

Western Australian Future Health Research and Innovation Fund

Evaluation Plan

Office of Medical Research and Innovation

Version 3.0

February 2023

The Evaluation Plan is not an instrument to open opportunities to modify the legislation, Strategy, or other FHRI Fund strategic instruments at this point in time. At the scheduled and appropriate times improvement will be made to the strategic instruments per improvement recommendations that are evidenced by analysed qualitative and quantitative data in evaluation reports.

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Evaluation Plan on a Page

Background

The Future Heath Research and Innovation Fund (FHRI Fund) commenced its activities in 2020. The FHRI Fund provides a secure source of funding to support the four subsections of the object of the Western Australian Future Health Research and Innovation Fund Act 2012 (WA):

Improve the financial sustainability WA's health system

Improve WA's economic prosperity

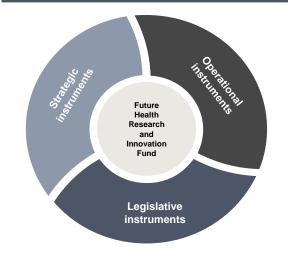
Improve the health and wellbeing of Western Australians

Advance WA to being, or maintaining WA's position as, a national or international leader in qualifying activities

Purpose

The evaluation of the FHRI Fund aims to facilitate the continuous improvement of the FHRI Fund and its instruments, such as Programs & Initiatives and the Strategy. It is important to evaluate the appropriateness, effectiveness, and efficiency of FHRI Fund's instruments, the impacts of those instruments, and how these contribute to the object of the Act. This will inform decisions such as strategy development and grant allocation. An evidence-based, globally informed, and flexible evaluation will allow the effectiveness, efficiency and appropriateness of the FHRI Fund to be determined, allowing for targeted support and consideration to be delivered.

Areas of Evaluation



Guiding Principles







Credible



Capability uplift



Tailored



Minimise burden

Evaluation Types



Formative (process)

Aims to assess the process of determination and implementation of FHRI Fund instruments and inform improvements to said instruments. Formative evaluations will measure the effectiveness, efficacy, and appropriateness of the instruments.



Summative (impact)

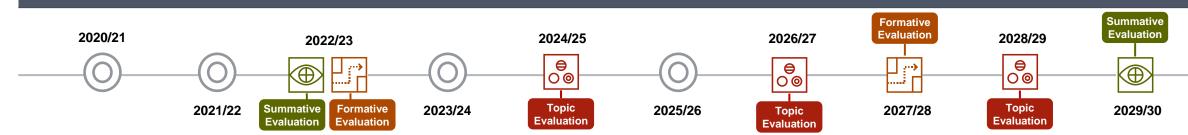
Conducted at the completion of an instrument, this evaluation considers the outcomes and impact of the instrument. This is a major evaluation of the appropriateness, efficiency, and effectiveness of the FHRI Fund in its entirety.



Topic Based

In-depth evaluation of a selected instrument or outcome within or supported by the FHRI Fund. The instrument selected is based on requirements determined by OMRI to gain a deeper understanding of the individual instrument.

Evaluation Schedule



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Guiding Principles

The Evaluation Plan is underpinned by the following key principles to support continuous improvement, accountability and productive evaluation results.



Practical

An evaluation is of high quality when it is designed to consider the needs of the stakeholders involved and evidence-based implications with valued quantitative data to create purposeful and practical evaluation findings. This Evaluation Plan is tailored around known decision points and areas of influence. In addition, clear communication of the evaluation findings (and their limitations) should be provided to key stakeholders.



Mixed method approach

Both quantitative and qualitative information will be collected to demonstrate the key outcomes of the evaluations conducted over the 10-year span of the Evaluation Plan. Evaluations will utilise mixed method approaches that can involve developing interview guides, case studies, desktop reviews, administrative data, survey data, and a variety of other sources. The interpretation and presentation of this data are most important as it enables evidencing of implications and evaluation findings.



Credible

Evaluations will be conducted by people who are capable of completing a credible evaluation. The collection and analysis of evidence will be undertaken in an impartial and systematic way, having regard to the perspectives of all relevant stakeholders. Evaluations will adhere to appropriate standards of integrity and independence. This is achieved through ensuring a degree of objectivity, through the evaluation work being conducted by an independent group of evaluators, or through respected independent figures to steer and peer review both the design and outputs of the evaluations.



Capability uplift

The implementation of this Evaluation Plan, including management of future independent evaluations, will provide evaluation upskilling opportunities for OMRI personnel.



Tailored

The choice to evaluate and the scale of effort and resources allocated to each evaluation should be proportional to the value, impact, strategic importance, and risk profile of the outcome. Methods will differentiate between evaluations to inform evaluation findings that are tailored to the needs at that point in time.



Minimise burden

The Evaluation Plan is designed to be simple and easy to implement without overburdening the OMRI team or any stakeholders that may participate in evaluation activities. The approach in this evaluation is to use data that is already available, and any additional data collection should build upon what is already available from grant applications, progress and final reports to minimise the burden on evaluation participants.

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