

Dear all

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**COVID-19: Info, updates and resources**

**Health Research Authority: COVID-19 website**

The Health Research Authority have created a **COVID-19 research section of their website**, which gives information on COVID-19 research guidance on topics such as fast track review, using patient data, seeking consent and pharmacy and radiation assurance. In addition, the HRA have started publishing details about all **approved COVID-19 research studies**, helping you keep on top of what research is taking place.

**Visit the HRA COVID-19 website [here](#)**

**NIHR: National, collaborative platform launched to fast-track potential COVID-19 treatments**

COVID-19 treatments could be fast-tracked through a new national clinical trial initiative involving the NIHR and its partners in industry and the government. The collaborative platform, known as ACCORD (Accelerating, COVID-19 Research & Development), aims to get an early indication of potential drug treatments' effectiveness in treating coronavirus. If positive results are seen, these drugs will advance rapidly into the large-scale trials in progress across the country.

**Find out more [here](#)**

**Health Data Research UK: COVID-19 response**

The Health Data Research UK (HDR UK) community is actively championing the use of health data to address the global COVID-19 challenge. The HDRUK strategy in

responding to the COVID-19 pandemic is to mobilise talent and partnerships across the UK to:

- Co-ordinate and connect national data science driven research efforts related to COVID-19
- Accelerate access to UK-wide priority data relevant to COVID-19 for research
- Leverage the best of the UK's health data science capability to address the wider impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, supporting vulnerable groups that will be hardest hit

**Find out more [here](#)**

### **NIHR: COVID-19 Research and Platform (Complex Innovative Design) Trials**

Many COVID-19 studies are using the latest innovations in study design to ensure we maximise the knowledge generated in a robust and rapid manner. The NIHR CRNCC has just launched a very helpful infographic in NIHR Learn entitled: COVID-19 Research & Platform (Complex Innovative Design) Trials which we have also added to our resources exchange.

**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 opportunities**

#### **NIHR Translating Research into Policy (TRiP) - Research/Call Specification**

**Details:** The NIHR Policy Research Programme (PRP) invites applications for a number of research projects to further develop current NIHR investments within the context of policy making. This innovative call has the specific objective of establishing and building fruitful connections between NIHR funded research and current and emerging policy priorities. Between £50k-£150k will be made available to existing NIHR investigators to deliver small scale projects, lasting between 6-12 months, with clear policy relevance and building on existing NIHR funded work.

**Deadline for proposals:** 1pm on 19th May 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/>

### **Blogs and Articles**

#### **The Health Foundation: Using data to understand the impact of COVID-19**

In January, The Health Foundation launched a “data analytics for better health” strategy, with the aim of ensuring that analytics and data-driven technology benefit everyone in the UK. Data is critical for the UK to overcome problems like health inequalities, poor care for older frail people, a lack of parity between physical and mental health, and now COVID-19. The Health Foundation have started a deeper analysis, using person-level primary and secondary care data to understand the wider impact of the pandemic.

**Find out more [here](#)**

### **Training and Events**

#### **Support available from Clinical Research Network West Midlands**

Until further notice, the NIHR Clinical Research Network is pausing the site set up of any new or ongoing studies at NHS and social care sites that are not nationally prioritised COVID-19 studies. This will enable our research workforce to focus on delivering the nationally prioritised COVID-19 studies or enabling redeployment to frontline care where necessary. These studies are enabling the clinical and epidemiological evidence to be gathered to inform national policy and will enable new treatments, diagnostics and vaccines to be developed and tested. The complete focus of the NIHR Clinical Research Network will be on delivering these highest priority COVID-19 studies.

If you do need to get in touch with us please use the following email:  
[studysupport.crnwestmidlands@nihr.ac.uk](mailto:studysupport.crnwestmidlands@nihr.ac.uk)

**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](mailto:k.biddle@bham.ac.uk) and I will remove you from my contact list.**