

## BHT FOUNDATION CLINICAL LEADERSHIP AWARD

The **Better Healthcare Technology (BHT) Foundation Clinical Leadership Award** has been established in honour of **Vera Page Last**. Vera worked as a medical physicist clinician in New South Wales Radiation Oncology departments for several decades and was renowned for her dedication and diligence in patient care, and for introducing multiple new techniques and technologies for clinical benefit. A more complete biography of Vera can be found on the website of the BHT Foundation [here](#).



### Award Description

Through this award, the BHT Foundation recognises the often unheralded development work undertaken by medical physicists in the clinical setting which substantially benefits patients. Such work ultimately enables the safe and effective introduction of better healthcare technologies and promotes the work of clinical medical physicists. This work can be difficult to undertake depending on relevant opportunity, which can be impacted by substantial routine workloads, limitations in support for research activity, remote and rural working locations and external influences such as carer responsibilities and the impact of past discriminatory practices.

The **BHT Foundation Clinical Leadership Award** in honour of Vera Page Last was created to provide due recognition for the improvement of patient care within the bounds of economic, resource and social constraints. The award is made through nomination of those responsible for a specific “activity”.

### Administration of the Award

- The award will be made annually, provided financial support is available.
- The award constitutes a certificate and cash amount, reviewed annually.
- Nominations can be made by anyone, and self-nomination is allowed.
- The awardee(s) will be listed on the ACPSEM and BHT Foundation websites, and notifications of the award may be placed in affiliated newsletters and other digital media.

- Nominations will be assessed by an Award Committee formed by the BHT Board and which can include co-opted non-board representatives.
- The award may be made for more than one nomination in any year, or need not be awarded at all, at the discretion of the award committee.

## Eligibility

- Both individuals and teams of up to 8 people may be nominated, provided all nominees meet the other eligibility criteria.
- This award is on offer to medical physicists working in a primarily clinical role in Australia and/or New Zealand. This can include those in unpaid employment, working in hospitals (public and private), and/or working for consulting organisations.
- Nominees must be members of the ACPSEM (at any grade).
- Nominees must sign a declaration that the nomination accurately reflects the activity and their contribution to the activity.
- Nominations will not be accepted for individuals employed in management positions (e.g., Chief/Deputy Chief/Director/Deputy Director managing teams of 2+ people), as interpreted at the discretion of the judges. Overall (i.e. accumulated) experience however is not an impediment to nomination.
- The activity for which the nomination is being made should have been implemented in the previous 24 months of the due date for award nominations.
- The activity should have been predominantly undertaken within Australia or New Zealand.
- The activity for which the nomination is being made must focus on patient care and patient benefit and operate at the clinical level. Examples include:
  - Improvements in quality and safety
  - The introduction of new technology
  - Production of an information source (e.g. leaflet, web article or resource)
  - Contribution to the education of medical physicists for patient benefit, or to the communication of the role of medical physicists in the clinic to the public
- The activity may be multi-disciplinary in nature, though the nominee must have played a significant role.
- For self-nominations, contact details are required for two referees who can testify to the accuracy of the nomination.

## Assessment criteria

The following are the criteria for assessment of the nomination. All criteria are equally weighted. A nomination need not meet all criteria. Description of each criterion follows.

- **Level of Patient Benefit**
- **Innovation**
- **Applicability**
- **Relative to Opportunity**

## Assessment criteria

### 1. *Level of patient benefit:*

The assessment panel will favour activities that provide the greatest benefit to the greatest number. “Benefit” may be interpreted as increases in patient safety, increases in patient awareness regarding medical physics and associated medical procedures, improvement in the experience of patients with the healthcare system, potential improvements in patient outcomes (treatment efficacy, diagnostic accuracy, reduction in side-effects), increased cost-effectiveness.

### 2. *Innovation:*

The assessment panel will favour activities that demonstrate novel thinking and innovation, resourcefulness, collaboration and cooperation.

### 3. *Applicability:*

Assessors will favour activities that can be translated to achieve similar patient benefit in other clinics or in other clinical settings.

### 4. *Relative to opportunity*

The assessors will consider the achievement relative to the opportunities and circumstances of the nominees. These factors can include, though are not limited to:

- Membership of cultural, age, sex or gender-identity groups that are poorly represented or for whom historical discrimination is acknowledged.
- Limited access for the nominees to resources including finances, academic and/or research support.
- The proportion of workload normally consumed by routine clinical activities.
- Employment in remote or rural locations.
- Disability.
- Debilitating illness.
- Carer responsibilities including disruptions due to pregnancy and parental leave.

## How to apply

You will find a link to the Foundation Clinical Leadership Award (in honour of Vera Page Last) online [Nomination Form](#) on the Awards section of the [BHT Foundation website](#).

Applications for this award should be completed electronically on the Nomination Form by the closing date. Signatures may be added electronically or on a hardcopy before being scanned for submission.

Upon completion of the form please submit as an attachment via email to:

[foundationawards@betterhealthcaretechnology.org](mailto:foundationawards@betterhealthcaretechnology.org)

with the Award and your nominee's name (or team's name) in the subject line.

## Award winner's obligation

Successful award winner(s) will be contacted by the BHT Foundation. There is an expectation that upon acceptance of the winning prize, the award winner will commit to writing an article describing their winning project / activity for publication on the [www.betterhealthcaretechnology.org](http://www.betterhealthcaretechnology.org) website within 3 months of receiving their award.

The article can be sourced from the content provided in the award nomination. Winning parties can liaise with the BHT Foundation webmaster (or their agent) regarding final length and style of this article. All required accreditations and content / image copyright acknowledgement will be provided to the prize winners as the sole article authors for this content.

## Further information

For any further information or applicant queries about this award please contact:

[foundationawards@betterhealthcaretechnology.org](mailto:foundationawards@betterhealthcaretechnology.org)