

# Avant Foundation

Supporting  
quality, safety and  
professionalism in the  
practice of medicine

## Our vision

Safer practice of medicine for both  
doctors and patients.

## Our mission

To invest in research, education  
and leadership programs in order  
to improve quality, safety and  
professionalism in medicine.



**Emeritus Professor Kim Oates AM**  
Avant Foundation Board member

Kim  
OATES



## Background

### What is Avant?

Avant is a mutual organisation, owned by our doctor members. We offer medical indemnity insurance, medico-legal advice and assistance to over 70,000 health practitioners and students.

### Why has Avant established a Foundation?

As a mutual, our members are at the centre of all we do, which is to protect, defend, advise and support them.

We are driven to make a difference to the future of medicine in Australia. By supporting research, training, education and investment that improves quality, safety and professionalism in medical practice, we will achieve this aim – leading to better outcomes for doctors and the community.

The Foundation strategy is built around the guiding principal of supporting Avant's mission of "making a difference through investment into research, training and education in quality, safety and professionalism in the practice of medicine in our communities" and to leverage the experience and expertise of our members, through a Foundation Board, to assist in decision making on Avant's investment in this area.

### The Foundation's goals

1. Invest in programs that lead to sustainable improvements in quality, safety and professionalism for the benefit of patients and the community.
2. Support programs that partner with other healthcare organisations to foster a culture of quality, safety and professionalism.
3. Support programs that reduce medico-legal and clinical risks.
4. Increase the impact of the funded programs by raising awareness of program outcomes amongst the medical profession.
5. Build our profile as a leading advocate for quality, safety and professionalism in medicine.
6. Build a sustainable organisation. A strong reputation is vital to the Avant Foundation, attracting both high quality applications for funding as well as donations from the medical community and beyond.

### We will develop our profile through:

- ▶ communicating the Foundation's goals and outcomes
- ▶ developing high quality processes to support robust grant making decisions
- ▶ selecting projects for funding that have a high likelihood of success and will make a difference to quality, safety and professionalism
- ▶ forming partnerships with organisations to enhance our reach and promote program outcomes.

'Inspired by an ongoing need to support improvements in healthcare and patient safety initiatives, the Avant Foundation provides an invaluable resource to both emerging and experienced researchers across Australia.'

Dr Matthew Doane  
Avant Member

### Our approach

We will focus our investments on projects that are highly applicable across the healthcare system, can be readily translated into changes in the clinical environment and can influence health policy. We will report on the outputs and outcomes of the projects we fund over time to demonstrate both the short and long-term value.

We utilise a competitive grants process that is across two stages, allowing applicants to hone and refine their application.

### Focus areas for 2020

- ▶ Initiatives that lead to sustainable improvements in quality, safety and professionalism for the benefit of patients and the community.
- ▶ Programs that partner with other healthcare organisations and foster a culture of quality, safety and professionalism.
- ▶ Safety focused programs that reduce adverse incidents and therefore medico-legal complaints and claims.
- ▶ Projects align with Avant's research agenda and provide opportunities to leverage knowledge from our existing claims data.

Full details of the Foundation's funding focus, timings and eligibility are available on our website:

 [avantdifference.org.au](http://avantdifference.org.au)

