

Dear all

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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](#)

Latest NIHR funding calls

NIHR Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation Programme – New commissioned calls

Details: The Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation (EME) Programme funds ambitious studies evaluating interventions with potential to make a step-change in the promotion of health, treatment of disease and improvement of rehabilitation or long-term care. Within these studies, EME supports research in the mechanisms of diseases and treatments. EME is a partnership between the Medical Research Council (MRC) and the NIHR.

The EME Programme is accepting stage 1 applications for the following primary research topics:

- [20/57 Novel strategies and interventions to reduce overtreatment](#)
- [20/58 Interventions in Paediatric Care](#)

Deadline for proposals: 1pm on 1st December 2020

NIHR Health Services and Delivery Research Programme – New commissioned calls

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 are accepting stage 1 applications to the following commissioned workstream:

- **20/56 Community pharmacies**

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. Any, or all of the following issues are of particular interest, though other issues may be proposed. All applications should provide a clear justification of their importance and the potential impact it will have on health and social care services:

- Equity, Acceptability and Accessibility
- Organisational
- Integrated care pathways
- Wider System Engagement
- Quality & Safety
- Workforce

Deadline for proposals: 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

BBSRC: Transformative Research Technologies

Details: The 2020 TRDF call aims to pump prime the next generation of cutting-edge enabling research technologies with the potential for transformative impact in biosciences research. It will support applications for early stage technology development and research into the development of novel techniques and technologies that have the potential to enable transformative step changes in research capability.

The 2020 TRDF call has a strategic highlight on transformative research technologies for the detection and diagnosis of plant and animal diseases, and in particular infectious agents with zoonotic potential.

Deadline for proposals: 4pm on 8th October 2020

Find out more [here](#)

Versus Arthritis: PhD Scholarships

Details: Versus Arthritis PhD scholarships encourage the best basic scientists and non-medical healthcare professionals (including nurses and allied health professionals) to embark on a research career in any discipline relevant to arthritis and related musculoskeletal diseases.

Deadline for proposals: 4pm on 23rd September 2020

Find out more [here](#)

Cancer Research UK: Clinical Trial Award

Details: CRUK Clinical Trial Awards support interventional clinical trials of cancer treatment (including systemic treatment, radiotherapy and surgery) with the aim of improving outcome. The types of studies that fit this scheme are typically:

- Phase 1a/2 dose finding trials testing safety, tolerability and preliminary efficacy (including novel combinations of therapies and radiotherapy, and novel indications)
- Phase 1b/2 or phase 2 trials testing the viability of larger trials, including the ability to recruit and/or to explore tolerability or efficacy of treatments
- Window of opportunity studies
- Phase 2/3 or phase 3 trials to investigate the efficacy, effectiveness and tolerability of interventions with the aim of improving survival.

Deadline for proposals: 15th October 2020

Find out more [here](#)

Cancer Research UK: Experimental Medicine Award

Details: CRUK Experimental Medicine Awards fund highly ambitious translational research conducted in association with a clinical trial or well-designed clinical study. The types of studies that fit this scheme are typically investigator-led studies for highly ambitious translational research conducted in association with a clinical trial or well-designed clinical study with the objective of optimising treatment and maximising patient benefit.

Deadline for proposals: 15th October 2020

Find out more [here](#)

Wellcome Trust: Sir Henry Wellcome Postdoctoral Fellowships

Details: This scheme offers recently qualified postdoctoral researchers the opportunity to start independent research careers, working in some of the best research environments in the world. Sir Henry Wellcome Postdoctoral Fellowships are aimed at researchers who want to undertake a guided period of research and will go on to lead their own independent research.

Deadline for proposals: 5pm on 29th September 2020

Find out more [here](#)

News

HRA: Registering research studies

Research transparency is central to ethical research practice. Research studies should be registered and the results made public, so that participants are protected from unnecessary research and patients benefit from improved outcomes and care informed by high quality studies. The HRA undertakes an annual audit to determine the number of clinical trials over a specified time that meet the condition to register. The report, based on an audit of 2017 data, is available on the [HRA website](#).

Find out more [here](#)

Patient and public involvement

NIHR methods review: Recruiting participants for adult social care studies

Challenges are often encountered in recruiting participants into adult social care research studies, while strategies to overcome them are not widely understood or shared. This Methods Review aimed to describe the challenges in recruiting organisations and individuals for adult social care research and identify possible strategies to address them.

Find out more [here](#)

Training and Events

THIS Institute: THIS Space 2020

What: THIS Space welcomes researchers, patients, carers, NHS staff and anyone with an interest in the evidence base for improving the quality and safety of healthcare. It will provide an opportunity for people interested in the study of healthcare improvement to gather, connect and share ideas.

THIS Space aims to:

- provide a focus for knowledge sharing in healthcare improvement
- stimulate innovation and fresh thinking
- help researchers to develop the habits, knowledge, skills, and experiences to support their professional growth
- connect colleagues from across different disciplines who share a common goal
- be a means of accelerating the development of the field of the study of healthcare.

When: 25th November 2020

Where: Online

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/>

***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.**