

Dear all

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Keep up-to-date with COVID-19 funding calls
and resources



Our friends at RDS London have put together a really useful webpage, which is updated frequently with the latest funding calls and resources for researchers looking at COVID-19.

Visit the website [here](#).

RDS WM post award support-we are here to help

If you are conducting a research project for which you received funding from an open, national, peer-reviewed funding scheme and are currently experiencing problems - e.g. due to COVID 19 and the impact lockdown has had on many studies - the RDS can assist you with problems you may be having relating to issues of research design. We can provide assistance whether or not you had RDS support when submitting your study for funding. Do feel free to contact us, either to your local hub or by sending a general support request via our [website](#)

Please note, however, that if you need advice that is *not* to do with research design – e.g. relating to research governance, funding, and logistical issues – this is probably best sought elsewhere, e.g. a Research and Development Department in your organization or the [NIHR Clinical Research Network](#) (CRN).

RDS blog: Health economics

Despite being an indispensable part of research for many funding bodies and programs, health economics is still an enigma for many researchers. Our RDS blog this month looks at the economic questions we need to incorporate into our research and illustrates how health economics can be used to support public health, health promotion, and disease prevention policies such as the ones we've seen during the Covid-19 pandemic.



Find out more [here](#)

Latest NIHR funding calls

Clinical Academic Research Partnerships

Details: This scheme offers a mechanism for clinical staff at consultant level with a PhD or MD who are not currently research active to participate in collaborative high-quality research partnerships with established leading biomedical researchers.

This scheme provides a new flexible route for research-qualified NHS consultants to increase their research skills and experience by engaging with groups and centres of biomedical research excellence, enabling the cross-seeding of perspectives, ideas and connections needed to underpin future translational biomedical research.

Deadline for proposals: 4pm on 29th October 2020

Find out more [here](#)

Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation Programme – Researcher-led workstream

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 accepting stage 1 applications to their researcher-led workstream.

Deadline for proposals: 1pm on 1st December 2020

Find out more [here](#)

School for Social Care Research: Career development awards

Details: As part of the NIHR School for Social Care Research's commitment to developing research capacity in adult social care, applications are being accepted for Individual Research Career Development Awards.

Suitable applicants may be individuals already working in social care in research, education or practice, or people with research expertise in an aligned sector, topic area or discipline who wish to bring their skills and experience to adult social care. SSCR are keen to support professionals working in adult social care who wish to develop their research capacity, as well as individuals who are already in research careers. Applicants can request funding of up to £50,000.

Deadline for proposals: 18th January 2021

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

MRC: Neuroimmunology Data Generation Award for Early Career Researchers

Details: This call aims to provide funds to support pilot data generation, hypothesis-driven, mechanistic studies which examine the role played by inflammatory and immune processes in neurological conditions and mental illness.

Applicants must be early career researchers. Applications must demonstrate this is a multidisciplinary team including at least one researcher with expertise in neuroscience/mental health and one researcher with expertise in immunology and justify the complementarity offered by the proposed collaboration. MRC encourages high-risk projects aimed at generating data to provide a strong evidence base and clear rationale for larger programmes of research.

Deadline for proposals: 4pm on 22nd October 2020

Find out more [here](#)

Scar Free Foundation: Conflict Wound Research Call

Details: The Scar Free Foundation is a medical research charity whose mission is to achieve scar free healing within a generation and transform the lives of those affected by disfiguring conditions.

The Scar Free Foundation is accepting applications for early stage, preliminary or exploratory research questions that could lead to major grant applications, in priority areas of Conflict Wound Research. Projects that could lead to significant research that addresses the longer-term, physiological and psychological impact of conflict wounds and scarring upon current and future military veterans will be especially welcomed in this round.

Deadline for proposals: 5pm on 18th September 2020

Find out more [here](#)

British Scoliosis Research Foundation: Research grants

Details: The British Scoliosis Research Foundation (BSRF) promotes research into the treatment of scoliosis in the UK. Each year the BSRF funds a great deal of research into scoliosis and periodically holds an international symposium to spread the knowledge gained from research.

BSRF Research Grants are open to appropriately qualified professionals such as scientists, clinicians, and allied health professionals (nurses, psychologists or physiotherapists). All applications will be considered, however, applicants are advised to submit their proposal under one of the following three headings:

- Small exploratory grant
- New investigation grant
- Major research grant

Deadline for proposals: 31st January 2021

Find out more [here](#)

National Institute of Academic Anaesthesia: Research Grants

Details: Suitable projects may be large research studies, small clinical/benchttop projects, idea (innovation) development, observational studies/data collection, quality improvements and clinical audits (though the latter are unlikely to receive Association funding if they are small, 'routine' local audits). Any amount of funding may be sought, from purchase of small pieces of equipment up to research fellowships, but every item of cost must be specified and

will be carefully scrutinised during the awards process; applications for unreasonable or unrealistic amounts of funding will not proceed to the final stage of the process.

Deadline for proposals: Midday on 25th September 2020

Find out more [here](#)

National Institute of Academic Anaesthesia: British Oxygen Company Chair of Anaesthesia Research Grant

Details: In 1958, the British Oxygen Company (BOC) made a charitable donation in support of anaesthesia research. The BOC Chair of Anaesthesia Fund was created using this donation and is a subsidiary charity of the Royal College of Anaesthetists. The object of the charity is the endowment of a research fellowship in a department of Anaesthesia. On behalf of the Royal College of Anaesthetists, the National Institute of Academic Anaesthesia (NIAA) is inviting applications for this grant.

Applications are invited from clinicians and basic scientists conducting research in anaesthesia, which can additionally be projects focused on topics of relevance to the COVID-19 pandemic, but this is not mandatory.

Deadline for proposals: 5pm on 30th October 2020

Find out more [here](#)

British Geriatrics Society: Movement Disorders Research Grant

Details: The British Geriatrics Society administers a number of grants, prizes and awards with a view to encouraging high quality research and furthering the professional development of professionals with an interest in older people's healthcare. The Movement Disorders Research Grant supports small research, quality improvement and innovation projects in the field of older people with movement disorders.

Deadline for proposals: 31st December 2020

Find out more [here](#)

Pathological Society: Small Grants Scheme

Details: The small grants scheme encourages investigative research in histopathology, particularly aimed at generating research data which may contribute towards a substantive application to a funding body. It is aimed at trainees (specialist registrars or honorary specialist registrars) consultants and post-doctoral histopathology trainees who are members of the Society.

Deadline for proposals: 1st October 2020

Find out more [here](#)

News

Raising awareness and understanding of trials methodology research

The Trials Methodology Research Partnership have launched a new webpage of resources which describe the benefits of trials methodology research for patients (e.g. specific trial examples).

The webpage aims to raise awareness and understanding of trials methodology research including how it can benefit patients.

Access the 'What is Trials Methodology Research?' webpage [here](#)

Programme Grants for Applied Research – Vacancy for Sub-Committee Chair

The Programme Grants for Applied Research programme has four sub-committee chairs, one of which is now available. Applicants are expected to be recognised nationally and internationally as leaders in applied health and social care research, as judged by high quality publications, major research funding, demonstrable impact of their research on patients, service users, carers and the health and social care systems, and other measures of peer esteem. We advise applicants to have permission and support from their host institution prior to applying.

Tenure is for four years. Extensions may be made for an additional two years up to a maximum of six years at the discretion of the Programme Director. Reapplication is only permissible after a two-year period has elapsed. An honorarium is payable and all out of pocket expenses, including travel and overnight accommodation, are reimbursed where appropriate .

Find out more [here](#)

Patient and Public Involvement

NIHR blog: Improving clinical trials – Keep the focus on the participants

Jeremy Taylor, NIHR Director for Public Voice, NIHR Centre for Engagement and Dissemination, discusses how COVID-19 has brought clinical trials to the forefront and outlines recent work done by the Centre on improving the experience of those participating in clinical trials.

Find out more [here](#)

Training and events

NIHR: Tips for applying for a Development and Skills Enhancement Award

What: Gain insights into the NIHR Development and Skills Enhancement Award and find out what makes a successful application. This webinar will help you to:

- discover what makes a good application
- find out what key mistakes to avoid in an application
- learn about good examples of successful application

When: 12:15-13:15 on 19th August 2020

Where: Online

Find out more [here](#)

Trials Methodology Research Partnership: Use of routine data in trials in the UK

What: As part of their webinar series, the TMRP are looking at the subject of routine data in UK trials. Presenter will be Andrew McKay (University of Liverpool) and Sharon Love (UCL).

When: 12:00 on 20th August 2020

Where: Online

Find out more [here](#)

Support available from Clinical Research Network West Midlands

As you may be aware, the NIHR CRN portfolio, which was paused since the start of the pandemic to allow full focus on COVID-19 research, has recently restarted. Support and advice is available from the CRN WM Study Support Service 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 note that prioritisation of support will be for nationally prioritised COVID-19 Urgent Public Health Research studies.

**For more information please contact: studysupport.crnwestmidlands@nihr.ac.uk.
Website: <http://www.nihr.ac.uk/nihr-in-your-area/west-midlands/>**

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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