

Dear all

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[COVID-19: Info, updates and resources](#)

[COVID-19 resources from the International Severe Acute Respiratory and emerging Infection Consortium](#)

ISARIC are a global federation of clinical research networks, providing a proficient, coordinated, and agile research response to outbreak-prone infectious diseases. Their purpose is to prevent illness and deaths from infectious disease outbreaks. In response to the emergence of novel coronavirus, ISARIC has developed a portfolio of resources to accelerate outbreak research and response. All resources are designed to address the most critical public health questions. They have undergone extensive review by international clinical experts and are free to use.

The most recent publication from ISARIC is a clinical data report, the aim of which is to accelerate the collective understanding of COVID-19 to help improve patient care and inform public health policy.

Access the resources [here](#)

Health Research Authority: New Public Involvement service for COVID-19 studies

In partnership with the public involvement in research community, the HRA have launched a new public involvement matching service, which will put research teams in touch with public involvement networks and groups who can quickly contribute to COVID-19 studies.

Researchers applying for a **fast-track review for a COVID-19 research study** can request support from the Public Involvement matching service.

Find out more [here](#)

NHS Research & Development Forum / NIHR Learn: Opportunity for NHS staff to share experiences of delivering COVID-19 research

The NHS Research & Development Forum have created an interactive environment on the NIHR Learn platform that aims to support research engagement in local NHS organisations by providing a platform for networking and learning. The platform gives NHS Research Delivery Staff the opportunity to discuss and share their experiences of delivering priority research. This could be useful for researchers, showing the ways in which NHS staff are engaging in COVID-19 research delivery.

Find out more [here](#) (requires access to NIHR Learn)

Health Education England: Library and Knowledge Services – COVID-19 Literature Search Bank

The HEE Literature Search Bank provides a central repository for literature searches and ready-made search strategies for COVID-19.

Find out more [here](#)

National Centre for Research Methods: Online data collection in social surveys

GenPopWeb2 is a network of UK-based academic and non-academic partners including government departments, survey organisations, academics and major ESRC investments to share knowledge and collaborate in the area of online data collection in social surveys. The network will be used to share learning and experiences in relation to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic for survey research. NCRM will organise events and other activities to address various issues associated with transitioning to online data collection, and will produce best practice guidance, literature and evidence reviews among other activities.

Find out more [here](#)

UK Data Service: Monthly data on the impact of COVID-19 on UK population to be made available to researchers

The UK Data Service is working with the Understanding Society team to make monthly data on how the UK population is dealing with the COVID-19 emergency available to researchers. Understanding Society is launching a monthly web survey which will provide researchers with vital evidence on the changing impact of the pandemic on individuals, families and communities. The first wave of the Covid-19 questionnaire included topics such as coronavirus symptoms and test results, management of long-term health conditions, caring responsibilities, loneliness, food and alcohol consumption, exercise and smoking, and mental wellbeing, amongst others.

Find out more [here](#)

Latest COVID-19 funding opportunities

THIS Institute: COVID-19 fellowship

Details: Applications are invited from experienced qualitative researchers to lead a project to capture the experiences of people who have been critically ill with COVID-19 and been cared for in an ICU, and those of family members of survivors and non-survivors. The fellow will explore and evaluate how the perspectives and priorities of patients themselves can provide a basis for co-design of care and service models for care on ICU and for support/follow-up. This will generate learning from the response to COVID-19 and help enhance planning for future pandemics.

Deadline for proposals: 12pm on 9th June 2020

Find out more [here](#)

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 funding opportunities

MRC/ESRC/BBSRC-Versus Arthritis: Advanced Pain Discovery Platform – Expression of Interest for Multidisciplinary Consortia for Data Generation

Details: The call will provide funding for collaborative multidisciplinary consortia that will focus on:

- Pursuing innovative and ambitious “big ideas” in chronic pain research, which will enable a step change in the field.
- Improving our understanding of the mechanisms of pain, building on our knowledge of normal pain processes to better understand chronic pain, taking into account biological, cognitive and psychosocial factors.
- Collating, generating and interrogating human data and samples, to allow for the identification and validation of new interventions, and to allow improved access to well-phenotyped human populations.

It is expected that successful consortia will focus on chronic pain, offering important insights across chronic pain conditions. Applications may be focussed on specific pain-related disorders, or may consider common mechanisms underlying multiple pain conditions.

Deadline for proposals: 4pm on 31st August 2020

Find out more [here](#)

The Urology Foundation: Smaller Research Projects Fund

Details: The Urology Foundation is a charity dedicated to all urology diseases. Their goal is to put an end to the suffering and deaths that these diseases cause. The Smaller Research Projects Fund is designed for researchers with projects geared towards patient benefit that seek to improve services and treatments and communications with patients and carers. The

outcomes of the study must be measured and evaluated and demonstrate improved care and well-being of patients.

Deadline for proposals: 30th June 2020 / 31st October 2020

Find out more [here](#)

Wellcome Trust Fellowships

Details: The following Wellcome fellowship opportunities are open for applications:

- **Senior Research Fellowships:** Senior Research Fellowships support independent researchers who are emerging as global leaders in their field and want to tackle the most important questions in science.

Deadline: 16th July 2020

- **Clinical Research Career Development Fellowships:** This scheme enables clinically active healthcare professionals to continue their research at postdoctoral level and develop scientific independence.

Deadline: 5th August 2020

- **Research Career Development Fellowships:** This scheme provides support for postdoctoral researchers at academic organisations in the Republic of Ireland who aim to become independent scientists leading their own group.

Deadline: 10th September 2020

- **Sir Henry Dale Fellowships:** This scheme provides support for postdoctoral researchers who aim to become independent scientists leading their own groups. The scheme is a partnership between the Royal Society and the Wellcome Trust.

Deadline: 10th September 2020

- **Research Career Re-entry Fellowships:** This scheme offers postdoctoral research scientists the opportunity to re-establish their scientific careers after a continuous break from research of at least two years.

Deadline: 29th September 2020

- **Sir Henry Wellcome Postdoctoral Fellowships:** 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.

Deadline: 29th September 2020

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: 5pm on 18th August 2020

Find out more [here](#)

Wellcome Trust: Investigator Awards in Science

Details: Investigator Awards enable independent researchers with a compelling research vision to tackle the most important questions in science.

Deadline for proposals: 16th July 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/>

News

NIHR: UK-wide group outlines guidance for transitioning clinical academic trainees back into research following COVID-19

A UK-wide group of clinical academic trainee funders, including the National Institute for Health Research, has developed a series of principles to support those returning to clinical academic roles. The Clinical Academic Training Forum (CATF) has developed these principles in response to the challenges being faced at this time by clinical academic trainees, their host institutions, the NHS, Health Education England and funders. A key aspect of the guidance is to create individual plans for those returning to clinical academia, recognising each trainee's situation will vary.

Find out more [here](#)

Health Research Authority Online Booking Service for Non-COVID-19 Studies

The HRA have released an online booking service for non COVID-19 studies. The online booking service is used for all IRAS form applications for project-based research in the NHS (or HSC in Northern Ireland) and for Research Ethics Committee (REC) applications for tissue banks, databases and health research taking place outside of the NHS/HSC.

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.**