



SDA Grant sponsored by

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TROG SDA Grant 2027: Instructions for Applicants

1. About the Grant

The TROG Secondary Data Analysis (SDA) is funded through the generous support of **Commercial Collective**. It provides **one TROG Emerging Investigator** each year with up to **\$3,000 AUD** to undertake a secondary analysis project using TROG trial data. The application, review, and award process is managed independently by TROG and is not influenced by any third party.

The purpose of the Grant is to:

- Support the development of TROG's Emerging Investigators.
- Encourage innovative and feasible secondary data analyses.
- Build the capacity of early-career researchers in radiation medicine research.

2. Key Dates (2027 Round)

- **October 2026**– Call for applications opens
- **14 December 2026** – Applications close
- **January-February 2027** – Applications reviewed by TROG SDA Committee reviewers
- **March 2027** – Award announced at the [TROG Annual Scientific Meeting](#), 9-12 March, Hobart, Tasmania (successful recipient will receive notification prior).
- **April 2027** – Recipient commences project and completes SDA access process

3. Eligibility

To apply you must:

- Be a current TROG member (full or affiliate).
- Meet TROG **emerging investigator eligibility criteria**:
 - Within 10 years of obtaining professional qualifications eg FRANZCR
 - OR

- Within 5 years of obtaining PhD,
- AND
- A clinician, allied health professional or researcher involved in TROG supported projects/trials.
- Apply relative-to-opportunity principles where relevant (e.g. career breaks, part-time research).
- Propose a project that is:
 - Feasible within 12 months upon obtaining data from TROG.
 - Non-commercial in nature.
 - Consistent with [TROG SDA Access Guidelines](#) and TROG External Policy: [Undertaking Secondary Analysis on Data from TROG trials](#).

4. Application Process

Applicants must complete the [SDA Grant Application Form](#) and provide:

- Completed application form.
- Short CV (max. 2 pages).
- Relative-to-opportunity statement (if applicable).
- Supervisor/Department support letter (recommended, but not mandatory).
- Other supporting documents, if available: ethics approval evidence; Trial Chair/TMC approval evidence; statistical analysis plan.

At application stage you are **not required to provide** ethics or Trial Management Committee (TMC) approval. These must be obtained by the successful applicant before any data is released.

Submit completed applications to: trog@trog.com.au by 14 December 2026.

5. Review Process

Applications will be assessed by three reviewers selected from TROG's key scientific and operational committees (e.g. the SDA Committee, Scientific Committee, or related expert groups).

Reviewers will score applications using the NHMRC 1–7 scale across four domains:

- **Scientific Quality (40%)**
 - Section 3: Clarity of scientific rationale, research hypotheses, objectives and endpoints; suitability of data for the proposed analyses; and soundness of statistical methods.
- **Feasibility & Governance (30%)**
 - Section 3 and 4: Availability and suitability of data, realistic 12-month project timeline, analytical feasibility and statistical support, ethics and trial governance considerations, and risk management.
- **Emerging Investigator Development (20%)**
 - Section 5: Contribution to career development, mentorship/supervision arrangements, alignment with EIG, relative-to-opportunity considerations.
- **Significance & Impact (10%)**
 - Section 6: Alignment with TROG priorities, potential to advance cancer research and patient outcomes, potential for dissemination (publications, presentations, future funding).

The reviewers' recommendation will be submitted to the **TSC Chair** for sign-off. Applicants will be notified of the outcome in February 2027.

6. Post-Award Requirements

The successful recipient must:

- Satisfy TROG's applicable SDA access and governance requirements before data release, including relevant Trial Chair/TMC endorsement, HREC approval or waiver, and any required data agreements. TROG may request additional information or documentation as part of this process.
- Use funds for approved costs (e.g. SDA access fees, statistical support, analysis expenses).
- Provide a **2–3 page final report** within six months of project completion.
- Provide progress reports if requested by TROG.
- Participate in TROG promotional activities, including:
 - ASM announcement and profile.
 - Website, newsletter, and social media promotion.

- Acknowledgement of TROG and Commercial Collective in any presentations or publications arising from the project.

7. Tips for a Strong Application

- **Be concise** – stick to word/page limits.
- **Scientific Quality** – clearly state aims, methods, and expected outcomes.
- **Feasibility** – demonstrate dataset suitability, realistic timeline, ethics/TMC considerations, collaborators/statistical support, and risk management.
- **Emerging Investigator Development** – highlight your career stage, mentorship/supervision arrangements.
- **Significance & Impact** – explain how your project advances TROG priorities and how you plan to disseminate findings.

8. Questions and Support

If you have questions about the application process or your eligibility, contact:

TROG Central Operations Office

Email: trog@trog.com.au

Phone: +61 (02) 4014 3911