

REQUEST FOR ENDORSEMENT POLICY	
Initiated by: Hypertension Taskforce	Approved by: Hypertension Taskforce Steering Committee
Version: 1.0	Date Approved: tbc
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The National Hypertension Taskforce (the ‘Taskforce’) is committed to its mission of more than doubling blood pressure control rates from 32% to 70% by 2030. To further this mission, the Taskforce may consider endorsing research projects, collaborations, and funding opportunities that align with its goals and values. This endorsement policy outlines the criteria and procedures for seeking and granting endorsements from the Taskforce and aims to ensure a consistent and transparent approach for handling requests related to the work of the National Hypertension Taskforce.

This policy document pertains to:

- Funding opportunities
- In-kind FTE support
- Public policy statements (in compliance with the publication policy)
- Advocacy positions to government
- Campaigns

1. Definitions

The Taskforce is committed to supporting its members to attract funding and other resources for projects that align with the Taskforce roadmap, strategic priorities and initiatives.

There are different types of support the Taskforce may be able to provide, for example:

In-principle support The Taskforce is in favour of the proposal or project, based on the information provided. The principle, or the idea, seems good and the Taskforce agrees with the outcome or benefit received. Support from the Taskforce could be in various forms, such as a Letter of Support for a grant/funding application; dissemination of research knowledge through Taskforce members; in-kind FTE support; offering use of the Taskforce brand and resources, including the mission statement, roadmap and logo.

Contractual partnerships and agreements As the Taskforce is not a legal entity but rather a joint initiative established between the following Parties:

Australian Cardiovascular Alliance ABN 13 607 436 671 of PO Box 5436, Chittaway Bay NSW 2261

and

Hypertension Australia ABN 26 232 149 770 of PO Box 5436,
Chittaway Bay NSW 2261

Any request for a contractual partnership will require support and endorsement from the Taskforce Steering Committee and final approval from the respective Boards of both Parties.

2. Endorsement Criteria

The Taskforce will consider endorsing requests that meet the following criteria:

2.1. Alignment with Mission

The request must align with the mission and objectives of the Taskforce and its Roadmap.

2.2. Scientific Merit

Research projects should adhere to the NHMRC Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research and demonstrate scientific rigor, innovation, and the potential to contribute significantly to the field of hypertension.

2.3. Impact

The request should have the potential to positively impact health outcomes related to hypertension, such as improved prevention, diagnosis, treatment, or awareness.

2.4. Ethical Considerations

All requests must adhere to the NHMRC ethical principles and guidelines for research and collaboration.

2.5. Transparency

Requests for endorsement should provide clear and transparent information about the purpose, goals, funding sources, and potential conflicts of interest.

3. Process

To request endorsement from the Taskforce, individuals or organisations must submit a formal request to the Taskforce Steering Committee. The request should include the following information:

- a. Name of Principal Investigator (CIA), Co-Principal Investigator(s) group (CIs) or organisation.
- b. Project title, name of funding agency and amount of funding being requested.
- c. A description highlighting the objectives of the project/grant application; and explaining why the Taskforce, under the auspice of the Australian Cardiovascular Alliance Ltd (ACvA) and Hypertension Australia Ltd, should endorse the project; and how the Taskforce will be engaged in the project.
- d. Name of the person and institution requesting endorsement.
- e. Any instructions and guidelines that may apply.

The applicant must follow these steps:

1. Send an email to the ACvA (acva@ozheart.org) as far as possible ahead of your deadline.
2. Your request will be forwarded to the Taskforce Steering Committee to review.

3. The Taskforce Steering Committee will assess each request individually based on the Endorsement Criteria (Section 2).
4. Once the above steps have been completed and endorsement approved by the appropriate bodies, ACvA and Hypertension Australia will notify the requesting party of the decision within a reasonable timeframe. If the request is approved, the Taskforce may provide an official endorsement statement or letter.

4. Endorsement Terms

Endorsements granted by the Taskforce are subject to terms and conditions outlined in the endorsement letter. These terms may include reporting requirements, acknowledgment of endorsement and approval for use of logos, and periodic reviews of progress.

All endorsements granted by the Taskforce must include the following statement:

“The National Hypertension Taskforce is a joint initiative of the Australian Cardiovascular Alliance Ltd and Hypertension Australia Ltd.”

5. Revocation of Endorsement

The Taskforce reserves the right to revoke its endorsement if the endorsed project, collaboration, or opportunity no longer aligns with the criteria or values of the Taskforce, or if ethical concerns arise during the course of the endorsed activity.

6. Public Awareness

The Taskforce may promote endorsed activities through its communication channels to increase awareness and support for hypertension-related initiatives.

7. Revisions

This endorsement policy may be revised periodically to reflect changes in the goals and priorities of the Taskforce.