

## Tips for successful service improvement grants

The NEMICS grants program offers health professionals within NEMICS health services an opportunity to receive support for small quality improvement projects to improve experience and outcomes for people with cancer.

- ♠ investigate understanding and definition of a problem (scoping or redesign).
- ♠ implement and evaluate strategies to address a clearly defined problem (service improvement).



### Top tips

Look out for notification of NEMICS grant opportunities (usually February/March).

- ♠ Make contact early with the Service Improvement Facilitator at your health service, who can provide more details about the grants program, assistance and advice with potential grant ideas.
- ♠ Look for examples of NEMICS supported projects on the NEMICS website [NEMICS Grants program](#).
- ♠ Consider the size of the problem – how many patients might benefit? Is there potential to expand learnings across other areas/departments/health services?
- ♠ Discuss grant ideas with your line manager and obtain executive support including early sign-off.
- ♠ Involve consumers early.
- ♠ Think about the timeline to deliver your project—the grants program supports projects that impact patient experience and outcomes within 6-12 months.
- ♠ Link your grant project topic to your health service Cancer Strategy and Services Plans, Optimal Care Pathways and/ or the Victorian Cancer Plan 2016-20.
- ♠ Ensure your projects meet the eligibility, selection criteria and consumer engagement (see the NEMICS website for grant guidelines) [NEMICS Service Improvement Grant Guidelines](#).
- ♠ Only projects that fall outside business as usual expectations will be considered.

### Scoping projects must

1. Identify a problem (provide initial data).
2. Gather evidence to define the problem.
3. Outline a plan for testing strategies to address the problem.

### Quality improvement projects must

1. Describe a problem (provide evidence).
2. Plan to implement and evaluate strategies that will address the problem.
3. Impact patient experience/outcomes.
4. Be completed within 9 months (including evaluation and reporting).

### Must involve consumers

1. Demonstrate evidence of consumer involvement during the development of the project design.
2. Outline ongoing plans for consumer involvement for the duration of the project.
3. Outline how consumers will benefit from improvements and the probability of achieving these benefits.

### Service Improvement Facilitators

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