

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 \(CRN\)](#).

### Save the date: Research for Social Care (RfSC) Roadshow Event: 7th October 2020

The NIHR Research for Social Care (RfSC) call is an annual competition specifically for social care proposals, run by NIHR's Research for Patient Benefit (RfPB) programme. The aim of the annual RfSC call is to fund topics and research methodologies that increase the effectiveness of social care services, provide value for money and benefit service users and carers. RDS South Central will be hosting an event on 7th October 2020 for any researchers interested in applying to the RfSC call. We are working on the timings, but hope to release more details shortly.

Please check RDS South Central [RfSC Roadshow Event page](#) for further updates

## NIHR Future Focused Leadership Programme Cohort 3

**NIHR** | National Institute  
for Health Research

The Future Focused Leadership Programme (FFLP) is a 12-month programme designed to enhance skills in leading across organisational boundaries, leading strategy and change and influencing others to achieve the strategic aims of NIHR. The programme has been developed specifically for the NIHR and is based around research on what makes a successful leader, offering participants the opportunity to explore new thinking on how to lead in the 21st century. The programme is designed around exploring Leading Yourself, Leading Others and Leading Beyond Authority. The programme will enable participants to develop their capabilities and effectiveness as a leader by identifying and reflecting on their strengths and areas for development.

**Potential advert date:** 1st September 2020

Find out more [here](#)

## COVID-19: Info, updates and resources

### Department of Health and Social Care Guidance: Guidance: making a proposal for COVID-19 therapeutics clinical trials

Given the success of the Phase III RECOVERY platform in delivering a single platform trial across the NHS, the UK Government has increased investment in an expanded platform which will operate for the next 24 months. This will include new treatments tested in Phase II and Phase III studies which will now be delivered through the RECOVERY platform (RECOVERY+) in patients admitted to hospital.

New treatments can be proposed for inclusion in the RECOVERY+ platform for both Phase II and Phase III trials. They will be considered by the UK COVID-19 Therapeutics Advisory Panel (UK-CTAP).

Find out more [here](#)



## Latest NIHR funding calls

### NIHR Invention for Innovation Connect - Call 4

**Details:** The NIHR Invention for Innovation (i4i) Programme has launched its fourth round of i4i Connect Call - aimed at small and medium-sized med-tech enterprises (SMEs) in need of a funding boost to reach their next stage in the development pathway and accelerate the development of promising medical technologies.

i4i Connect helps SMEs get to the point where they can apply for further funding, in particular for a full i4i Product Development Award (PDA) or to support projects at any stage of the translational research and development pathway to further de-risk them for follow on investment.

**Deadline for proposals:** 16th September 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

### National Institute of Academic Anaesthesia: Difficult Airway Society Project Grant and Small Grant

**Details:** The Difficult Airway Society (DAS) is pleased to announce project grants up to a maximum sum of £15,000 and small grants up to a maximum sum of £5,000, to support research in the broad area of airway management.

DAS intends to interpret this aim widely as: any relevant research which aids in the understanding of airway management as it relates to anaesthetic practice. Therefore, the research may include:

- collection or analysis of data
- anatomical (including radiological, imaging or cadaveric/histological study)
- clinical study of patients using airway-related apparatus
- volunteer studies
- manikin or bench studies of apparatus
- clinical, volunteer or animal laboratory studies of respiratory control
- support for national investigations of airway-related problems

Research that examines offset or recovery of respiratory or upper airway characteristics from anaesthesia (e.g., tracheal extubation) as well as their response to induction of anaesthesia (e.g., tracheal intubation) are also welcome.

**Deadline for proposals:** 25th September 2020

Find out more [here](#)

### Daphne Jackson Trust / Society of Chemical Industry: Returners to Research Fellowship

**Details:** The Society of Chemical Industry is an innovation hub, supporting an international community working at the interface of where science meets business. Applications should be in applied (translational) research areas, based around any of SCI's key strategic themes: Energy, Sustainability and the Environment, AgriFood, Health and Wellbeing and Materials.

Applications are invited for a Daphne Jackson Fellowship that will be half sponsored by SCI. The Fellowship is intended for individuals returning to an area of research, within the remit area of SCI, following a career break of two or more years. The Fellowship can be held in any UK academic institution. The remaining funding will be secured by the Daphne Jackson Trust from an additional sponsor.

**Deadline for proposals:** 28th September 2020

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

### **Medical Research Foundation: Dorothy Temple Cross Tuberculosis International Collaboration Grant**

**Details:** The Dorothy Temple Cross Tuberculosis International Collaboration Grants will support new collaborations between UK and African researchers in the field of tuberculosis, to develop emerging researchers in both countries.

The Medical Research Foundation is inviting joint applications from mid-career researchers in the UK and Africa who are making the transition to independence. The proposal must focus on developing new international collaborations in the field of human tuberculosis (TB) research, in African countries where the disease is having the greatest impact. Applications from researchers working on drug resistant TB will be particularly welcomed. The collaboration should be novel and equitable.

**Deadline for proposals:** 12pm on 14th October 2020

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

## **News**

### **Department for Health and Social Care: Government creates new National Institute for Health Protection**

A brand new organisation whose primary focus is public health protection and infectious disease capability is being established by the government. The National Institute for Health Protection (NIHP) will start work immediately, with a single command structure to advance the country's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

It brings together Public Health England (PHE) and NHS Test and Trace, as well as the analytical capability of the Joint Biosecurity Centre (JBC) under a single leadership team. This is the first step towards becoming a single organisation, focused on tackling COVID-19 and protecting the nation's health.

The NIHP will be a new organisation whose primary focus is to ensure we have the best capability to control infectious disease and deal with pandemics or health protection crises.

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

### **Speech by Health and Social Care Secretary Matt Hancock: The future of public health**

Health and Social Care Secretary Matt Hancock spoke at Policy Exchange on 18th August 2020 about the future of public health. A transcript of the speech is available online. In his speech, the Health and Social Care Secretary pays tribute to everyone at Public Health England, and introduces the new National Institute for Health Protection.

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

### **NIHR Incubators launched for Clinical Education, Advanced Surgical Technology, Mental Health and Methodology**

Four new NIHR Incubators have been formed to support and advocate academic research careers in the fields of clinical education, advanced surgical technology, mental health and methodology - all areas of strategic need and importance to NIHR.

NIHR Incubators encourage networking, training and career development support in areas that need a community driven approach to increase academic research capacity. The four incubators are:

- The Clinical Education Incubator
- The Advanced Surgical Technology Incubator
- The Mental Health Incubator
- The Methodology Incubator

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

## **Blogs and articles**

### **The King's Fund: The road to renewal: five priorities for health and care**

In this article, Anna Charles and Leo Ewbank from The King's Fund look at the challenge faced by the health and care system by Covid-19, and sets out five priorities to help guide the approach to renewal across health and care.

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

## **Resources**

### **Vitalities Lab, UNSW Sydney: Breaking Methods YouTube Series**

The Vitalities Lab is a research group that is part of the Centre for Social Research in Health and the Social Policy Research Centre in the Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences at the University of New South Wales (UNSW) Sydney, Australia. The Vitalities Lab has launched a YouTube channel of short-format webinars that aims to give an overview of 'breaking' methods (i.e. methods that are new and creative). In each webinar, the presenter takes a case study approach. Using a 'voice-over' plus slides, presenters give an account of a recent or current (work in progress) empirical research project, explaining how and why they used the method.

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

## **Training and events**

### **NIHR Statistics Group Early Phase Clinical Trials: Flexible early-phase design for drug combination studies**

**What:** This event is part of the NIHR Statistics – Early Phase Trials Group webinar series on “Practical applications of advanced designs in Phase I Trials”.

**When:** 15:00-16:00 on 30th September 2020

**Where:** Online

**Cost:** Free

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

### **NIHR Statistics Group Early Phase Clinical Trials: CONCORDE: a phase I platform trial using the TiTE-CRM design**

**What:** This event is part of the NIHR Statistics – Early Phase Trials Group webinar series on “Practical applications of advanced designs in Phase I Trials”.

**When:** 15:00-16:00 on 28th October 2020

**Where:** Online

**Cost:** Free

**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](mailto: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/>

**\*We have sent you this email because we believe it may be of interest to you, if you do not wish to receive future emails from us please email me by return at [k.biddle@bham.ac.uk](mailto:k.biddle@bham.ac.uk) and I will remove you from my contact list.**