often arise from observations and ideas generated by clinical teams in the course of their work and don't always emerge in time for grant submission deadlines. With this in mind, and depending on the mix of projects supported during this round, a second funding round may be offered in future.

Assessment criteria

Applications for will be assessed on the following criteria:	Score
Scientific merit	30
Feasibility How feasible is the project - and achievable the aims - based on the team, budget and timeline	15
Novelty and relevance to the fund objectives and target areas Relevance to EMHS service delivery and patient outcomes	20
Impact and translation Potential to directly and rapidly improve EMHS services and/or the burden of mental illness on the patient population	30
Health service and community engagement plans Consulting, informing and collaborating with the community	5
TOTAL	100





How to apply

To apply, please go to: www.emhs.health.wa.gov.au/research/funding

If you have any questions about submitting an Expression of Interest Form, please contact **Sharon Oddy** on **(08) 9224 3771** or email Sharon.Oddy@health.wa.gov.au

More information

If you have general queries about the fund or want to discuss the eligibility of a potential project, please contact **Mark Woodman**, Manager, EMHS Research Hub on **(08) 9224 3189** or Mark.Woodman@health.wa.gov.au

Information contained within this document is correct at the time of publication, but may change due to further planning considerations as they become evident.

For further information, contact the **EMHS Research Hub**: EMHS.REG@health.wa.gov.au