

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).

Potential advert: NIHR Fellowships for Local Authority and LA Commissioned Service Based Individuals



This pilot scheme is being designed to support individuals based in local authorities or local authority commissioned services to develop as health and/or social care researchers.

The following programmes will be available:

- **Pre-doctoral Fellowships for Local Authority and LA Commissioned Service Based Individuals**
 - **Potential advert date:** 28th January 2021

- **Doctoral Fellowships for Local Authority and LA Commissioned Service Based Individuals**
 - **Potential advert date:** 1st March 2021

This new funding represents a completely new and exciting opportunity for all individuals based within local authorities or local authority commissioned services, but especially for those without social worker or clinician status. Local authority associated clinicians and social workers are welcome to apply for support from this focussed scheme or from the ICA Programme, but cannot apply to both concurrently.

Latest NIHR funding calls

Prehabilitation: Living with and beyond cancer

Details: The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) is interested in receiving applications for applied health research studies to increase the evidence base to support health and care services for people with a new cancer diagnosis and the role of prehabilitation in their treatment pathway.

There are four key areas in which it is felt that research is needed most:

1. The mechanisms by which poor nutrition, being physically unfit and stress act separately and together to impair response to treatment and outcomes, and in turn, the mechanism by which improvements through prehabilitation interventions may act.
2. How best to identify those most at risk and the efficacy of the interventions themselves (dose intensity/effect, timing, by cancer, and by treatment).
3. The effectiveness and implementation of interventions.
4. Organisation of services.

Research proposals must be within the remit of at least one participating NIHR Programme. Applications which span the remit of one or more of the participating NIHR Programmes are welcomed. The Programmes involved in this funding opportunity are:

- [Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation](#) (EME)
- [Health Services and Delivery Research](#) (HS&DR)
- [Health Technology Assessment](#) (HTA)
- [Public Health Research](#) (PHR)

Deadline for proposals: 30th March 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

British Lung Foundation: 2020-2021 Grant Round – Mesothelioma, Pulmonary Fibrosis and Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis

Mesothelioma Research Network collaborative pump-priming research grant

Full applications are invited for support of collaborative research into mesothelioma. The principal applicant and all co-applicants must be members of the BLF's [Mesothelioma Research Network](#) (MRN). At least one co-applicant must be based at a different institution to the principal applicant. Grants are available either to medically qualified applicants, post-doctoral scientists or allied health professionals for clinical, laboratory and/or epidemiological research.

Deadline for proposals: 19th April 2021

Mesothelioma research grants, supported by Catalina

Applications are invited for support of research into mesothelioma, supported by Catalina Services UK Limited. Grants are available either to medically qualified applicants, post-doctoral scientists or allied health professionals for clinical, laboratory and/or epidemiological research where appropriate.

The following grants are available:

- Clinical Trial Award. (Deadline: 8 February 2021)
- Project Grant for research into improved early diagnosis. (Deadline: 8 February 2021)
- Pump Priming Grant for research into improved early diagnosis. (Deadline: 19 April 2021)

BLF-Pulmonary Fibrosis Trust Malcolm Weallans pulmonary fibrosis research grant

Full applications are invited for support of research into pulmonary fibrosis. Grants are available to medically qualified applicants, post-doctoral scientists or allied health professionals for clinical, laboratory and/or epidemiological research. Applications may seek costs for personnel, equipment and consumables where appropriate.

Deadline for proposals: 19 April 2021

British Lung Foundation: Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis project grant

Preliminary applications are invited for support of research into idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis. Grants are available to medically qualified applicants, post-doctoral scientists or allied health professionals for clinical, laboratory and/or epidemiological research. Applications may seek costs for personnel, equipment and consumables where appropriate.

Deadline for proposals: 8 February 2021

Find out more [here](#)

MRC: Pain research data hub – SPF Advanced Pain Discovery Platform

Details: The hub will be part of the UKRI and Versus Arthritis Strategic Priority Fund (SPF) Advanced Pain Discovery Platform. It will underpin original research by providing innovative new data assets for pain research in areas of need. It will not support original research directly.

Your proposal must show:

- appropriate scientific and clinical leadership
- a track record of using health data for public benefit
- the ability to process health data for research and innovation
- a commitment to patient and public involvement.

Deadline for proposals: 25th February 2021

Find out more [here](#)

MRC: Mental health data research hub

Details: Apply for funding to set up a mental health data research hub in partnership with Health Data Research UK. The hub will underpin original research by providing innovative, high-value data resources for research and innovation. It will not directly support original research.

You and your team must show:

- appropriate scientific and clinical leadership
- a track record of using health data for public benefit

- the ability to process health data for research and innovation.

Deadline for proposals: 25th February 2021

Find out more [here](#)

Cancer Research UK: Postdoctoral Research Bursary for Clinical Trainees

This award offers funding for clinical trainees to undertake a research project after completion of a PhD.

Deadline for proposals: 25th March 2021

Find out more [here](#)

The Colt Foundation: Project Grants

Details: The Colt Foundation funds high quality research projects in the field of occupational and environmental health, particularly those aimed at discovering the cause of illnesses arising from conditions at the place of work.

The Colt Foundation aims particularly to support research projects concerning the health, safety, comfort and well-being of people at work, and the impacts of industrial activities and pollutants on the health of the public more widely. The Trustees have occasionally supported projects that fall outside these areas, but they are very much the exception.

Deadline for proposals: 19th April 2021

Find out more [here](#)

The Music Therapy Charity: Small Grants

Details: The Music Therapy Charity is inviting proposals from music therapists (including research students) to support research. Grants may be made to help with such costs as part-time salary for fixed periods, academic or clinical supervision, and collection and analysis of data. Applications are invited for smaller grants to go towards total or partial funding of projects, including some co-funded from other sources. All areas of music therapy research will be considered.

Deadline for proposals: 31st January 2021

Find out more [here](#)

Latest Fellowships

EPSRC synthetic biology postdoctoral fellowship

Details: Apply for a fellowship focusing on the engineering challenges of delivering synthetic biology as a mature technology.

Your project can use one or a combination of:

- discovery science
- innovation
- instrumentation and technique development
- software engineering.

There is no limit on how much funding you can request. EPSRC cover 80% of your full economic costs. Your research organisation must fund the remaining 20%.

Deadline for proposals: No closing date

Find out more [here](#)

News

A new NIHR Learn is coming

In response to nearly a year of consultation with users and Learning and Development experts, NIHR will be launching a new look and feel for the NIHR Learn. There are two phases to this update: The first phase, launching in December, includes a visual overhaul of the platform allowing you to quickly find and open your relevant learning on a modern dashboard similar to popular entertainment sites. Phase 2 of our upgrade will take place in March 2021 and will build on this new theme to introduce powerful new social features in the platform that allow you to like share and recommend learning to colleagues.

Find out more [here](#)

Training and events

NIHR Webinar: NIHR and Charities Consortium for Hospice and Community Care Research - December 2020

What: This year's NIHR and Charities Consortium for Hospice and Community Research Conference is being held as a series of online webinars via Zoom. These webinars are aimed at anyone working in the hospice, palliative and end of life care sector including researchers, hospice staff, charities etc.

Our December webinar will cover:

- Out of hours palliative and end of life care - from service user priority to research and implementation
- Does regular contact with a GP reduce unplanned hospital visits for children and young people with life-limiting conditions?

When: 15:00-16:00 on 17 December 2020

Where: Online

Find out more [here](#)

Support available from Clinical Research Network West Midlands

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. Once open to recruitment, we will stay in contact and continue to support optimisation of recruitment to your study. 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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