

Sydney Dementia Network EMCR Research Impact Award

APPLICATIONS OPEN: 29th November 2024

APPLICATIONS CLOSE: 14th February 2025 5pm

Aim

The Sydney Dementia Network (SDN) Research Impact Awards program celebrates outstanding dementia research impact. The SDN Executive seeks to recognise and commend research with impact or planned impact. We seek to award early-mid career researchers.

Objectives

- Acknowledge and reward research excellence and impact at early-mid career levels.
- Raise awareness of the research and impact of the Sydney Dementia Network.
- Encourage researchers to reflect on and plan for impact.

Key dates

29 th Nov 2024	Applications open
14 th Feb 2025	Applications close
14 th Feb 2025– 7 th March 2025	Assessment of BMC Research Excellence Awards
14 th March 2025	Notification of outcome Awards will be presented at the Sydney Dementia Network annual symposium 21 st March 2025.

Award

- Four applicants will be awarded an e-shop voucher prize, valued at \$200.
- Two awards will be made to basic science researchers (ECR/MCR), the other award will be made to clinical and public health researchers (ECR/MCR).
- Successful applicants will be invited to present their work in a rapid-fire presentation at the 2025 Sydney Dementia Network symposium, 21st March 2025.

Eligibility

- Research must be led by a researcher who is a member of the Sydney Dementia Network, and be dementia related.
- The applicant must hold a PhD and be less than 10 years post-doctoral (or equivalent opportunity, allowing for [career disruptions](#)).

Application Process

All applications require:

- The researcher's details, including year PhD awarded, and years working in research post-PhD
- Research documentation for the award – e.g. bibliography with DOI links for supporting research papers, reports, patents etc.
- A 150-word lay summary of their body of research, including their individual contribution.
- A maximum 150-word narrative describing the scientific research impact using relevant

metrics (e.g., Altmetrics, engagement, citations, Field-weighted citation index) and other evidence (e.g. invitations to speak, use of methods by other groups).

- A maximum 150-word narrative describing actual, in-progress or planned impact on policy, practice, society or other real-world areas.
- Only one application per applicant, per round, is permitted. Applications will be assessed by the Sydney Dementia Network Executive Committee.

Applicants should submit a completed application form via email to bmc.sydneydementianetwork@sydney.edu.au **14th February 2025 5pm.**

All enquiries regarding the scheme can be emailed to:
bmc.sydneydementianetwork@sydney.edu.au

Assessment Criteria

Section 1 – Description of Research Impact on Scientific Knowledge (maximum 150 words):

Where appropriate the following metrics may be used by applicants to provide evidence of scientific impact:

- Altmetric Score
- Engagement (e.g., number of downloads, engagement with news sources)
- % field ranking (provided for end date of submission period)
- Scopus database journal disciplinary ranking
- Scopus database citations
- Scopus database journal categorisation
- Field-weighted citation index

Section 2 – Description of Research Impact on Policy, Practice, Society or other real-world areas (maximum 150 words):

Where appropriate to the type of research output, the following may be used to provide evidence of impact.

This may include:

- Citations in clinical guidelines or policy documents
- Partnerships with organisations to plan impact or to implement research evidence
- Meetings or presentations with named stakeholders to influence change
- Public presentations or media including social media

Appendix – Scoring rubric

Applications will be assessed relative to opportunity

Section	5	4	3	2	1
Research impact on scientific knowledge and other academics	Demonstrates substantial influence through numerous highly cited publications, significant methodological contributions, or frequent invitations to deliver keynotes at prestigious workshops and conferences.	Exhibits strong influence with several well-cited publications and notable contributions to methodology or participation in significant academic events.	Shows moderate influence with some cited publications and contributions to academic discussions or events.	Has minimal but noticeable impact through a few publications or participations in academic events.	Lacks clear impact on scientific knowledge with no or very few citations and minimal engagement in academic discourse.
Research impact on policy, practice, society or other real-world areas. This can be actual impact or anticipated impact (including plan for achieving this impact).	Demonstrates real world impact through engagement with and changes instituted by policy makers, clinicians, industry leaders, the community or other end-users of research.	Shows impact or potential for impact with evidence of initial engagement with relevant stakeholders and clear plans for future influence.	Has moderate impact or potential for impact with some documented interactions with stakeholders and some plans for enhancing impact.	Shows limited impact or potential with minimal evidence of stakeholder engagement and vague plans for future activities.	Fails to demonstrate any real-world impact or plans for achieving such impact, with no evidence of engagement with relevant stakeholders.

Appendix – Application Template

First name	
Last name	
Email	
Career level: ECR or MCR	
Date of PhD award	
Years working in research post PhD award	
If you are claiming ECR but more than 5 years post PhD or MCR but are more than 10 years post PhD, provide justification of eligibility including details of career disruption, adhering to the NHMRC Relative to Opportunity Policy (max. 200 words)	
Lay summary of body of research, including individual contribution (max. 150 words)	
Scientific research impact using relevant metrics (e.g., Altmetrics, engagement, citations, Field-weighted citation index and/or other evidence) (max. 150 words)	
Actual, in-progress or planned impact on policy, practice, society or other real-world areas (max. 150 words)	