

Dear all

In this week's message:

- [RDS WM post award support](#)
- [COVID-19: updates](#)

Latest NIHR funding calls:

- NIHR Senior Investigators
- NIHR Artificial Intelligence for Multiple Long-Term Conditions (AIM)

Funding calls from other bodies:

- MRC Applied Global Health (Researcher-Led Grant)
- Urology Foundation: Smaller Research Projects Fund
- EPSRC: Healthcare Technologies New Challenges NetworkPlus
- ESRC New Investigator Grants
- Alcohol Change UK: New Horizons
- Anatomical Society Research Studentships
- Association for Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia Disorders (AMEND): Research Fund

News:

- Government fires up R&D across the country to cement the UK as science superpower

Resources:

- RDS South East: Social Care webinar recordings

Training, events and trial recruitment:

- Support available from Clinical Research Network West Midland

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 \(CRN\)](#).

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



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](#)



Ensuring ethnic diversity in COVID-19 research

People from black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) groups are disproportionately affected by coronavirus infection, so it's imperative that they're included in COVID-19 research. Professor Kamlesh Khunti and Professor Azhar Farooqi from the Centre for BME Health share some tips on how to successfully involve people from BAME backgrounds in your research.

Read the blog here [here](#)

FEATURED ITEM: Latest RDS blog

Working in partnership to develop public health research

Public Health Research generates evidence on issues that determine population health, to inform interventions and policies. Read our RDS blog to find out what we are doing to support this effort and how in turn we can help you apply for funding.



Read the blog [here](#)

Latest NIHR funding calls

NIHR Senior Investigators

Details: NIHR Senior Investigators are some of the nation's most outstanding leaders of clinical and applied health and social care research. The NIHR Senior Investigator award is in recognition for outstanding contribution to clinical and applied health and social care research.

Leading researchers funded by the NIHR (and who are employed by a NHS Trust, university or charity based in England) are encouraged to apply. NIHR Senior Investigators will receive a 4 year award on the recommendation of an Independent Selection Committee.

Deadline for proposals: 1pm on 26th August 2020

Find out more [here](#)

NIHR Artificial Intelligence for Multiple Long-Term Conditions (AIM)

Details: AIM will enable programmes of research to spearhead the use of artificial intelligence (AI) methods to develop insights for the identification and subsequent prevention of multiple long-term conditions (multimorbidity) or MLTC-M.

Research funded through this initiative will use AI and data science methods, combined with expertise in clinical practice, applied health and care research and social science, to systematically identify or explore clusters of disease. In addition to the identification and mapping of new clusters of disease, the call seeks research to better understand the trajectories of patients with MLTC-M over time and throughout the life course, including the influence of wider determinants such as environmental, behavioural and psychosocial factors.

This competition aims to bring together multi-disciplinary Research Collaborations to build on our existing understanding of disease clusters in people with MLTC-M using ground-breaking AI techniques; and to grow capability for multi-disciplinary working in this crucial research area. NIHR are planning to hold a networking and engagement event on the 17th July. Further details will be released shortly. You can register your interest in the event [here](#).

Potential advert dates: 7th July 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

MRC Applied Global Health (Researcher-Led Grant)

Details: The MRC Applied Global Health Research Board invites applications from investigators based in Low and Middle Income Countries (LMICs) and from investigators based in the UK. Research must have a direct and primary benefit to the health of vulnerable populations living in LMICs.

The Applied Global Health Research Board supports research that will be of direct and primary benefit to the health of vulnerable populations living in Low and Middle Income Countries (LMICs). The Board also welcomes cross-sector research combining expertise to meet a global health challenge (e.g., urban planning, health policy, and non-communicable disease research within a single proposal). The research question might necessitate the involvement of different disciplines and approaches from outside of the health sector, but the primary objective must be health focused.

Deadline for proposals: 4pm on 13th October 2020

Find out more [here](#)

Urology Foundation: Smaller Research Projects Fund

Details: The Urology Foundation is a charity dedicated to all urology diseases. Their goal is to put an end to the suffering and deaths that these diseases cause. The Smaller Research Projects Fund is designed for researchers with projects geared towards patient benefit that seek to improve services and treatments and communications with patients and carers. The outcomes of the study must be measured and evaluated and demonstrate improved care and well-being of patients.

Deadline for proposals: 31st October 2020

Find out more [here](#)

EPSRC: Healthcare Technologies New Challenges NetworkPlus

Details: We are looking to encourage the development of ambitious and creative approaches to future research and, through access to feasibility and seed funding, provide support for genuine co-design and co-delivery of high quality research with impact embedded. EPSRC are keen to support networks which address our delivery plan priorities for transforming healthcare:

- Technologies to improve healthcare treatment
- Affordable & inclusive healthcare solutions
- Healthier Environments where people live and work
- New Digital healthcare systems

Deadline for proposals: 4pm on 15th September 2020

Find out more [here](#)

ESRC New Investigator Grants

Details: New Investigator Grants will support new researchers and academics at the start of their careers to become independent researchers through gaining experience of managing and leading research projects and teams. In addition, they will provide applicants with an opportunity not only to support their own skill development but also the skill development of research staff employed on the grant.

Proposals could be for a range of activities such as standard research projects, surveys and other infrastructure projects and methodological developments. 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: None set

Find out more [here](#)

Alcohol Change UK: New Horizons

Details: The New Horizons programme will fund up to four research projects to explore topics connected to the theme “Groups, Communities and Alcohol Harm”. Alcohol Change UK is calling for proposals that explore how people’s experience of alcohol harm is affected by their membership of, identification with, or exclusion from groups and communities, and how constructions of meaning within a community may promote or prevent alcohol harm amongst its members. Proposals are welcomed that address any aspects of alcohol use, harm and treatment services, and how these relate to groups, communities and meaning.

Deadline for proposals: 12pm on 31st July 2020

Find out more [here](#)

Anatomical Society Research Studentships

Details: The Anatomical Society offers up to 4 well-funded, high quality, PhD Prize Research Studentships to be held in departments undertaking research in anatomical sciences in the United Kingdom and Ireland. Funding is provided for three years to cover the stipend of the student (currently comparable to MRC funding levels), tuition fees, generous contribution toward project running costs, and a travel allowance for attendance at Anatomical Society meetings and to one international meeting. Students are required to submit a poster or oral communication at a Society meeting in each year of the award. In addition, students are required to submit at least one original high-quality research article to the Journal of Anatomy or Aging Cell as a significant output from the research performed during the studentship. Applications are currently being invited from prospective supervisors for Studentships to commence in October 2021.

Deadline for proposals: 21st August 2020

Find out more [here](#)

Association for Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia Disorders (AMEND): Research Fund

Details: AMEND wishes to support research and provides grants when funds allow to enable medical researchers to supplement an existing project or pump-prime new research ideas. Applicants must be registered members of AMEND and the successful projects must be specifically directed to the study of endocrine tumours, within the context of the Charity’s remit (MEN1, MEN2, MEN3, SDHx, ACC, spMTC). Awards are only available to projects carried out within the United Kingdom and Eire. Each project grant is usually worth up to

£10,000, although larger amounts have been awarded. Commonly, up to 3 project grants are available annually, although this can vary according to surplus funds available.

Deadline for proposals: 31st August 2020

Find out more [here](#)

News

Government fires up R&D across the country to cement the UK as science superpower

New plans to cement the UK as the world's leading research and science superpower have been set out by the Business Secretary Alok Sharma. The Research and Development Roadmap puts pursuing ground-breaking research, attracting global talent, and cutting unnecessary red tape at the forefront of our long-term plan to ensure the UK is the best place in the world for scientists, researchers and entrepreneurs to live, work and innovate. This will help to power up economic recovery and level up the UK.

£300 million will also be brought forwards to upgrade scientific infrastructure across the UK through the government's World Class Labs funding scheme. This funding will enable research institutes and universities to make sure UK researchers have access to better lab equipment, digital resources, and to improve and maintain current research facilities.

Find out more [here](#)

Resources

RDS South East: Social Care webinar recordings

NIHR RDS South East is hosting a series of four webinars for researchers and research advisers focused on social care research. The first two webinars have been recorded and are available to view online. The webinars cover the following topics:

- Webinar 1: PPI and Ethics
- Webinar 2: Social Care Research involving older adults

Find out more [here](#)

Training and Events

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/>

***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 and I will remove you from my contact list.**