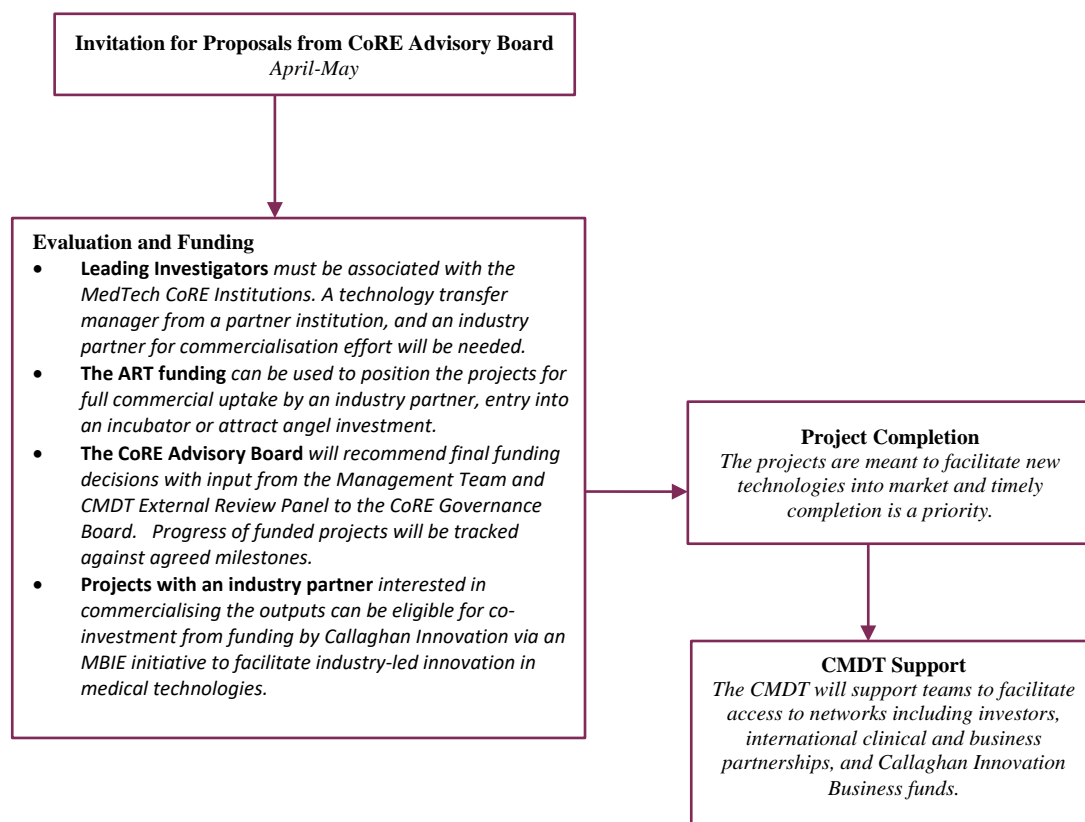


MedTech CoRE - Accelerating Research Translation (ART) Fund



1. Overview of Accelerating Research Translation Project Funding

The MedTech CoRE is introducing an acceleration fund for its Seed projects that have been successfully completed and show promise in either clinical or commercial application. The focus of this fund is to support and accelerate the concept opportunities turning into economic opportunities.

Upon completion, Seed projects will be assessed by the CoRE Advisory Board and, if appropriate, recommended for further support through ART funding. Projects sought are up to \$80K for a year to progress specific activities agreed with the project team. Funded projects will be tracked against milestones.

Projects that have an established/identified industry partner interested in commercialising the work can be eligible for a co-funding component by an MBIE initiative provided to Callaghan Innovation's MedTech Sector Network to facilitate industry-led innovation in medical technologies. The philosophy behind this investment is to help support a pipeline of new technologies for uptake by NZ's medtech industry.

2. Project Evaluation Criteria

ART projects must meet the following criteria to be eligible for funding

- Have arisen from MedTech CoRE Seed Funding;
- Proven concept feasibility;

- IP that can be protected or know-how generated which supports a concept that has clear industry interest;
- Have clear pathways for clinical or commercial uptake;
- Addresses regulatory requirements, e.g. CE mark, FDA;
- Established clinical and/or industry partnerships to support technology translation or identified partners who are willing to support technology for uptake.

Further guidelines and rules for the ART Projects are as follows:

- The investigators leading the project must be associated with the MedTech CoRE partner institutions¹. Contracting will be between the Host and the Project Team leader's institution, with that institution receiving and distributing any awarded funding.
- An investigator may only be named Project Team Leader on one Accelerating Research Translation proposal per RfP.
- A Technology Transfer manager from at least the partner institution leading the commercialisation effort should be associated with the project team. This is to support business strategy and commercialisation.
- Teams will be invited to apply for funding after their final interview with the CoRE Advisory Board. A two-page written proposal is required as well as a presentation to the CoRE Board addressing the main criteria for funding outlined above.
- An identified industry partner will be needed to access funding. This could be an established partnership resulting from the Seed Project or a new relationship. In either case, the industry partner's interest, role and contribution to the project should be clear from the outset.
- A structured team and project plan showing the responsibilities of each member should be included.

3. Scoring criteria

Criteria	Score Weighting
1. Project from MedTech CoRE Seed Funding	Pass/fail
2. Concept feasibility completed	Pass/Fail
3. Novelty and robustness of science - IP and know-how generated	30%
4. Market need -user need and engagement (including ethics/consent, if needed)	30%
5. Industry partnership and pathway to commercial uptake (including regulatory considerations)	30%
6. Project plan & roles	10%

¹ The 6 CMDT/CoRE partners are: Auckland University of Technology (AUT), Callaghan Innovation (CI), University of Auckland (UoA), University of Canterbury (UC), University of Otago (UoO) and Victoria University of Wellington (VUW).

4. Invitation to submit and expectations from project teams

The CoRE Advisory Board through the Management Team will invite proposals from Seed Project teams where the outcome of their work is ready for accelerating into clinical or commercial translation. These will be from the pool of projects that are about to be completed and up for assessment by the CoRE Advisory Board either in April or October. Proposals are at maximum two pages and should address the ART Project criteria in Section 2. Travel can be included as part of the project if the requirement is clearly explained and justified. This should support project team interaction with clinical and/or industry partners if they are in different cities, or develop new relationships that will benefit the project.

ART funding can be used to position the projects for full commercial uptake by an industry partner, entry into an incubator or attract Angel investment.

Theme and Platform Leaders are expected to track funded projects for achievement of milestones and outcomes. Project teams will be invited to discuss their progress with the CoRE Advisory Board during the funding term. Final reporting will require an interview/presentation with the CoRE Advisory Board. Industry and clinical partners will be invited to these meetings. A selection of projects from each Theme or Platform may be invited to present at the annual MedTech CoRE conference to showcase their work to the sector during Healthtech Week.

Milestones for ART projects will be agreed with the CoRE Advisory Board and progress will be monitored.

5. Evaluation and Funding

The ART project submissions will be evaluated initially by both the Management Team and CMDT Review Panel. Recommendations and comments to the proposals will then be provided to the CoRE Advisory Board who will make the final decisions on funding subject to approval by the Core Governance Board. It is expected that this approval will be given if the appropriate processes have been followed. Project teams may be interviewed by the CoRE Advisory Board as part of the proposal evaluation process.

Conflicts of interest arising within the CMDT Review Panel and the Management Team will be handled appropriately and, if required, resolved by the Director.

6. Project Completion

Projects can be discontinued if progress is lacking. The ART Projects are meant to facilitate new technologies into the market and in most cases there is a finite window for new innovations; hence completing these projects in a timely manner is a priority.

7. Translate to CMDT

The CMDT will support the project teams with their industry partnerships where appropriate and facilitate entry into other networks which will help commercialisation. This can include access to investors, international clinical and business partnerships and Callaghan Innovation Business Funds.

8. October 2017 ART Round

The October funding round will apply to projects completing in or around October 2017.

- ~ September Eligible project teams for ART funding will be contacted by CoRE Centre Manager to arrange for presentations to the CoRE Advisory Board to be scheduled for the November Advisory Board meeting.
- 10 November Project teams present at CoRE Advisory Board meeting. CoRE Advisory Board to invite project teams to submit applications for ART funding.
- ~ Dec / Jan '18 Applications from invited teams to be assessed.
- ~ Feb / Mar '18 Successful teams notified. Funding to be contracted within 1 month.