

Dear all

In this week's message:

- [RDS WM post award support](#)
- [COVID-19: Info, updates and resources](#)

Latest NIHR funding calls:

- Pre-Call Announcement: NIHR Clinical Academic Research Partnerships

Funding calls from other bodies:

- Wellcome Trust: Joint Global Health Trials scheme
- Wellcome Trust: Collaborative Awards in Science
- Great Ormond Street Hospital Charity and Sparks National Funding Call

Resources:

- Royal College of Nursing: Resource for research nurses

Training, events and trial recruitment:

- NIHR Academy Members' Conference
- Future Learn: Improving Healthcare Through Clinical Research
- 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).

COVID-19: Info, updates and resources

New phase of COVID-19 research funding

The NIHR and UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) have announced an evolution in their funding of COVID-19 research. As the UK moves through the first wave of the COVID-19 outbreak, the nature of the questions that need to be addressed, the proof-of-concept data available and the need to link with existing activity are changing. In addition, in order to better understand and assess the impacts of this new disease, funding for longer than 12 months is desirable. The NIHR has launched a new [Recovery and Learning](#) funding call to better understand and manage the health and social care consequences of the global COVID-19 pandemic beyond the acute phase. This call is for research proposals of up to 24 months' duration.

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 NIHR funding calls

Pre-Call Announcement: NIHR Clinical Academic Research Partnerships

Details: In 2019 the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) in partnership with the Medical Research Council (MRC) ran two pilot rounds of the Clinical Academic Research Partnerships (CARP) scheme. This scheme offered a new mechanism for clinical staff at

consultant level with a PhD or MD who were not currently research active to participate in collaborative high-quality research partnerships with established leading biomedical researchers.

To find out more about the scheme please see the [CARP pilot webpage](#). The scheme is open to clinical staff at consultant level or equivalent with a PhD, or MD (or equivalent postgraduate qualification) who are not undertaking any substantive research activity but, wish to develop their research interests through collaborative high-quality research partnerships with established leading biomedical and health researchers.

Potential advert date: August 2020

Deadline for proposals: 29th October 2020

Find out more [here](#)

NIHR Health Services & Delivery Research Programme: Community Pharmacies

Details: The Health Services and Delivery Research (HS&DR) Programme aims to produce rigorous and relevant evidence to improve the quality, accessibility and organisation of health and social care services.

The HS&DR Programme is accepting stage 1 applications to the following commissioned workstream:

- **20/56 Community pharmacies**

NICE identified a research need to understand how the expanding role of community pharmacies are integrated with other health and social care services. Community Pharmacies (i.e. local chemists that are accessible to all and not based in a hospital, clinic or solely online) are currently undergoing rapid change and expansion in the services they offer to support the health and social care of people in their local area. The focus of this call is on extended community pharmacy services i.e. services delivered by a community pharmacy that go above and beyond just the dispensing of medicines. The setting is not limited to services that take place within the community pharmacy itself. For example, evaluating services delivered by a community pharmacy which take place in a person's own home, care home or other community setting would be within remit for the call and are encouraged.

Deadline for applications: 1pm on 25th 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

Wellcome Trust: Joint Global Health Trials scheme

Details: This scheme funds late-stage trials of interventions that will provide evidence to help improve health in low- and middle-income countries. It's a partnership between the UK Department for International Development, the UK Medical Research Council (MRC), the National Institute for Health Research and the Wellcome Trust.

Deadline for proposals: 8th October 2020

Find out more [here](#)

Wellcome Trust: Collaborative Awards in Science

Details: Collaborative Awards promote the development of new ideas and speed the pace of discovery. We fund teams of researchers, consisting of independent research groups, to work together on the most important scientific problems that can only be solved through collaborative efforts. This often involves collaborations across organisations, national borders, interdisciplinary science and partners outside of academia.

Deadline for proposals: 18th August 2020

Find out more [here](#)

Great Ormond Street Hospital Charity and Sparks National Funding Call

Details: Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) Charity and Sparks have a shared passion and commitment to support paediatric research nationally. GOSH Charity and Sparks are inviting project grant applications for paediatric health research studies focusing on complex or rare diseases. The call will support research across the spectrum of medical conditions affecting the foetus, neonates and children directly, as well as pregnancy disorders that affect the child. They will also consider applications seeking to understand how COVID-19 affects children, particularly in the context of pre-existing diseases or conditions.

All projects must aim to improve understanding of the disease or associated conditions or to improve outcomes for the affected child. Research proposals will be expected to have the potential to lead to new medical developments, such as diagnostic tools or novel interventions, with a clear articulation of the route to clinical application through a combination of clinical and laboratory-based research.

Deadline for proposals: 4pm on 19th August 2020

Find out more [here](#)

Resources

Royal College of Nursing: Resource for research nurses

The Royal College of Nursing has produced a [web resource](#) informing nurses of the various roles that they can enjoy throughout their health career. The resource includes a section about pursuing research as a nurse.

Find out more [here](#)

Training and Events

NIHR Academy Members' Conference

What: A two-day event of career development opportunities, where attendees can hear from inspirational speakers and get the chance to network with fellow Academy Members. As part of the conference there will be a number of interactive workshops and skills development activities taking place.

When: 24-25 November 2020

Where: Leeds

Find out more [here](#)

Future Learn: Improving Healthcare Through Clinical Research

What: On this free online course, find out how medical treatments are discovered, tested and evaluated to improve healthcare for all. In this course you will explore clinical research – its challenges and its huge benefits to modern healthcare. You will work through case studies and examine how research contributes to the treatment of major diseases, such as cancer and dementia, examining the process of conducting research and the ethical questions raised. You will learn how members of a research team, academics and participants in clinical research all contribute to this process of discovery.

Where: Online, through Future learn

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.

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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