

To assess the Merit of the Application

HIGHEST DEGREE OF MERIT – 7

- Quality** The Application is lucid in its objectives, exemplary in design and certain to be accomplished
- Innovation** Work is highly innovative and introduces advances in concept. It will be published in journals of the highest impact factor and will be the subject of invited plenary presentations at international meetings, often with relevance across several fields.
- Track Record** An outstanding track record – relative to opportunity. For senior researchers - evidence of international/strong national research reputation.

VERY HIGH DEGREE OF MERIT – 6

- Quality** The Application has clarity of purpose and a near-flawless design. There is a high probability of successful accomplishment.
- Innovation** The work is innovative with respect to the question being addressed and the approach to it. It will be published in journals of the highest impact factor for the field and could be the subject of invited plenary presentations at national meetings.
- Track Record** Applicants have a record of achievement, relative to opportunity, that places them in the top 25% of peers and have a growing international or national reputation.

HIGH DEGREE OF MERIT – 5

- Quality** The Application has clarity of design and any reservations are minor and unlikely to prevent successful outcome.
- Innovation** The work contains at least one innovative idea and will be published in the top journals for the field. It could be the subject of invited plenary presentations at national specialty meetings.
- Track Record** Applicants have a record of achievement, relative to opportunity, that places them above average for their peers. They have a growing national reputation and their work frequently appears at national meetings.

GOOD DEGREE OF MERIT – 4

- Quality** The Application is sound but has several areas of concern in experimental design or feasibility.
- Innovation** The work may have some novel aspects while others underpin or extend existing knowledge. There may be concerns about completion. It will be published in middle ranking to major journals for the field.
- Track Record** The applicants have a solid record of achievement, relative to opportunity.

FAIR DEGREE OF MERIT – 3

- Quality** Significant issues of experimental design or feasibility have been raised.
- Innovation** Insufficient information may be provided about the novelty of the work and it appears to extend or confirm other studies in the field. It is likely to be published in middle –low ranking journals for the field.
- Track Record** There may be some concerns regarding the applicant's track record relative to opportunity.

MARGINAL or LOW DEGREE OF MERIT – 1 AND 2

- Quality** The applications display a number of good features but are not competitive given a lack of detail or significant issues of experimental design or feasibility.
- Innovation** Insufficient information may be provided about the novelty of the work and it appears to extend or confirm other studies in the field. It is not likely to be published.
- Track Record** There may be some concerns regarding the applicant's track record relative to opportunity.

To assess the Relevance of the Application to Child Health, Education or Welfare

Clinical Studies Category

- 7 The planned work addresses an issue of utmost importance to the health, education or welfare of children. It will translate into a fundamental conceptual advance or major outcome in the science or practice of clinical medicine/public health.
- 6 The planned work addresses an issue of major importance to the health, education or welfare of children and will make a significant contribution to the science or practice of clinical medicine/public health in this research area.
- 5 The planned work addresses an issue of considerable importance to child health, education or welfare and will contribute to the science or practice of clinical medicine/public health in this research area.
- 4 The planned work addresses an issue of some importance to child health, education or welfare and may contribute to the science or practice of clinical medicine/public health in this research area.
- 3 The planned work addresses an issue of relatively minor importance to child health, education or welfare and may contribute to the science or practice of clinical medicine/public health in this research area.
- 2 It is difficult to understand the relevance of this project to child health, education or welfare although it may contribute the science or practice of clinical medicine/public health in this research area.
- 1 The project has no direct relevance to child health, education or welfare.

Basic Science Category

- 7 The planned work addresses an issue of utmost importance to the health, education or welfare of children. It will translate into a fundamental conceptual advance in the body of knowledge in this research area.
- 6 The planned work addresses an issue of major importance to the health, education or welfare of children and will make a significant contribution to the body of knowledge in this research area.
- 5 The planned work addresses an issue of considerable importance to child health, education or welfare and will contribute to the body of knowledge in this research field.
- 4 The planned work addresses an issue of some importance to child health, education or welfare and may contribute to the body of knowledge in the relevant research field.
- 3 The planned work addresses an issue of relatively minor importance to child health, education or welfare and may contribute to the body of knowledge in this field.
- 2 It is difficult to understand the relevance of this project to child health, education or welfare although it may contribute to the body of knowledge in a research field.
- 1 The project has no direct relevance to child health, education or welfare.

Community Based Category

- 7 The planned work addresses an issue of utmost importance to the health, education or welfare of children. It will translate into a fundamental conceptual advance or major outcome for our understanding or application of knowledge of the relevant community issues which impact on child health, education or welfare.
- 6 The planned work addresses an issue of major importance to the health, education or welfare of children and will make a significant contribution to our understanding or application of knowledge of the relevant community issues which impact on child health, education or welfare.
- 5 The planned work addresses an issue of considerable importance to child health, education or welfare and will make a significant contribution to our understanding or application of knowledge of the relevant community issues which impact on child health, education or welfare.
- 4 The planned work addresses an issue of some importance to child health, education or welfare and may make a significant contribution to our understanding or application of the relevant community issues which impact on child health, education or welfare.
- 3 The planned work addresses an issue of relatively minor importance to child health, education or welfare and may make a significant contribution to our understanding or application of the relevant community issues which impact on child health, education or welfare.
- 2 It is difficult to understand the relevance of this project to child health, education or welfare although it may make some contribution to our understanding or application of the relevant community issues which impact on child health, education or welfare.
- 1 The project has no direct relevance to child health, education or welfare.