



Expression of Interest

Community Advisory Group

Are you interested in shaping cardiovascular research? ANZACT is seeking consumers and community members who would like to contribute to our research.

About ANZACT – the Australian and New Zealand Alliance for Cardiovascular Trials

We're a new Network of health care professionals and scientists with an active interest in cardiovascular trials. Our aims are to:

- Foster collaboration to develop and conduct patient-centred cardiovascular trials
- Build research capacity through teamwork and sharing resources
- Increase participation in cardiovascular trials
- Improve health outcomes for people with or at risk of cardiovascular disease

What we do

Our researcher members share their expertise by providing feedback on each other's work ('peer review') at ANZACT workshops, which improves their applications for research funding. Our forums foster networking and mentoring - members discover opportunities to work together to improve recruitment to cardiovascular trials, and early career researchers are able to meet and get to know the leaders in their field. We have over 200 members and function through our committees – please visit our website to find out more (www.anzact.org).

About the consumer role

You may be interested in being part of our Community Advisory Group if you have a 'lived experience' of cardiovascular disease, whether as a patient or as a carer of someone who has a cardiovascular condition, and are interested in consumer and patient involvement in research.

As a member of the Group you will provide a consumer perspective on ANZACT research priorities, activities and funding opportunities, and have an active role in the dissemination of trial results to the broader community. You will help researchers to understand the perspectives of a person who may participate in a cardiovascular trial. For example, are the questionnaires too long, are there too many visits to the hospital or clinic, or are the times suitable if you work or have family commitments, etc. You will be appointed because of your knowledge of the day-to-day experience of people with cardiovascular disease so you don't need to understand the science of the trial i.e. how a drug or procedure will work.

Process

We're aiming to recruit at least two people each in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia because these are central locations for our members and ANZACT workshops. The local members of the Community Advisory Group will be invited to those workshops, and there will be opportunities to engage with ANZACT via email for all the Group members between workshops. The estimated time commitment is 2-5 days per year, including preparation, meetings (in-person or via teleconference) and email communications, and we reimburse participation costs such as parking fees.

If you are interested in joining the Group, please complete the online application form. If you would like to discuss further please contact Julia Fallon-Ferguson, Executive Officer (info@anzact.org or 041 994 7770).