

Dear all

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Free online course: What is health research?



What is Health Research?

Free Online Course!

The NIHR Clinical Research Network (CRN) has launched a new online course called 'What is Health

Research?' The Massive Open Online Course, or MOOC, has been designed in collaboration with the University of Leeds Digital Education Service and Futurelearn.

The three week course is aimed at patients, public, carers and anyone with a keen interest in learning more about the world of health research. Learners can complete the course at their own pace.

Find out more [here](#)

Latest funding calls and other opportunities

NIHR Academic Health Science Centres Competition

Details: Academic Health Science Centres (AHSCs) are partnerships comprising of one or more NHS organisation and one or more university that combines excellence in health research, health education and patient care to support the translation of scientific advances and contribute to economic growth through partnerships with life science organisations.

The NIHR wishes to designate AHSCs for five years from 1 April 2020.

Deadline for proposals: 1pm on 11 December 2019

Find out more [here](#)

NIHR Programme Development Grants - Competition 26

Details: Programme Development Grants are designed to increase the rate and number of successful applications for a full Programme Grant by supporting the completion of the necessary preparatory work to suitably position the research team to submit a competitive Programme Grant application. Individual awards are for a maximum of £150k over a period of 12 - 24 months. The amount of funding awarded, however, is determined by the scale and nature of the research activity to be conducted.

Applications to PDG are made with the support of an NHS body and other providers of NHS services in England. If an application is successful, a contract will be placed with that organisation for delivery of the research and all funds for the research will be paid to the NHS organisation or other provider of NHS services.

Deadline for proposals: 1pm on 18 December 2019

Find out more [here](#)

Future NIHR funding calls: Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation Programme

Details: The Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation (EME) Programme funds ambitious studies evaluating interventions with potential to make a step-change in the promotion of health, treatment of disease and improvement of rehabilitation or long-term care. Within these studies, EME supports research in the mechanisms of diseases and treatments. EME is a partnership between the Medical Research Council (MRC) and the NIHR.

The EME Programme is considering the following topic for future commissioned research:

- [Bipolar disorder](#)
- [Autoimmune diseases](#)

The likely advert date for these is 28 November 2019. However, please note this is an indicative date, which may change or may not be advertised.

Future NIHR funding calls: NIHR School for Primary Care Research (SPCR)

Details: The NIHR will invite academic institutions in England to apply to a new open competition to renew and refresh membership of the NIHR School for Primary Care Research (SPCR). The renewed SPCR will conduct world-leading research in primary care which responds to and meets the needs of local populations and local health and care systems, and which addresses the nation's changing demographics and corresponding impact on disease burdens and service demands.

Distinctive to this new phase of the school, is the explicit aim to strengthen the primary care research sector more broadly, with a requirement for members of the school to share their expertise with non-member institutions.

Potential advert date: 6 November 2019

Stage 1 deadline for submission: 1pm on 15 January 2020

Find out more [here](#)

Future NIHR funding calls: Invention for Innovation - Product Development Awards Call 19

Details: The NIHR Invention for Innovation (i4i) Programme supports the preclinical and clinical development of medical devices in areas of existing or emerging patient need. The NIHR Invention for Innovation (i4i) programme will invite Stage 1 proposals to Call 19 of its researcher-led Product Development Awards (PDA) from 30 October 2019.

Potential advert date: 30 October 2019

Stage 1 deadline for submission: 1pm on 11 December 2019

Find out more [here](#)

RDS West Midlands can offer free expert support and advice on all aspects of designing and developing applications for NIHR funding – please complete our online [Request for Support](#) form to gain access to our advice.

Funding calls from other bodies

ESRC: New Investigator Grants

Details: New Investigator Grants form one element of the ESRC's support for early career researchers. The scheme is specifically aimed at supporting those looking to make the transition to an independent researcher through managing their first major research project. Grants ranging from £100,000 to £300,000 full Economic Cost (fEC) can be awarded. Proposals are welcomed across the full disciplinary range of the social sciences and at the interface with the wider sciences; however, the social sciences must represent at least 50 per cent of the research focus and effort.

Deadline for proposals: here is no closing date; proposals can be submitted at any time.
Find out more [here](#)

Francis Crick Institute: Doctoral Clinical Fellowship

Details: Fellows on the Francis Crick doctoral clinical fellowship programme carry out research projects for three years while following the Crick's clinical PhD programme. Clinical PhD trainees at the Crick Institute thrive in an academic environment underpinned by world-class technical expertise in areas ranging from computational biology and genomics to cell and structural biology and imaging. This provides a firm foundation for clinicians with future academic career paths in mind.

Applications are welcomed from:

- candidates from all medical and surgical specialties
- candidates with a background in dentistry
- candidates with a background in veterinary medicine

Applicants should be in a training position (not necessarily with a training number).

Candidates at consultant grade will not be considered.

Deadline for proposals: 12 noon on 20 November 2019

Find out more [here](#)

Dunhill Medical Trust: Research project grants 2020/21 (Round 1)

Details: The Dunhill Medical Trust is keen to support high quality research projects which are, perhaps, smaller than can be managed by the Research Councils or fall outside their priority themes but are important to understanding the mechanisms of ageing, treating disease and frailty and identifying and developing new and effective ways to improve the lives of older people. They are also committed to funding research into treating diseases and conditions which disproportionately affect older people but are less well-funded (excluding cancer and heart disease).

Applications are accepted from 4th November 2019.

Deadline for proposals: 5pm on 10 January 2020

Find out more [here](#) and [here](#)

Dunhill Medical Trust: Research Training Fellowships

Details: Research Training Fellowships are intended to provide training opportunities for clinicians and allied health professionals who wish to pursue a research career in understanding the underpinning mechanisms of ageing, the treatment of age-related diseases and frailty or improving health and social care for older people.

Fellows are expected to undertake a higher degree (e.g. MPhil, MRes, PhD, MD). The proposed project should be kept relatively simple and appropriate for successful completion of the higher degree and address one (or more) of DMT's priority areas for support:

- Research into the underpinning mechanisms of age-related disease
- Research into the causes and treatments of disease, disability and frailty related to ageing which have the potential to have a meaningful impact on the health and well-being of older people within a reasonable time frame
- Innovation in the care of older people, including rehabilitation and palliative care.
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Deadline for proposals: 5pm on 28 February 2020

Find out more [here](#) and [here](#)

Cancer Research UK: Programme Foundation Awards

Details: Programme Foundation Awards support group leaders who have a salaried independent position to further develop their own research programme and build their

reputation as a world leader.

Programme Foundation Awards can fund:

- Basic biological research relating to cancer
- Preclinical studies that will generate biological data to underpin therapeutic development
- Biomarker research • Imaging research
- Radiotherapy research
- The application of engineering and physical sciences to cancer
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Deadline for proposals: 20 February 2020

Find out more [here](#)

Cancer Research UK: Science Committee Programme Awards

Details: Science Committee Programme Awards provide long-term support for broad, multidisciplinary research where the aim is to answer questions spanning basic and translational research.

Applications are accepted from scientists, clinicians or health care workers in UK universities, medical schools, hospitals and some research institutions. All applicants for Science Committee Programme Awards are required to discuss their proposal with CRUK staff before starting the application process. Applications are judged on the basis of scientific excellence, innovation and importance to furthering our understanding of cancer or potential benefits to cancer patients.

Deadline for proposals: 20 February 2020

Find out more [here](#)

NIHR Funding deadlines calendar

For an overview of the year's NIHR calls and ongoing opportunities, please view the online calendar: <https://www.nihr.ac.uk/funding-and-support/current-funding-opportunities/>

News

New report highlights how NIHR support for clinical research benefits the UK economy and NHS

The value of clinical research to the NHS, the UK economy and jobs market has been evaluated in a new report, which provides an assessment of the economic impact of the National Institute for Health Research Clinical Research Network's (NIHR CRN) activities to support clinical research in England.

The report, produced by KPMG UK's Economics team and commissioned by the NIHR CRN, covers the financial period 2016/17 to 2018/19 and presents amalgamated three year data alongside figures for each individual financial year (FY). It shows that over this three year period, clinical research supported by the NIHR CRN generated an estimated £8bn of gross value added (GVA) and 47,467 full time equivalent (FTE) jobs for the UK.

Find out more [here](#)

NIHR teams up with NHS England and NHS Improvement to support elite university-NHS partnerships

The NIHR has joined forces with NHS England and NHS Improvement to launch a new open competition to designate the next round of Academic Health Science Centres in England.

These partnerships between top universities and outstanding NHS organisations will undertake world-leading research to tackle deadly diseases, develop new treatments and transform patient care. The partnerships successful in applying for designation will collaborate to bring their discoveries directly to the frontline of the NHS, so patients can benefit from innovative ways to treat diseases and deliver care.

Find out more [here](#)

NIHR and MRC join forces to support GACD projects

We have joined forces with the MRC to invest over £6m in five implementation science projects focused on tackling diabetes and hypertension in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). These projects will unite with over 25 international research projects from across 40 different countries in a landmark collaboration under the Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases (GACD).

The GACD is a unique collaboration of fifteen of the world's largest health research funding agencies. Its goal is to tackle the burden of non-communicable diseases in LMICs by systematically building the evidence base for sound policymaking through implementation science. Collectively, the GACD agencies will commit USD 50 million in support of the Scale Up Programme research projects.

Find out more [here](#)

Blogs and articles

NIHR blog: Making research safe

Nicole Huxley and Sheila Mburu reflect on research funders' progress towards safeguarding in international development research one year on from a joint commitment to prevent and tackle incidents of harm and abuse in research in this area.

Find out more [here](#)

HRA blog: Streamlining clinical research

In this blog, Dr Janet Messer (Director of Approvals for the Health Research Authority) reflects on the recent report published by the NIHR on the impact and value of the Clinical Research Network, and discusses the work that the HRA has done to streamline research in the UK to make it more accessible to participants.

Find out more [here](#)

HRA blog: Public involvement and ethical review

Jim Elliot is the Public Involvement lead for the Health Research Authority. In this blog, Jim talks about the support that is available to ensure that Research Ethics Committees always have the information that they need about public involvement when considering new studies.

Find out more [here](#)

Training and Events

Support available from Clinical Research Network West Midlands

Please note that support and advice is available from the CRN WM Study Support Service Early Contact Team for any study that is potentially eligible or applying for CRN Support. This includes providing cost attribution advice to support researchers in completing their

grant applications and authorising the Schedule of Events Cost Attribution Tool (SoECAT*), navigating the approvals process, accessing training provided by the Network, identifying and supporting the management of excess treatment costs, and can highlight further support within the Network to support study set up and delivery to time and target.

*Please find attached information on our SoECAT Clinics which provides dates to access support open to anyone working on a specific study.

For more information or support. Please contact Kirsty Hunter or Ellen Edwards.
email: studysupport.crnwestmidlands@nihr.ac.uk

Applying for NIHR funding? Access free advice and support from the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Research Design Service West Midlands

Our multi-disciplinary team can offer advice on the key ingredients in a successful health or social care research proposal, including:

- Statistics and health economics
- Qualitative methodology
- Support on involving patients and public in research, identified by the NIHR as a critical component in funding applications
- Peer review of draft grant applications before submission.

Find out more about how RDS West Midlands could help you and your team at <http://www.rds-wm.nihr.ac.uk/>

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