

Dear all

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Keep up-to-date with **COVID-19 funding calls**  
and resources

**NIHR** | Research Design  
Service London

Our friends at 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](#).

## 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).

## Latest NIHR funding calls

### NIHR HS&DR Programme: Commissioned call into Adult Community Health and Social Care services

**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 call via the commissioned workstream:

- [20/124 – Adult Community Health and Social Care services to avoid planned and unplanned hospital admissions](#)

The focus of this call is on the organisation and delivery of adult community health and social care services, and its role in avoiding planned and unplanned hospital admissions. In the context of this call, community health and social care services are services delivered at an individual level to help people manage their health and care needs in a person's home. Examples might include, but are not limited to, the provision of palliative care, domiciliary care and acute care following a stay in hospital. Typically, these services are overseen by a care professional but often involve a multidisciplinary team which may involve professions such as community and district nurses, healthcare support workers, allied health professionals (AHPs) and social workers.

**Deadline for proposals:** 8th April 2021

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

### NIHR Research for Patient Benefit - Competition 44

**Details:** Applications are invited for research proposals that are concerned with the day-to-day practice of health service staff, and which have the potential to have an impact on the health or wellbeing of patients and users of the NHS. As a response mode researcher-led programme, Research for Patient Benefit (RfPB) does not specify topics for research, but encourages proposals for projects which address a wide range of health service issues and challenges.

The programme aims to fund high quality quantitative and qualitative research with a clear trajectory to patient benefit. It particularly encourages applications that have a strong element of interaction with patients and the public, and which have been conceived in association with a relevant group of service users.

**Deadline for proposals:** 10th March 2021

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

### **NIHR Programme Development Grants - Competition 29**

**Details:** Applications are invited for Programme Development Grant funding. Programme Development Grants are designed to increase the rate and number of successful applications for a full Programme Grant by supporting the completion of the necessary preparatory work to suitably position the research team to submit a competitive Programme Grant application. Individual awards are for a maximum of £150k over a period of 12 - 24 months. The amount of funding awarded, however, is determined by the scale and nature of the research activity to be conducted.

Applications to PDG are made with the support of an NHS body and other providers of NHS services in England. If an application is successful, a contract will be placed with that organisation for delivery of the research and all funds for the research will be paid to the NHS organisation or other provider of NHS services.

**Deadline for proposals:** 13th January 2021

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

### **Potential NIHR funding calls**

Details: The following funding opportunities will soon be advertised by the NIHR:

- **Research Call on Working Age Health:** The NIHR Policy Research Programme (PRP) will be inviting applications to undertake research on working age health to support Government policy around work, health and disability.

**Potential advert date:** 15th December 2020

- **Doctoral Fellowships for Local Authority and LA Commissioned Service Based Individuals:** This pilot scheme is being designed, alongside a companion pre-doctoral fellowship scheme, to support individuals based in local authorities or local authority commissioned services to develop as health and/or social care researchers.

**Potential advert date:** 1st March 2021

**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**

## UKRI/Zinc Healthy Ageing Catalyst Awards

**Details:** Healthy Ageing Catalyst Awards aim to turn innovative ideas into workable products and services that help people live healthy lives for longer. It is a high risk, high reward innovation award to ambitious researchers who are prepared to turn their most innovative ideas into workable products and services. The award provides a structured, 9-month part-time programme of support starting in September 2021, designed to accelerate your ideas and maximise the reach and impact of your work.

The Awards are part of the UKRI Healthy Ageing Challenge, and the programme of support is a partnership between UKRI and Zinc.

**Deadline for proposals:** UKRI will host Discover the Catalyst Award information sessions to help researchers understand the supportive and innovative application process for this Award, helping you develop your idea until final application submission in May 2021. See the website for more information.

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

## Blogs and Articles

### The King's Fund: Eight technologies that will change health and care

This article was originally written by Cosima Gretton and Matthew Honeyman in January 2016, but has been updated this month by Pritesh Mistry. The article looks at the technologies most likely to change health and care over the next few years, and the ways in which the coronavirus pandemic has impacted on this.

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

## Training and events

### Support available from Clinical Research Network West Midlands

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. Once open to recruitment, we will stay in contact and continue to support optimisation of recruitment to your study. 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](mailto: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](mailto:k.biddle@bham.ac.uk) and I will remove you from my contact list.**