



**CUREator**

*EOI call for Round 2 applications Webinar*

*27-July 2022*



# The life science challenge:

## No clear path for early-stage research commercialisation



### Access to funds

Limited access to funds for post-discovery, early-stage companies



### Commercial guidance

Companies need access to experience and networks that make them more investable



### Risk appetite

Even early-stage investors need to see project traction before they invest

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CUREator provides commercial grant funding and support with an investor lens to make biomedical assets more investable



Australia's national biotech incubator  
focused on accelerating commercialisation  
for early-stage life science companies



### Non-dilutive early-stage capital

Early-stage support, specifically for life science companies.



### Commercial guidance

Commercially driven go/no-go decision gates. Expedited deliverable outcomes and access to commercial networks and experience.



### Investor-relevant endpoints

Project de-risking and driving projects to a commercial inflection point to attract follow on investment.



## Available streams

*Each project supported by CUREator will need to be carefully designed, with clearly defined project deliverables and early go/no-go milestones to ensure they reach completion on time, delivering key value-adding and de-risking milestones during the grant period*

### Preclinical Stream

Biomedical innovation projects with commercial focus

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### Clinical Stream

Supporting clinical trial design and commencement for projects developing novel therapeutics or new uses for known drugs

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### Health Security Stream

Projects focused on biomedical innovation in the interest of national health security and medical countermeasures.

# Preclinical Stream

Funding available is up to \$500K

*Supports preclinical medical research or medical innovation projects based in Australia with commercial potential*

- Projects must conduct obvious key milestone tests and/or experiments in anticipation of achieving all or some of the following:
  - de-risking an asset
  - confirming a proof of concept
  - working towards improving the attractiveness and investability of the project
- This is likely to include studies such as:
  - key proof-of-concept experiments
  - mechanism of action studies
  - lead optimisation and lead selection
  - formal development
  - indication selection
  - commercial positioning
  - validation activities

# Clinical Stream



Funding available is up to \$1.5 million

*Supports the clinical development of novel drugs, or novel uses for existing drugs with commercial potential*

- Project funding will be directed towards supporting the design, commencement and/or completion of phase 1 and phase 2 clinical studies, including investigator led and multi-centre studies.
- Patient studies (phase 1b and 2a and beyond) will be designed to:
  - validate safety
  - generate evidence of efficacy - using both traditional measures of disease and novel, cutting edge biomarkers and analysis.

# Health Security Stream



Funding available is up to \$500K

*Supports projects that improve Australia's preparedness and responsiveness to human health threats*

- Projects will be focused on the development of therapies or other assets and/or activities that improve Australia's health security or address a known capability or capacity gap for national health security including:
  - infectious disease resilience;
  - preparedness and response; or
  - manufacturing related to health security

## Joint Funding: Preclinical or Clinical + Health Security Stream

Joint with Preclinical Stream: Funding available is up to \$1M

Joint with Clinical Stream: Funding available is up to \$2M

- Joint funding must demonstrate clear commercial potential for these opportunities



### ELIGIBILITY

- Proposed activities must be performed in Australia where possible.
- Team/Company has exclusive rights to background IP.
- Preclinical, Clinical and Joint Streams only:  
Recipients must be a “for profit” ASIC-registered SME (1-199 employees).

### DESIGN

- 1–2-year project duration.
- Milestone based, with clearly defined “go/no-go”.
- Highly recommended to have activities or commercial inflection points validated by potential partners or investors.

### FUNDING

- Milestone based, tranced funding.
- Funds allocated to critical path experiments.
- Consider leveraging funding.
- Check grant guidelines for full funding eligibility criteria.

### REPORTING

- Streamlined reporting requirements.
- Management review committee process.



## Summary of CUREator Funding Opportunities

Stream	Preclinical	Clinical	Health Security	Joint preclinical + health security	Joint clinical + health security
<b>Projects supported:</b>	Preclinical medical research or medical innovation projects with commercial potential	Clinical development of novel drugs, or novel uses for existing drugs with commercial potential	Projects that improve Australia's preparedness and responsiveness to human health threats	Preclinical projects with a Health Security focus with commercial potential	Clinical projects with a Health Security focus with commercial potential
<b>Funding available</b>	Up to \$500,000	Up to \$1,500,000	Up to \$500,000	Up to \$1,000,000	Up to \$2,000,000
<b>Successful applicants need to be an SME</b>	Yes	Yes	Not applicable	Yes	Yes
<b>Research team/ company has access to exclusive rights to background IP</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

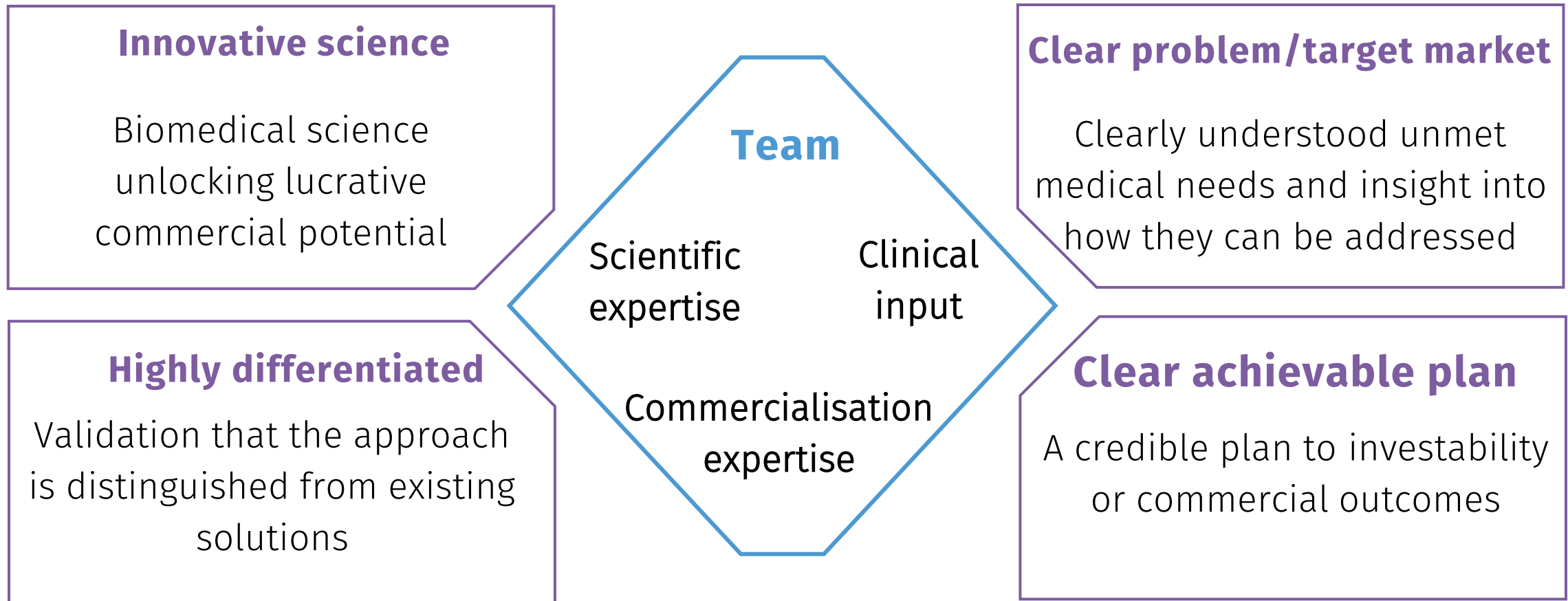
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How to build a successful application



# Targeted projects:

What are we looking for in applications?



# Key insights from Round 1 awardees



## Team

- Build the right team: Expertise and commercial experience well regarded
- Get the right support: Work with your TTO/BD as part of the process

## Clear problem/target market

- Think about the final product, who will use it and in which way

## Clear achievable plan

- Provide commercial validation of objectives/plan
- Focus on use of funds to address key risks, outside of BAU
- Link to outcomes: requested support needs to credibly link to company commercial inflection
- Capital efficient: Leveraged funding, not simply financial de-risking
- Proactive post-award: timelines for company formation require it!

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How to apply





## Application roadmap

Successful Round 2 CUREator applications will be announced in early-2023



**EOI applications**

19<sup>th</sup> July – 29<sup>th</sup> August 2022



**Full applications**

Q3 2022



**Due diligence and investment selection**

Q4 2022



**Round 2 announced**

Q1 2023

# CUREator round 2 is now open for applications



- ❑ The application portal for Round 2 is now open <https://cureator.awardsplatform.com>
- ❑ Visit [www.brandonbiocatalyst.com/cureator](http://www.brandonbiocatalyst.com/cureator) for guidelines and FAQs
- ❑ Contact CUREator at [info@cureator.com.au](mailto:info@cureator.com.au)
  
- ❑ **Roadshow update:** In an effort to keep our attendees and staff safe due to the high COVID burden across Australia currently, CUREator has decided to host meetings as part of the national roadshow virtually. These sessions are scheduled from 10 am to 3pm AEST for the following dates: Tue 2<sup>nd</sup> August / Thu 4<sup>th</sup> August / Tue 9<sup>th</sup> August / Thu 11<sup>th</sup> August / Tue 16<sup>th</sup> August / Thu 18<sup>th</sup> August.

The CUREator team invites those interested in applying for CUREator Round 2 funding to contact us at [info@curator.com.au](mailto:info@curator.com.au) to **book a slot** to meet with the CUREator team. Meeting time will be a maximum of 20 minutes and we ask teams to please consult one another prior to arranging a meeting to insure there isn't any duplication of meetings scheduled. Please propose 3 suitable times within the corresponding open dates below and the CUREator team will endeavour to arrange a meeting. To direct the conversation prior to the scheduled meeting we propose for teams to pre-submit any question(s) and indicate the stream they wish to apply for prior to the meeting upon meeting requests.



# CUREATOR

[www.brandonbiocatalyst.com/cureator](http://www.brandonbiocatalyst.com/cureator)  
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