

# Responsible innovation as a framework for more inclusive health research in the Australian Capital Territory

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## COVID-19 and ethnic minorities in Australia

**More than eight in 10 Asian Australians report discrimination during coronavirus pandemic**

By Max Walden  
Posted Mon 2 Nov 2020 at 6:19am, updated Mon 2 Nov 2020 at 9:13am



There have been too many news reports of COVID-19 prompting racial abuse: A Chinese woman was spat on in a Sydney street, two students bashed in the Melbourne CBD, a family's home vandalised – 1

Asian Australians report being more anxious about coronavirus than the overall population. (Reuters: Loren Elliott)

**Covid: Melbourne towers lockdown 'breached human rights'**

“ This community is made up of many people who have fled war, who have complicated mental health issues, whose families have been racially profiled and targeted by police.”

BBC; RefugeeResearchOnline

**As coronavirus spreads, 'it's time to go home' Scott Morrison tells visitors and international students**

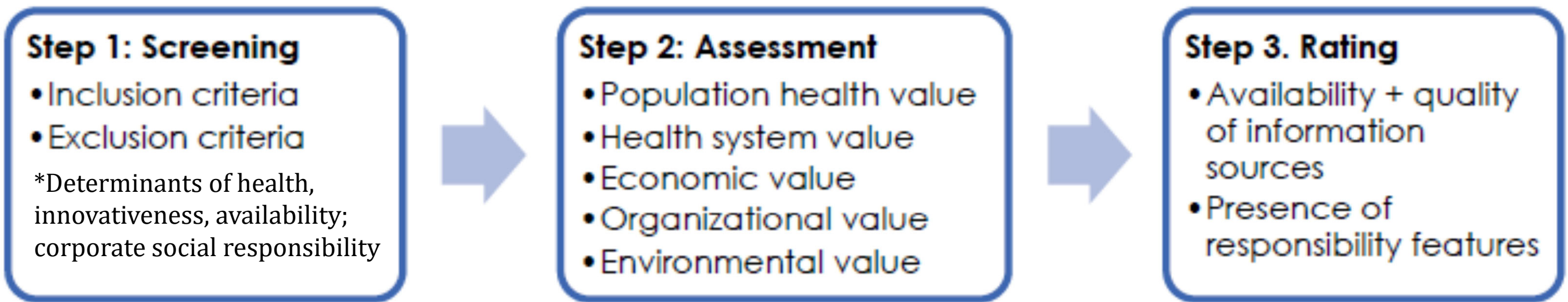
By Jane Gibson and Alexis Moran  
Posted Fri 3 Apr 2020 at 6:15pm, updated Sat 4 Apr 2020 at 12:32am

“As much as it's lovely to have visitors to Australia in good times, at times like this, if you are a visitor in this country, it is time ... to make your way home.”

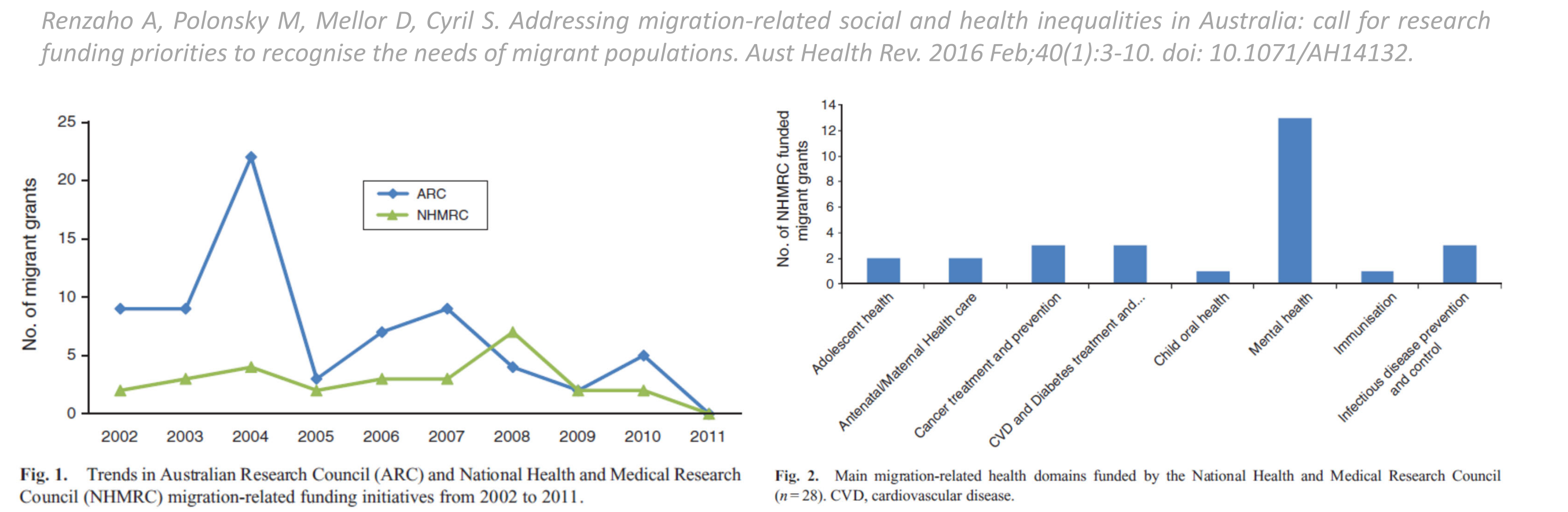
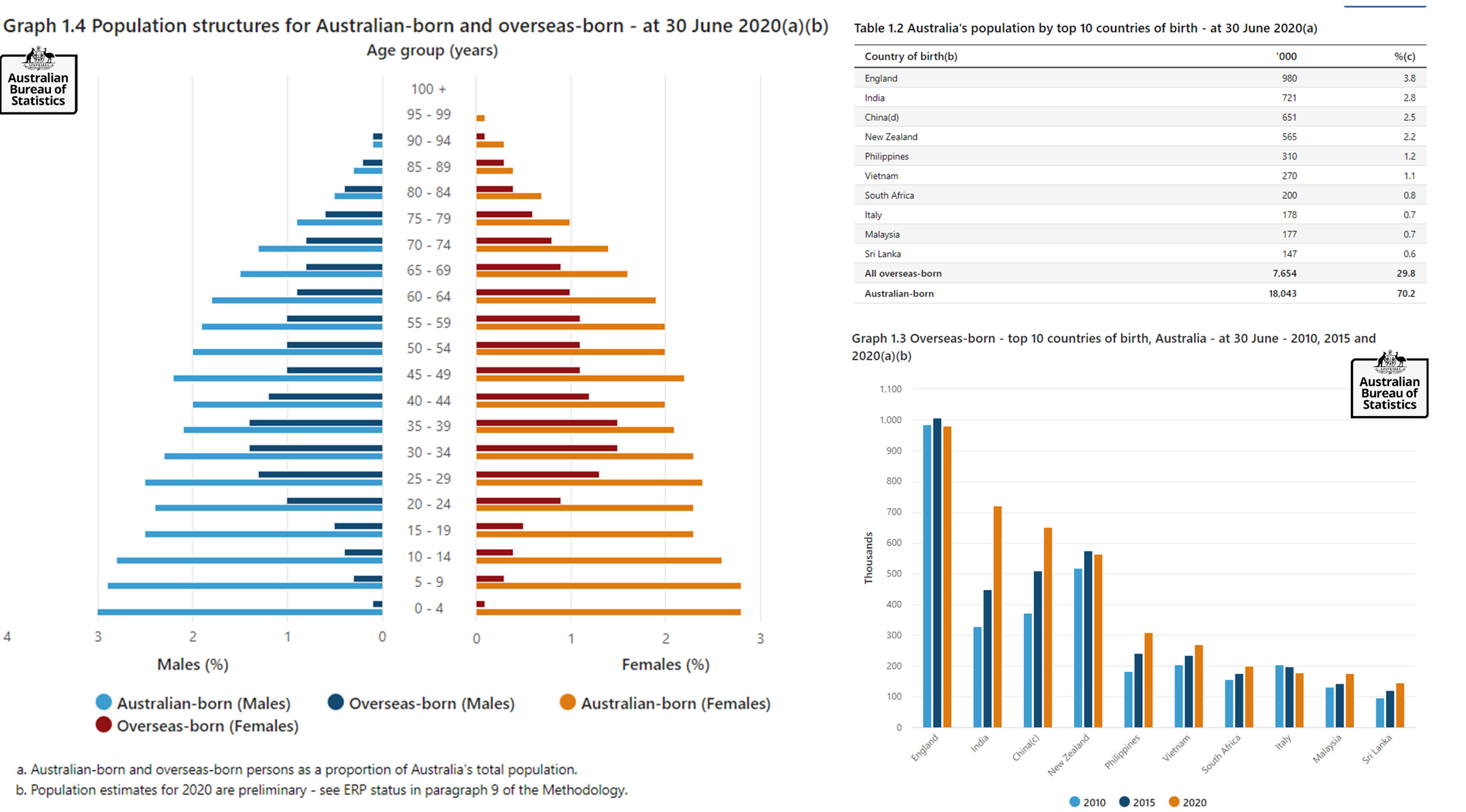
## Responsible Innovation for inclusive research

Silva HP, Lefebvre AA, Oliveira RR, Lehoux P. Fostering Responsible Innovation in Health: An Evidence-Informed Assessment Tool for Innovation Stakeholders. Int J Health Policy Manag. 2021;10(4):181-191. Pacifico Silva H, Lehoux P, Miller FA, Denis JL. Introducing responsible innovation in health: a policy-oriented framework. Health Res Policy Syst. 2018 Sep 10;16(1):90.

“**Responsible Innovation in Health (RIH)** consists in a collaborative endeavour wherein stakeholders are committed to clarify and meet a set of **ethical, economic, social and environmental** principles, values and requirements when they design, finance, produce, distribute and use **sociotechnical solutions** to address the needs and challenges of health systems in a **sustainable way**.” (Silva et al. 2018, p. 5)



## Medical research underfunding for migrants



“Unless the specific needs of the growing migrant population are addressed through more ‘people-focused’ research using culturally competent methodologies, for which adequate funding is required [through ARC and NHMRC schemes], it will be impossible to reduce health inequalities in Australia. **Currently, only 7% of ‘people-focused’ research is allocated towards research among migrants, who constitute 26% of the overall Australian population.**” (p. 8)

## Barriers to minority research participation

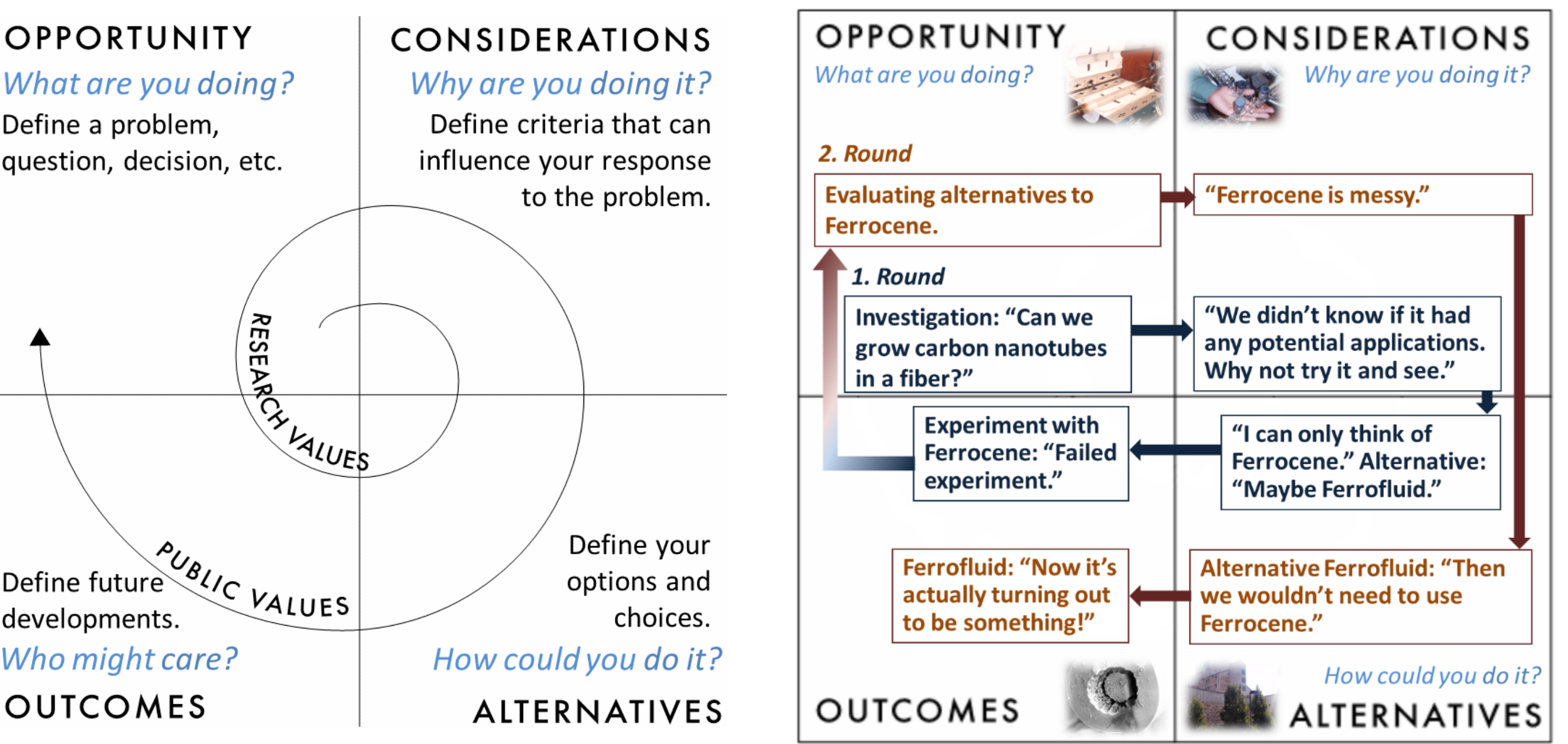
Hughson, Ja., Woodward-Kron, R., Parker, A. et al. A review of approaches to improve participation of culturally and linguistically diverse populations in clinical trials. Trials.2016. 17: 263. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13063-016-1384-3>

<b>MISTRUST</b> Society, scientific community, research institutions, healthcare system	<b>COMMUNICATION</b> Low English proficiency and health literacy, Failure of researcher to communicate study details
<b>CULTURE</b> Stigma, culturally inappropriate measures, incompatible healthcare beliefs, alienation, informed consent	<b>CONSTRAINTS</b> High likelihood of economic hardship, Limited availability
<b>MOBILITY</b> Restrictions due to culture or religion, Increased frailty or impaired functionality in elderly participants	<b>OPPORTUNITY</b> Exclusion of non-English speakers, clinician attitudes, costs or burden of data collection

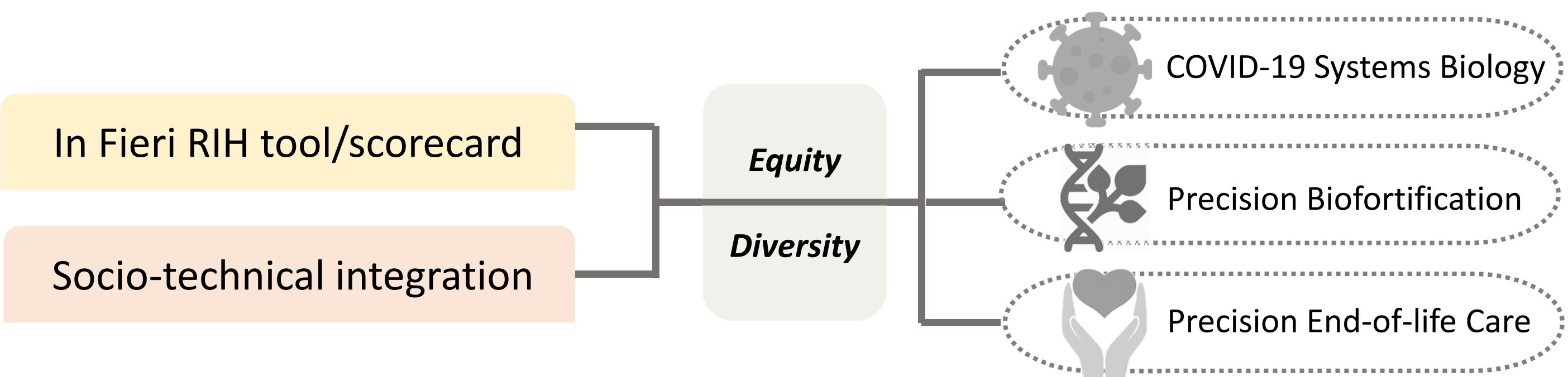
## STIRring research: a focus on process

Fisher, E. Ethnographic Invention: Probing the Capacity of Laboratory Decisions. Nanoethics. 2007. 1: 155–165. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11569-007-0016-5>; Greiving V.S. CTA Toolbox ProjectSocio-technical Integration Research (STIR). 2021.. Available from: <https://cta-toolbox.nl/tools/STIR/#practical-considerations>

“In the form of a semi-structured interview protocol, the model framed differentiated levels of interaction between myself and three graduate researchers for a 12-week quasi-experimental study.” (Fisher 2007, p. 157)



## Current postdoctoral RIH research in the ACT



Our Responsible Innovation research team at CPAS is open to collaborations. **If you are interested in testing any of these tools to promote ethical, sustainable, and societally desirable health and medical innovation, e-mail me at [john.viana@anu.edu.au](mailto:john.viana@anu.edu.au) to explore potential joint projects.**