

Dear all

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COVID-19: Info, updates and resources

NIHR: New call for research on the risk factors, transmission and prevalence of coronavirus

The NIHR and UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) have launched a new call for research proposals on the risk factors, transmission and prevalence of the COVID-19 virus SARS-CoV-2. The research funded will help inform policy decisions during the pandemic. Research proposals are sought on risk factors for transmission, which groups are most likely to become infected and in what environments transmissions occur. The second highlight notice calls for research to understand risk factors, transmission and prevalence of the virus in

groups at high risk of infection, in particular health and social care workers and residents in nursing and residential care homes.

Find out more [here](#)

UK's Chief Medical Officers urge recruitment of more COVID-19 patients for vital scientific research

The UK's four Chief Medical Officers and NHS England and Improvement's National Medical Director have written a joint letter to every NHS Trust in the country emphasising that more patients need to be enrolled into nationally prioritised clinical trials on COVID-19. In the letter, the five senior doctors highlight the importance of boosting recruitment of patients to these vital trials which are being delivered through NIHR's Clinical Research Network. With sufficient recruitment, useful evidence could be available within weeks, the letter states.

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 HTA Commissioned Calls

Details: The Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Programme funds research about the clinical and cost-effectiveness and broader impact of healthcare treatments and tests for those who plan, provide or receive care from NHS and social care services.

The HTA Programme is accepting stage 1 applications to their commissioned workstream for the following primary research topic:

- **[20/22 Rectus sheath blockade in emergency laparotomy](#)**

Deadline for the above: 1pm on 2nd December 2020

The HTA is accepting stage 1 applications to the following researcher-led workstreams:

- **[20/37 Health Technology Assessment Programme Researcher-led \(evidence synthesis\)](#)**
- **[20/38 Health Technology Assessment Programme Researcher-led \(primary research\)](#)**

Deadline for the above: 1pm on 2nd September 2020

NIHR Cross-programme Oral and Dental Health call

Details: The **EME**, **HS&DR**, **HTA** and **PHR** Programmes are all accepting research proposals evaluating public health measures, healthcare interventions and health and social care services to promote good oral and dental health, and to improve the prevention, detection and treatment of diseases and disorders of the teeth, gums, oral cavity or jaw across the whole life course.

Details are currently available for the following:

- **20/41 PHR oral and dental health**

Deadline for the above: 1pm on 28th July 2020

- **20/40 HTA oral and dental health**

Deadline for the above: 1pm on 2nd September 2020

NIHR Development and Skills Enhancement Award

Details: The Development and Skills Enhancement Award (DSE) provides a maximum of 1 year of funding for post-doctoral NIHR Academy Members to gain skills and experience for the next phase of their research career. As an applicant you will be required to demonstrate the new skills and experience you hope to gain through the award, and how it will benefit your future career in research.

Applications from the following areas of strategic importance are particularly welcomed:

- health data science
- clinical trials
- entrepreneurship and working with industry

Deadline for proposals: 1pm on 31st July 2020

Find out more [here](#)

Production of Technology Assessment Reviews (TARs) for the NIHR

Details: The NIHR invites full proposals from suitable research organisations to undertake Technology Assessment Reviews (TARs). These reviews are carried out for a range of customers, primarily the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), who use TARs to help inform national guidance on new and existing medicines and treatments. Applicants will have a strong institutional base, with established university, NHS, or healthcare links and structures for developing, recruiting and retaining high quality staff. The contract will be awarded for five years with effect from April 2022.

Deadline for proposals: 1pm on 3rd July 2020

Find out more [here](#)

NIHR HTA potential topics for future commissioned research

Details: The NIHR Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Programme is considering the following topics for future commissioned research:

- **Pharmacological treatment and prevention of chronic migraine**
- **Reverse vs conventional shoulder replacement for adults with osteoarthritis**
- **Anti-VEGF drugs compared with laser photocoagulation for the treatment of diabetic retinopathy**
- **Endoscopic treatments for obesity**

- **Enteral nutrition for maintaining remission in the post-surgical period of Crohn's disease**
- **Conservative management of spontaneous pneumothorax**
- **Partial vs radical nephrectomy for clinically localised renal cell carcinoma**
- **Primary palmar hyperhidrosis**
- **Prophylactic antibiotics in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)**
- **Shorter vs longer fixed-course antibiotic treatments**
- **Antidepressants for post-stroke emotionalism**
- **Tacrolimus as a second line treatment for inducing remission in ulcerative colitis**
- **Conservative management of spontaneous pneumothorax**
- **Partial vs radical nephrectomy for clinically localised renal cell carcinoma**

The likely advert date for this topic, if prioritised, is **23 July 2020**. However, please note this is an indicative date, which may change.

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: Research Fellowships or Health Professionals

Details: This scheme offers practising health professionals the opportunity to carry out humanities or social science research, in any area of health.

Deadline for proposals: 30th June 2020

Find out more [here](#)

News

NIHR joins forces with Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases

The Department of Health and Social Care is now recognised as an official Associate Member of the Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases (GACD), which means that the NIHR will continue to contribute to GACD calls through its partnership with the MRC. GACD is an alliance of international public funding agencies supporting research activities intended to improve the prevention and treatment of chronic non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as heart disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory diseases, mental ill-health and cancers. The alliance coordinates and supports research activities that address the prevention and treatment of chronic NCDs on a global scale. NCDs account for 60% of deaths globally.

Find out more [here](#)

NIHR: Global mental health funding programme relaunched

The NIHR has partnered with Grand Challenges Canada to relaunch the Global Mental Health research programme, with a new focus on the mental health of young people. Around three quarters of the global burden of mental illness is borne by populations in LMICs. However, only a small proportion of people in these countries can get the mental health treatment they need, where scarce resources and a shortage of trained professionals limit access to evidence-based approaches to address mental health. Funded by the Government of Canada and other partners, Grand Challenges Canada funds innovators in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) and in Canada.

Find out more [here](#)

Blogs and Articles

NIHR blog: New opportunities in global health research

The NIHR Global Health Research Programme has come on in leaps and bounds over the past four years, writes Dr Lesong Conteh, with a raft of funding opportunities on the way for the next 12 months. Dr Conteh reflects on the achievements and progress of global health research over the past few years, and looks towards the opportunities ahead.

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

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.**