

Dear all

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Latest funding calls:

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Black Lives Matter: Statement from NIHR

The NIHR, of which the RDS is a part, has published an article making its stance clear on the issues raised by the killing of George Floyd – in particular, the issues raised within the research community. An excerpt from the article is below; the full article can be found [here](#).

"Black Lives Matter. We [NIHR] recognise the problem of racism and structural barriers to minority communities in the research system. We stand in solidarity against racism and anti-blackness and we acknowledge that as a research organisation we have more to do. We need more black voices within our leadership, in our committees, in our institutions and in the cohorts of people we fund. We must oppose racism in all its forms.

Jeremy Taylor, NIHR Director for Public Voice, says: "The killing of George Floyd and the protests that have followed are a stark reminder that racism remains and that it is a key factor in health inequality. NIHR is serious about promoting greater equality, diversity and inclusion. We are making some progress, but we must be open to challenge to do better faster, as I am sure we can and should."

NIHR recognises the toll that COVID-19 is taking on black, Asian and minority ethnic communities and we are funding research with UK Research and Innovation to understand and address this.

In partnership with the Centre for Black and Minority Ethnic Health in Leicester, we are addressing low participation by black, Asian and minority ethnic communities in research, in particular COVID-19 studies. Together with the Centre, NIHR is working to ensure that these communities have the information they need to take part and stay informed about COVID-19 research. In addition, we are supporting researchers to tackle the barriers that might stop some communities participating."

Read the full article [here](#)

COVID-19: Info, updates and resources

Guide to COVID-19 clinical evidence generation launched by NIHR and NICE

The NIHR and NICE have developed a guide on clinical evidence generation for developers of medicinal products for COVID-19. The aim is to promote the highest standards possible within the constraints of the pandemic in terms of registration, conduct and reporting of studies, so that research on new treatments can be translated into clinical practice as fast as possible. The guide covers both confirmatory trials and real-world evidence collection on disease treatment and prevention, outlining the best practice approaches to a range of issues including trial design, population identification, the length of the trial and trial outcomes.

Find out more [here](#)
Latest COVID-19 funding opportunities

NIHR UK wide funding call for longer-term COVID-19 research

Details: The NIHR has launched a new call inviting applications to better understand and manage the health and social care consequences of the global COVID-19 pandemic beyond the acute phase, to help mitigate the impact of subsequent phases of the pandemic and its aftermath. As we move beyond the initial acute phase of the pandemic, this new call will focus on research to inform policy and the recovery of the health, care and public health systems from the pandemic, with outcomes typically within 24 months.

Deadline for proposals: 1pm on 23rd June 2020 (Please note, this cross-programme funding opportunity will close for the first time on Tuesday 23 June 2020, at 1pm. Any applications that are not submitted by this date will be automatically transferred to the second draw-down date of Tuesday 14 July 2020.)

Find out more [here](#)

NIHR Policy Research Programme: Recovery, Renewal, Reset: Research to inform policy responses to COVID-19 in the health and social care systems

Details: The NIHR Policy Research Programme (NIHR PRP) invites applications for research to inform the policy response to challenges posed by COVID-19; and to capture learning arising from the pandemic. The research specification document sets out the need for research in specific topic areas to inform medium- to longer-term policy decisions for health and social care resulting from COVID-19.

Deadline for proposals: 1pm on 16th July 2020

Find out more [here](#)

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

NIHR | Research Design Service London

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](#)

Latest funding calls

MRC: Joint Global Health Trials

Details: This scheme seeks to support research that addresses the health problems affecting low and middle income countries (LMICs) by funding definitive trials that are likely to produce implementable and generalisable results to change policy and practice.

- LMIC Principle Investigators may be based at higher education institutions or non-profit research institutions.
- UK Principle Investigators must be based at eligible UK research organisations.
- Applications must include investigators based in the country/ies where the trial will take place.
- Trials can be up to five years duration.

Please note: if your proposed research relates to Covid-19, please see 'additional information' section below for links to other relevant funding opportunities.

Deadline for proposals: 4pm on 8th October 2020

Find out more [here](#)

MRC: Research call to enhance understanding and support for mental health in Colombia

Details: UK Research & Innovation (UKRI) are inviting applications to address the objectives of a Newton-Caldas programme aimed to enhance the evidence base on understanding and addressing the mental health challenges facing post-conflict societies in Colombia. This research call will provide funding for internationally competitive and cross-disciplinary research projects which address a broad range of areas related to mental health challenges in post-conflict societies. UKRI and Minciencias encourage research activities that are co-designed with people with lived experience, community and health practitioners, NGOs, civil societies and other non-academic stakeholders, in order to learn from different perspectives.

Deadline for “notification of intent”: 12pm on 3rd August 2020

Find out more [here](#)

MRC: Biomedical Catalyst: Developmental Pathway Funding Scheme

Details: The DPF scheme supports academically led projects whose goals are to improve prevention, diagnosis, prognosis, or treatment of significant health needs, or that focus on developing research tools that increase the efficiency of developing interventions. Projects supported by the scheme have up to four clearly defined milestones, outcomes and future plans. These help to maximise both the chance of success and the likelihood of the project attracting the downstream funding, from public or private sources, required to meet its clinical and commercial aims. The funding panels assessing the project will, if necessary, help to develop proposals and suggest enhancements.

Deadline for proposals: 4pm on 22nd July 2020

Find out more [here](#)

Engineering and Physical Sciences Council: Transformative Healthcare Technologies (pre-announcement)

Details: This call will target projects that are guided by a longer-term vision to pursue new, “high risk high reward” ideas and develop thinking and approaches supported by the next generation of underpinning science, engineering and emerging technologies in the healthcare space. EPSRC seek and encourage adventurous ideas, new thinking and collaborations that have the potential to significantly improve healthcare delivery by 2050. This Transformative Healthcare Technologies call aims to bring together the ‘Healthcare’ community through adventurous and novel multi-disciplinary/interdisciplinary research and innovation drawing on novel Engineering, Physical Sciences, Mathematical Sciences and ICT to deliver technologies that will impact and transform healthcare by the year 2050. EPSRC encourage multidisciplinary teams to apply, including co-collaboration with healthcare professionals, social scientists, patients, and users. Normal eligibility rules apply to who can receive funding.

Deadline for proposals: Early-September 2020

Outline proposal deadline: Early-November 2020

Find out more [here](#)

Cancer Research UK: Early Detection and Diagnosis Primer Award

Details: CRUK Early Detection and Diagnosis Primer Awards support researchers at all stages to develop early, novel and outside-the-box ideas and collaborations to build and make progress in the ED&D field.

With this award, CRUK are challenging applicants to consider how they can utilise skills and techniques in innovative ways to accelerate ED&D research. Primer Awards provide seed funding to develop new relationships, ideas and lines of research, and the generation of pilot data.

The award aims to encourage scientists at all career stages to engage with the early detection and diagnosis of cancer field. It will support new and exploratory research ideas and/or pilot studies of high scientific risk and potential reward. It supports the development of new partnerships and exploration of highly novel concepts, involving researchers from any research area, including from non-traditional cancer fields.

Deadline for proposals: 17th September 2020

Find out more [here](#)

Cancer Research UK: Early Detection and Diagnosis Programme Award

Details: CRUK Early Detection and Diagnosis Programme Awards fund long-term, integrated and renewable programmes of exceptional science to transform how and when early cancers and pre-cancerous states are diagnosed. Programme Awards provide long-term support for broad, ambitious, multi-stranded programmes where the various work streams coordinate and integrate to address a central theme, asking an interrelated set of questions. They aim to encourage the research community to think bigger.

Deadline for proposals: 23rd 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/>

Training and Events

NIHR Statistics Group – Early Phase Clinical Trials: Webinar series on “Practical applications of advanced designs in Phase I Trials”

What: The NIHR Statistics Group – Early Phase Clinical Trials has organized a webinar series on “Practical applications of advanced designs in Phase I Trials”. Registration is free, but is limited to 100 attendees per event. Places will be offered on a first come first served basis. A recording of the webinar will be made available after the event.

First Webinar:

- **Topic:** A dose-finding design for dual-agent trials with patient-specific continuous doses of one agent: application in an opiate detoxification trial
- **Date:** Jun 24, 2020
- **Time:** 3:15 – 4:00 PM (BST)
- **Webinar Speakers:** Dr Pavel Mozgunov (Lancaster University) and Dr Suzie Cro (Imperial College London)

[Find out more here](#)

Short and long term impacts of Covid-19 on Older children's health-Related behaviours, learning and wellbeing STUDY (CONTRAST)-now recruiting

The CONTRAST study is now open. We are looking for secondary school aged children (aged 11-15 years) from anywhere in the UK to complete a survey on the impact of COVID-19 restrictions on their well-being. The survey can be completed here: is.gd/contrast2020 or visit the study website for more information www.birmingham.ac.uk/contrast-study



CONTRAST
INVITE(9).pdf

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.**