

Dear all

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COVID-19: Info, updates and resources

NICE rapid guidelines

The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) are supporting the NHS in its response to managing the COVID-19 pandemic by producing rapid guidelines and rapid evidence summaries. Topics are referred to NICE from NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE/I). Recent guidelines look at severe asthma, managing symptoms (including at the end of life) in the community, and dermatological conditions treated with drugs affecting the immune response.

Read more [here](#)

Health Research Authority: Approved COVID-19 research

To ensure researchers and sponsors know about other COVID-19 studies taking place across the UK, the HRA publish information about approved projects using the Research Summaries tool. For COVID-19 research they are also fast tracking this publication. This will give the public, healthcare professionals and policy makers insight into what research is happening to better understand and manage the virus and treat the infection.

Read more [here](#)

Latest COVID-19 funding opportunities

NIHR and UKRI call for research on COVID-19 and ethnicity

Details: The NIHR and UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) are jointly calling for research proposals to investigate emerging evidence of an association between ethnicity and COVID-19 incidence and adverse health outcomes. The two organisations are seeking to fund research to further our understanding of potential differences in risk for ethnic groups, which groups are at greatest risk of a range of adverse outcomes, and, based on that understanding, how to reduce morbidity and mortality from COVID-19 in groups identified at greater risk.

This call welcomes research proposals in two areas:

- Impact of COVID-19 and association between ethnicity and COVID-19 in the general population.
- Impact of COVID-19 specifically on people working in health and social care from BAME backgrounds.

Deadline for proposals: 9am on 11th May 2020

Find out more [here](#)

NIHR COVID-19 Rapid Response Rolling Call

Details: Building on the initial rapid funding round for COVID-19 research, the NIHR and UKRI are holding a rolling call for proposals for research into COVID-19. The call is for UK-led academic, small and medium enterprise (SME) and wider industry research that will address a wide range of COVID-19 knowledge gaps/needs, and which will lead to a benefit in UK, potentially international, public health within 12 months.

The size of grants will vary according to the needs of each research project, but will need to provide a robust case for value for money. All proposals will need to be able to show how progress within the period of award could make a significant contribution to the understanding, prevention and/or management of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Deadline for proposals: 31st December 2020

Find out more [here](#)

Latest NIHR funding opportunities

Invention for Innovation - Challenge Awards Call 10

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 i4i programme invites proposals to Call 10 of its researcher-led Challenge Awards on Real World Implementation (RWI). The RWI Challenge Award will fund investigations of medtech innovations in healthcare settings. The aim is to shorten the evidence gap between the safety/efficacy typical of a newly or nearly CE marked technology and what

is required for decisions by commissioners and regulators. At the same time, this will de-risk the product for follow-on investment.

Deadline for proposals: 5th June 2020

Find out more [here](#)

Invention for Innovation - Product Development Awards Call 20

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 i4i programme invites proposals to Call 20 of its researcher-led Product Development Awards (PDA). PDAs fund the development of disruptive early stage medical technologies that address existing or emerging healthcare needs. They support translational projects developing medical devices, active implantable devices and in vitro diagnostic devices. PDAs also support projects that use and develop techniques or technologies from other industry sectors that could have a potential impact if applied in a healthcare setting.

Deadline for proposals: 3rd June 2020

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 and other peer reviewed funding bodies– please complete our online Request for Support form to gain access to our advice.

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/researchers/funding-opportunities/>

Funding calls from other bodies

Resuscitation Council (UK): Research and Development Grants

Details: The Resuscitation Council (UK) exists to promote high-quality, scientific, resuscitation guidelines that are applicable to everybody, and to contribute to saving life through education, training, research and collaboration.

Research and Development Grants are designed to support the generation of new knowledge in resuscitation science and education. Applications are encouraged from individuals working in the NHS or a university department within the United Kingdom who hold qualifications appropriate to their grade. These individuals should be in professions allied to medicine and should have a credible track record of conducting such research projects or be working under appropriate supervision.

Deadline for proposals: 5pm on 31st May 2020

Find out more [here](#)

Training and Events

NIHR webinar: collaborating virtually through disruption

What: Leading and working across organisational boundaries effectively, engaging and motivating others to deliver a shared goal and keeping your own focus to deliver your commitments are often magnified through periods of disruption and significant change. This webinar will explore current challenges and consider what would help you to achieve great collaboration through periods of disruption, working in new environments and having to do your work in new and different ways.

When: 12:15-13:15 on 12th May 2020

Where: Online

Find out more [here](#)

NIHR webinar: Leading through uncertainty – Finding growth and meaning through times of unprecedented change

What: During times of significant change, one typically looks for stability, guidance and positive role modelling from leaders. Therefore, leaders must help others find meaning and purpose in the current adversities, so that everyone can grow and be successful in their 'new normal'.

This session aims to:

- provide leaders with an understanding of how to support themselves and others through this current period of unprecedented change
- to share the typical 'change curve' their teams will go through and how to leverage this to find growth and meaning in times of change
- to generate practical actions to ensure we lead with compassion in a way that enables others to feel valued and supported
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When: 12:15-13:15 on 6th May 2020

Where: Online

Find out more [here](#)

NIHR ARC EoE Implementation Seminar Series: Implementation from the perspective of a knowledge mobilisation fellow

What: The NIHR ARC EoE runs an Implementation Fellowship featuring a series of open seminars in which speakers discuss an aspect of research implementation in which they are internationally preminent. Anyone interested in research implementation is welcome to join via Zoom, an online videoconferencing platform that runs on any browser (no account needed).

When: 7th May 2020

Where: Online

Find out more [here](#)

UCL online course: Evaluation – An Introduction (Healthcare and Public Health)

What: This online course aims to equip healthcare and public health staff to undertake a pragmatic evaluation of a local service or intervention. It covers evaluation design, collecting and analysing qualitative and quantitative evaluation data, and approaches to disseminating evaluation findings. No previous knowledge of evaluation, or experience of study design and statistics, is required.

This course is temporarily free to access. It's being made available for free to help

healthcare and public health staff access continuing professional development during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Find out more [here](#)

The King's Fund: Past events available online

What: The King's Fund have made the presentations, audio and video from past events available online. Events include:

- Scaling innovation: Learning from asset-based approaches in social care
- Teamworking across multiple organisation
- Health and care explained: How the system works and how it is changing
- What's in store for health and care in 2020?
- Emerging technologies: What does the future of healthcare look like
- And many more...

Find out more [here](#)

Essential Guide to Grant Applications: Video presentations available online

The Essential Guide to Grant Applications is three-day masterclass on how to write a grant application that is strong from a methodological point of view, that reads well and presents a convincing case for funding. The course is funded and hosted by NIHR Research Design Service South Central.

The course is held annually in October, but is likely to be postponed in 2020 due to COVID-19. However, the majority of the EGGA teaching from 2019 is [available to view online on the RDS SC YouTube page](#). And so, although we cannot invite you to join us in person this year, we would love to share the teaching with you online.

View the EGGA video playlist on YouTube [here](#)

Support available from Clinical Research Network West Midlands

Until further notice, the NIHR Clinical Research Network is pausing the site set up of any new or ongoing studies at NHS and social care sites that are not nationally prioritised COVID-19 studies. This will enable our research workforce to focus on delivering the nationally prioritised COVID-19 studies or enabling redeployment to frontline care where necessary. These studies are enabling the clinical and epidemiological evidence to be gathered to inform national policy and will enable new treatments, diagnostics and vaccines to be developed and tested. The complete focus of the NIHR Clinical Research Network will be on delivering these highest priority COVID-19 studies.

If you do need to get in touch with us please use the following email:
studysupport.crnwestmidlands@nhr.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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