

## Medical Grand Challenge 2025/26

### *Healthier by Design: Building Tomorrow's Solutions*

#### Official Competition Guidelines – Judging Rubrics

## 1. Introduction

The competition will be judged by an esteemed panel of judges, comprising, but not restricted to, industry leaders, business, medicine, and engineering professors.

The judging panel will be announced one month prior to the Grand Finale.

### 1.1. Business Model Canvas (BMC)

#### **Nascent and Open Categories**

The BMC rubrics for both the Nascent and Open Categories of the NUS Medical Grand Challenge (MGC) are as follows:

	Criteria	Description	Below Expectations (1-3)	Meeting Expectations (4-6)	Exceeding Expectations (7-10)
1	Healthcare Impact	1. What is the <u>extent</u> of the outcome? 2. How <u>relevant</u> is the targeted landscape?			
2	Innovation	1. How <u>novel</u> are the proposed ideas? 2. Are they able to <u>identify obstacles</u> and <u>tackle them resourcefully</u> ? 3. Does the solution <u>address the problem</u> ?			
3	Product Viability	1. Are the ideas technically <u>feasible</u> ? 2. Are the ideas <u>cost-efficient</u> ?			
4	Market and Commercialisation	1. How <u>creative</u> is the marketing strategy? 2. How <u>feasible</u> is the business model? 3. Is the marketing targeted at the <u>appropriate audience</u> ?			

### 1.2. Written Pitch and Video Pitch Submission

#### **Nascent Category**

Please refer to the MGC 2025/26 Guidelines for the Written Pitch requirements, and the Video Pitch document for details on the Video Pitch submission.

The Written Pitch and Video Pitch Submission Assessment rubrics for the Nascent Category of the NUS Medical Grand Challenge (MGC) are as follows:

**Written Pitch and Video Pitch Submissions: Constitutes 70% of marks before shortlisting**

Criteria	Below Expectations (1-3)	Meeting Expectations (4-6)	Exceeding Expectations (7-10)
<b>Healthcare Impact [30%]</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What is the <u>extent</u> of the outcome?</li> <li>- How <u>relevant</u> is the targeted landscape?</li> </ul>			
<b>Innovation [25%]</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How <u>novel</u> are the proposed ideas?</li> <li>- Are they able to <u>identify obstacles</u> and <u>tackle them resourcefully</u>?</li> <li>- Does the solution <u>address the problem</u>?</li> </ul>			
<b>Market and Commercialisation [20%]</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How <u>creative</u> is the marketing strategy?</li> <li>- How <u>feasible</u> is the business model?</li> <li>- Is the marketing targeted at the <u>appropriate audience</u>?</li> </ul>			
<b>Environmental Sustainability [15%]</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The project should create a positive impact on the environment by <u>reducing wastage and/or pollution</u></li> <li>- The project should strive to <u>protect our ecosystem</u> and <u>preserve natural resources</u> for future generations</li> <li>- The project should produce success and viability in the long term in order to ensure the <u>continuity of green possibilities</u></li> </ul>			
<b>Product Viability [10%]</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Are the ideas technically <u>feasible</u>?</li> <li>- Are the ideas <u>cost-efficient</u>?</li> </ul>			
<b>Overall Score and Comments</b>			

### Open Category

Please refer to the MGC 2025/26 Guidelines for the Written Pitch requirements, and the Video Pitch document for details on the Video Pitch submission.

The Written Pitch and Video Pitch Submission Assessment rubrics for the Open Category of the NUS Medical Grand Challenge (MGC) are as follows:

### Written Pitch and Video Pitch Submissions: Constitutes 70% of marks before shortlisting

Criteria	Below Expectations (1-3)	Meeting Expectations (4-6)	Exceeding Expectations (7-10)
<b>Market and Commercialisation [30%]</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How <u>creative</u> is the marketing strategy?</li> <li>- How <u>feasible</u> is the business model?</li> <li>- Is the marketing targeted at the <u>appropriate audience</u>?</li> </ul>			
<b>Innovation [25%]</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How <u>novel</u> are the proposed ideas?</li> <li>- Are they able to <u>identify obstacles</u> and <u>tackle them resourcefully</u>?</li> <li>- Does the solution <u>address the problem</u>?</li> <li>- For Tech Mentor projects, the contribution of the participants should be clearly stated</li> </ul>			
<b>Product Viability [20%]</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Are the ideas technically <u>feasible</u>?</li> </ul>			

- Are the ideas <u>cost-efficient</u> ?			
<b>Healthcare Impact [15%]</b>			
- What is the <u>extent</u> of the outcome?			
- How <u>relevant</u> is the targeted landscape?			
<b>Environmental Sustainability [10%]</b>			
- The project should create a positive impact on the environment by <u>reducing wastage and/or pollution</u>			
- The project should strive to <u>protect our ecosystem</u> and <u>preserve natural resources</u> for future generations			
- The project should produce success and viability in the long term in order to ensure the <u>continuity of green possibilities</u>			
<b>Overall Score and Comments</b>			

### 1.3. Poster Presentation and Team Q&A with Judges

Each team will be assigned a booth where they will be required to display their poster and present their project to the judges. This session is compulsory and will contribute to the final evaluation used to determine the shortlisted teams.

The Poster Presentation and Team Q&A will take place during the Grand Finale on **Saturday, 15 August 2026**.

#### **Nascent and Open Categories**

The Poster Presentation and Team Q&A Assessment rubrics for both the Nascent and Open Categories of the NUS Medical Grand Challenge (MGC) are as follows:

#### **Poster Presentation and Team Q&A: Constitutes 30% of marks before shortlisting**

Criteria	Below Expectations (1-3)	Meeting Expectations (4-6)	Exceeding Expectations (7-10)
Engagement during presentation and Q&A [20%]			
Creativity of poster [20%]			
Clarity and conciseness of poster [20%]			
Project defence [25%]			
Team dynamics and short-term/long-term goals [15%]			
<b>Overall Score and Comments</b>			

### 1.4. After Shortlisting

#### 1.4.1. Wild Card Teams (*Optional*)

Wild Cards are reserved for teams that have performed exceptionally well during the Poster Presentation and Team Q&A and are deemed as deserving by the judges to be shortlisted for the live oral pitch at the Grand Finale event.

These teams have not been qualified based on their final submission scores. All decisions made by the judges and the MGC Committee would be final, including the situation where no wild card teams are selected, and not subject to appeal.

There will be a maximum of **2 wild card teams for the Nascent Category** and **1 wild card team for the Open Category**.

#### 1.4.2. Oral Pitch and Q&A (*Shortlisted Teams only*)

Based on the Final Submission, Poster Presentation and Team Q&A, shortlisted teams will be invited to deliver an Oral Pitch during the Grand Finale 2026, using the one-slide presentation submitted in advance.

Each team will be given **3 minutes to pitch their idea**, followed by **3 minutes of Q&A** with the judging panel (inclusive of the time taken by judges to ask questions).

A moderator will be present to manage the timing. Failure to adhere to the time limit or to comply with the moderator's instructions may result in a score penalty and/or disqualification.

#### **Oral Pitch: Constitutes 100% of marks after shortlisting**

Criteria	Below Expectations (1-3)	Meeting Expectations (4-6)	Exceeding Expectations (7-10)
<b>Effectiveness [30%]</b> - Effectiveness of the product based on the problem identified			
<b>Presentation [30%]</b> - Persuasiveness and delivery of the Oral Pitch			
<b>Viability and Sustainability of Product [15%]</b>			
<b>Healthcare Impact [15%]</b>			
<b>Engagement during Q&amp;A [10%]</b>			
<b>Overall Score and Comments</b>			

#### 1.5. Prizes/Awards

Based on the final submissions (Written and Video Pitch), Poster Presentation and Team Q&A, selected teams from each category (Nascent and Open) will be shortlisted to participate in the Oral Pitch and Q&A segment during the Grand Finale.

The number of shortlisted teams in each category will be announced nearer to the Grand Finale.

Performance in the live Oral Pitch and Q&A will contribute to the final scoring, which will determine the teams eligible for the top prizes in each category.

### 1.5.1. Top Prizes for Nascent Category

1<sup>st</sup> Prize: S\$15,000

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: S\$10,000

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: S\$7,500

*Disclaimer:*

- *If more than 5 teams participate in the Nascent category, all three prizes will be awarded*
- *If 5 or fewer teams participate, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize will not be awarded*
- *If 3 or fewer teams participate, only the 1<sup>st</sup> Prize will be awarded*

### 1.5.2. Top Prizes for Open Category

1<sup>st</sup> Prize: S\$15,000

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: S\$10,000

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: S\$7,500

*Disclaimer:*

- *If more than 5 teams participate in the Open category, all three prizes will be awarded*
- *If 5 or fewer teams participate, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize will not be awarded*
- *If 3 or fewer teams participate, only the 1<sup>st</sup> Prize will be awarded*

### 1.5.3. Special Award: People's Choice Award

This award recognises the project which has garnered the **greatest number of votes** from the audience during the Grand Finale.

Further details on the voting procedure will be released closer to the Grand Finale.

**Prize Amount: S\$3000**

### 1.5.4. Special Award: Social Responsibility Award

This award recognises the project which addresses an issue with widespread social repercussions and maximises the expected social benefits of its solution. This project should stand out in its capacity and scope in improving the health of its target audience by addressing societal factors such as ease of use, accessibility and affordability.

**Prize Amount: S\$3000**

Criteria	Below Expectations (1-3)	Meeting Expectations (4-6)	Exceeding Expectations (7-10)
Ease of Use [25%]			
Accessibility [25%]			
Affordability [25%]			
Scope of the Project: How wide-reaching and significant the impacts are [25%]			
Overall Score and Comments			

### 1.5.5. Special Award: Long-Term Sustainability Award

This award recognises projects that demonstrates strong long-term feasibility, effective resource management and cost-efficiency. It highlights initiatives that show clear potential for sustainability or self-sufficiency over time, particularly in terms of resource use and funding.

**Prize Amount: S\$3000**

Criteria	Below Expectations (1-3)	Meeting Expectations (4-6)	Exceeding Expectations (7-10)
Maximising Current Resources [30%]			
Feasibility: Potential to Continue in the Long-term [30%]			
Cost-effectiveness [25%]			
Minimises Negative Impacts in Community OR Increases Positive Impacts in Community [25%]			
Overall Score and Comments			

### 1.6. Remarks

Only deserving teams will receive the Special Award. A maximum of one award will be given per category, and if the judges determine that no team meets the criteria, the award will not be presented for that year. All teams are eligible for the Special Awards, regardless of whether they are shortlisted for the Grand Finale.

### 1.7. Note on Judging

The judging panel reserves the right not to award in any given category. Any decision made by the panel of judges will be final and not open to appeal.

The organisers reserve the right to make changes to the judging panel based on the needs of the competition and the availability of the individual judges. To ensure fairness and prevent undue interference by teams, the identities of the judges will not be disclosed until the Grand Finale.