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## MMS CTCS Grant Review Support and other Clinical Trials Initiatives

### MMS Grant Review Support for NHMRC Clinical Trials and Cohort Studies Round

The Melbourne Medical School (MMS) is engaging the services of external grant development and communications consultant [Dr Tanya Bradford](#) to offer grant review support for NHMRC Clinical Trials and Cohort Studies applicants from the MMS in the current round. If you are developing an application this year and are interested in receiving Tanya's strategic review and feedback on it, contact [David Lane](#) (MMS Research Manager).

### MISCH Grant Workshop – Building Bridges to Funding: Constructing a Successful Grant Application

This two-hour cross-school workshop will feature presentations on budgeting for success, advice from panelists and tips from those who have achieved success in securing funding from clinical trial schemes. The aim is to empower researchers to navigate the complexities of the application process, optimize their proposals, and enhance their chances of success in obtaining funding. **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023, 1:30pm-3:30pm** | Read more and register [here](#) | Enquiries: [misch-info@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:misch-info@unimelb.edu.au)

### VCCC Alliance Workshop – Clearing the path: breaking down roadblocks for early career researchers and clinicians in investigator-initiated trials

The workshop will be hosted by Dr. Kortnye Smith. **Date: 22 June 2023. Time: 3.30 - 4.30 pm. Location: Zoom.** During this workshop, Dr. Smith will share her valuable insights and experiences on overcoming challenges faced by early career researchers and clinicians in investigator-initiated trials, she will also present a unique opportunity to learn more about what the VCCC Alliance Clinical Trialist Development Hub has to offer. To register for the workshop, please click [here](#).

### VCCC Alliance – Melbourne MicroCert: Clinical Trial Protocol Design Scholarships

The scholarship is supported by the VCCC Alliance [Accelerating Novel Therapies program](#) and [Clinical Trial Innovations program](#). It will cover 75% of the fee and at this moment there are 20 to allocate. Here are some key details about the UniMelb Microcerts program in Clinical Trial Protocol Design: **Program Overview:** The program is designed for professionals and individuals interested in clinical trial protocol design. It covers essential topics such as protocol development, study design, ethical considerations, regulatory compliance, and data management.

**Duration:** 6 Weeks.

**Course Date:** 21 August 2023 - 1 October 2023.

**Delivery:** Online.

**MicroCert Link:** [Clinical Trial Protocol Design - Melbourne MicroCert \(unimelb.edu.au\)](https://unimelb.edu.au)

To learn more about the program, eligibility criteria, and the scholarship application process, please visit [Melbourne MicroCert: Clinical Trial Protocol Design scholarships | 2023 | VCCC Alliance](#). Feel free to reach out to Elizabeth Diao ([elizabeth.diao@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:elizabeth.diao@unimelb.edu.au)) if you have any further queries or require additional information. The application deadline for the scholarship is **Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July**, so act promptly to secure your chance at this valuable opportunity.

### VCCC Alliance Workshop Opportunity – Registry Trial

There is a free, full-day, catered concept development workshop for registry trials designed for scientists, clinicians and trials staff on **August 25<sup>th</sup>** - the agenda is packed, and it promises to be a great networking/educational event.

[Registry-Based Clinical Trials Protocol Development Workshop | 2023 | VCCC Alliance](#). Please contact Eleonora Kay at [eleonora.kay@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:eleonora.kay@unimelb.edu.au) if have any questions about this event.

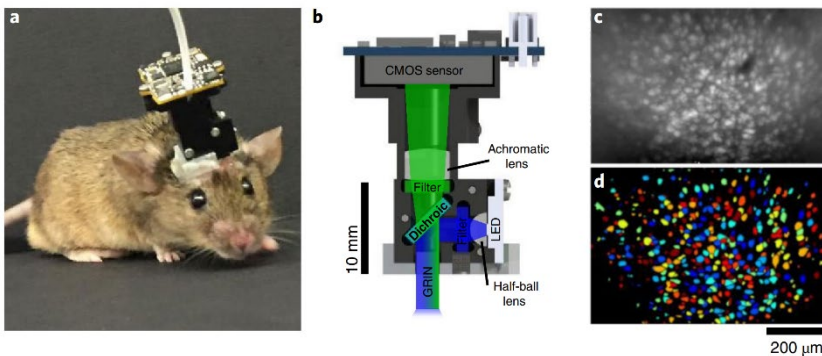
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## Academic Translational Seminars RMH

The Department of Medicine RMH welcomes you to join us for the following presentation – **Dr Daniel Aharoni** from UCLA who will giving a seminar/workshop on his remarkable **“Brain Cameras” or Miniscopes** that allow widefield calcium imaging of very large numbers of neurons in freely behaving mice. This technology is open source and budget friendly facilitating use by a wide range of labs.

### Event Details:

- Date & Time: Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> July 2023 @11:00am – 12:00pm
- In-person: Venue: Kenneth Myer Building, room to be announced.
- Virtual: Zoom [Link](#) & Password: RMHseminar



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## Career Continuity Grant for Early Career Researchers – New MDHS Internal Grant Scheme

As we strive to promote diversity, equity and inclusion across the faculty, it is crucial that we support our talented staff who become parents. We want to ensure their research careers flourish, and that a diversity of researchers succeed in the competitive fields of health and medical research. Parenthood is a transformative experience that brings immense joy and fulfillment but also introduces unique challenges to career progression. Many early career academics in our faculty, especially women, face barriers to progressing their careers while balancing their parental responsibilities.

The **Career Continuity Grant for early career researchers** aims to foster a supportive environment for new parents to continue research activity when taking or returning from parental leave. This could include, for example, hiring staff to maintain research continuity and alleviate the workload on the researcher when they return, or support for travel and child-care expenses, while attending conferences/workshops.

Applicants are encouraged to consider how the grant can off-set the impacts of a sustained period of leave on their research activity. Individual circumstances vary, and applicants are encouraged to discuss with their supervisor how best to ensure their work continues in their absence.

### What can the grant be used for?

The funding is to support research-related activity prior to, during or when returning from parental leave.

Grants can be used for direct research costs including salary allocations to manage a large grant or contract, publication fees, conference registrations, and/or work-related travel expenses for a carer/family member.

The grant can also be used for professional development purposes (e.g., conference support or career planning) to assist with re-integrating and returning to work following a parental leave period.

The grant is a maximum allocation of \$40,000 for salary and research-related expenses over a maximum 12-month term.

### Who can apply?

The grants are available to Level A, B and C researchers in the faculty who take a period of parental leave or are returning from parental leave (including birth-related or adoption-related leave), of at least 3 months, between June 2023-2024.

### How to apply

Applications are now open and close on **14 August 2023**.

Please visit our [web page](#) to read the guidelines, FAQs and eligibility criteria. If you would like to discuss the initiative further, please contact myself or [mdhs-diversity@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:mdhs-diversity@unimelb.edu.au)

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## Now Open: Takeda Partnering program- COCKPI-T

Please find attached a flyer with some key briefing information regarding Takeda's COCKPIT program. A dedicated website has been launched and more information can be found at

<https://www.takeda.com/en-au/what-we-do/research--development/cockpi-t/>

### Why is this important?

These types of programs are crucial to the Victorian Government, as they promote translation, industry collaboration and investment into the Victorian ecosystem. The COCKPI-T program has already facilitated significant collaborations across Australia, showcasing its potential for driving international investment into Australian research.

### Next steps

Please contact your business development colleague or Dhiraj Hans, Senior Business Development Manager ([Dhiraj.hans@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:Dhiraj.hans@unimelb.edu.au)) if you would like to submit application.

### Further information

Focus area for Takeda includes Neuroscience, Oncology, Gastroenterology and platform technology.

**Application submission deadline: 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023**

### Last year's COCKPI-T program

<https://www.takeda.com/en-au/what-we-do/research--development/cockpi-t>