

Example Application

Reason for Applying

Fellowship Details:

- *Host:* Nangak Tamboree Therapy Centre (IFOMPT-Australia), in affiliation with La Trobe University, Melbourne
- *Dates:* March 2026 (3-week observational and teaching visit)

As a full MACP member since 2017 with nine years of clinical experience, I am applying for support to undertake a short-term clinical and academic visit to the Nangak Tamboree Manual Therapy Centre in Melbourne. The centre is an IFOMPT-affiliated teaching and research clinic linked to La Trobe University and offers a unique opportunity to explore how contemporary manual therapy practices are embedded within a biopsychosocial model of care.

I currently lead an NHS musculoskeletal outpatient service that spans both primary and secondary care, with responsibility for service design, clinical quality, and staff development. I am also an MACP tutor, regularly taking students on placement and contributing to the delivery of MACP-accredited postgraduate modules at a UK university. This visit will allow me to bring a richer, international perspective into those educational roles, enhancing the learning experience for MACP trainees.

A specific clinical academic at the host site has confirmed their enthusiasm for the visit and has agreed to co-develop a tailored timetable of activities. This will include clinical observation, student engagement, small-group teaching, and participation in research seminars, with a strong emphasis on dialogue about practice models and innovation.

The visit would be structured around the following aims:

- To observe and learn how manual therapy is integrated with biopsychosocial approaches in assessment and treatment
- To experience different models of interdisciplinary MSK care and their implementation within a different healthcare system
- To contribute to MSc-level teaching and student engagement at La Trobe University
- To engage with academic and clinical teams to discuss clinical pathways and pain communication strategies
- To explore how cultural context and service models influence physiotherapy practice and what lessons can be transferred to the UK
- To enhance MACP teaching and placement quality by incorporating international perspectives into curriculum content and clinical education practice

Supporting Statement

This visit represents a valuable opportunity to enhance my clinical leadership by gaining insight into how advanced MSK physiotherapy is delivered and taught internationally. It will help me reflect critically on how we structure care and education in the UK, particularly in terms of integrating manual therapy with psychologically informed practice and service design. I

anticipate that the visit will directly shape elements of our local care pathways and CPD strategy for staff at all levels.

In my capacity as an MACP tutor, I regularly support students both in clinical placements and in university-based teaching. This visit will give me fresh examples, case material, and curriculum ideas that I can embed directly into MACP-accredited teaching, offering a broader view of global practice and its relevance to our context. I hope to share ideas on placement structure, assessment, and peer learning during the visit and in follow-up dialogue with colleagues in Australia.

The host site has confirmed their willingness to support this 3-week programme, and we are in the process of finalising a timetable of structured activity including supervision, teaching sessions, and seminar attendance. I would be very happy to meet the conditions of the award, and propose to write a reflective blog post for the MACP website upon my return, summarising the learning gained and identifying key themes for clinical and educational enhancement. I would also be pleased to share these insights through MACP events, regional CPD groups, and with students currently on accredited programmes. I have attached a supporting letter from the host confirming their willingness to facilitate the visit, and I am also able to provide two professional referees in support of this application.

Total Cost

£1,850

Cost Breakdown

- Return international flights: £1,300
- Accommodation (3 weeks, self-catering): £550