

The Australian POTS Foundation 2026 Excellence in Care Awards

Community Recognition for Clinician and Practice Excellence

These awards honour exceptional clinicians and collaborative care teams across Australia and New Zealand who have made a significant impact in the lives of people with Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome (POTS) and autonomic dysfunction.

As the only national recognition of its kind in this space, the Excellence in Care Awards spotlight those who are transforming care through compassion, collaboration, and consumer-centred practice. Each award is shaped by the voices of the POTS community and reflects the values of innovation, equity, and lived experience leadership.

1) Award Categories

1. Physician of the Year

Recognising a medical doctor (GP or specialist) who has demonstrated excellence, leadership, and commitment to improving outcomes for those living with POTS/autonomic dysfunction.

- Eligibility: Individual physician based in Australia or New Zealand
- Nominated by: Community only (people with lived experience, carers, peers)
- Must be a current APF Practice Member

2. Allied Health & Nursing Champion

Celebrating an individual nurse or allied health professional who exemplifies clinical excellence, patient advocacy, and a deep understanding of the lived experience of POTS.

- Eligibility: Individual clinician based in Australia or New Zealand
- Nominated by: Community only
- Must be a current APF Practice Member

3. Multidisciplinary Team Excellence Award

Recognising an APF Practice Member delivering truly integrated, innovative, and equitable care through a team of four or more clinicians from different professions, including at least two from Allied Health or Nursing, working within the same practice or service.

- Eligibility:
 - Practice must be based in Australia or New Zealand

- Minimum of four clinicians from different professions
- At least two must be from Allied Health or Nursing
- Must be a current APF Practice Member
- Nominated by: Community only
(Please check our Clinician Registry or confirm with the practice)

2) Selection & Assessment Process

The Excellence in Care Awards use a hybrid selection process, combining the strength of community voice with expert insight:

1. Nominations Open – Submitted through official nomination forms
2. Shortlisting – Finalists selected by APF based on eligibility and narrative strength
3. Expert Panel Review – Panel of clinicians and lived experience representatives evaluate finalists

3) Award Presentation & Prize

Award recipients will be celebrated at the 2026 Converge Conference (4th/5th June, Adelaide), with public recognition for their contribution to the POTS community.

Winners will receive:

- A professional award certificate recognising their achievement
- A complimentary 12-month APF Practice Membership (2027)
- Public acknowledgement on the APF website Honour Board
- Acknowledgement across APF's digital platforms

These awards reflect both clinical excellence and the trust of the community, recognising those who exemplify care that is collaborative, innovative, and person-centred.

4) Key Dates & Process

a) Nominations Open

Date: Monday, 12 January 2026

Nominations open via official APF form (online and PDF options)

b) Nominations Close

Date: Saturday, 29 March 2026 at 5:00pm ACDT

c) Shortlist Announced

Date: Friday, 8 May 2026

Announced via social media and email updates

Shortlisted nominees will be directly notified

d) Winners Announced & Awards Presented

Date: During the 2026 Converge Conference