

Dear all

In this week's message:

Latest NIHR funding calls:

- NIHR Public Health Research Programme – Researcher-led workstream
- NIHR Health Technology Assessment Programme – New commissioned calls

Funding calls from other bodies:

- MRC Improving health in low and middle income countries
- BBSRC Pre-Announcement: Global coronavirus research and innovation network

Latest Fellowships:

- Versus Arthritis Joint Funded MRC Clinician Scientist Fellowship

Patient and Public Involvement:

- NIHR article: Serving the under-served – how NIHR's INCLUDE initiative will make trials better reflect all members of society

Training and events:

- Webinar: NIHR Incubator for Methodology: Designing health research using routine data
- NCRM: Social Research Methods Suited or Adapted to Covid-19 Times
- NCRM: Emerging Issues in Changing Research Practices for Covid-19 Times
- Support available from Clinical Research Network West Midland

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 Public Health Research Programme – Researcher-led workstream

Details: The Public Health Research (PHR) Programme funds research to generate evidence to inform the delivery of non-NHS interventions intended to improve the health of the public and reduce inequalities in health. The primary aim of the programme is the evaluation of practical interventions.

The Public Health Research Programme are accepting stage 1 applications to their researcher-led workstream. NIHR programmes and research funding schemes currently have a highlight notice for brain tumours; however, this researcher-led call is open to all relevant research areas, and does not just include this highlight notice.

Deadline for proposals: 30th March 2021

Find out more [here](#)

NIHR Health Technology Assessment Programme – New 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 **evidence synthesis topic**:

- [20/140 Faecal immunochemical test \(FIT\) based tools to triage patients in primary care](#)

Deadline for applications: 27th January 2021

The HTA Programme is accepting stage 1 applications to their commissioned workstream for the following **primary research topics** (Australian collaborations welcome for each*):

- [20/126 Imaging in paediatric osteomyelitis](#)

- **20/127 Occupational advice initiated prior to planned surgery for lower limb joint replacement**
- **20/128 Routine measurement of gastric residual volume in paediatric critical care**
- **20/129 Routine measurement of gastric residual volume in neonatal critical care**
- **20/130 Intensive Interaction for children and young people with profound and multiple learning disabilities**
- **20/131 Corticosteroid induction regimens for children and young people with juvenile idiopathic arthritis**
- **20/132 Sexual health promotion for people with severe mental illness**
- **20/133 Pre-operative exclusive enteral nutrition for Crohn's disease**
- **20/134 Psychological intervention for treatment resistant generalised anxiety disorder in older adults**

Deadline for applications: 31st March 2021

***Australian Collaborations Welcome**

Australian collaborations are welcome for each of the primary research topics above. The Australian National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) will invest up to \$3 million AUD to cover the Australian component of the research projects selected for funding under these calls. NHMRC will provide funding for the Australian-based CI in accordance with standard NHMRC funding agreement and the NHMRC-NIHR Collaborative Research Grant Scheme guidelines. The value of individual grants will be pro rata based on the number of successful applications. Refer to the NHMRC website for more information. UK-only applications are also welcome.

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

MRC Improving health in low and middle income countries

Details: The Applied Global Health Research Board supports applied research that will be of direct and primary benefit to the health of vulnerable populations living in low and middle income countries. MRC are looking for research projects that will develop practical solutions to health challenges from late-stage intervention development onwards. This includes:

- implementation science • scale-up activities
- health services research
- health economics
- health policy research

- research with a predominantly applied focus that does not fit within the remit of other MRC boards and panels.

MRC welcomes cross-sectoral research that combines expertise to meet a global health challenge (such as urban planning, health policy and non-communicable disease research) within a single proposal.

Deadline for proposals: 1st February 2021

Find out more [here](#)

BBSRC Pre-Announcement: Global coronavirus research and innovation network

Details: Proposals should seek to coordinate research in the following areas:

- pathogen biology (including the seasonality, transmission, ecology and evolution of coronaviruses)
- host response
- effective intervention strategies.

This research should support an integrated 'one health' approach to tackling existing and emerging coronaviruses, utilising comparative biology between animal and human coronaviruses, and encouraging data use, sharing and accessibility across public and veterinary healthcare.

The funded network will draw together the major global research and industry players working on veterinary and human coronaviruses to compare, contrast and advance the understanding of coronaviruses.

The main aims of the network should be to embrace a one health approach to understanding coronaviruses, to facilitate research collaborations, and serve as a communication gateway for the global coronaviruses research community.

Deadline for proposals: 4th January 2021

Find out more [here](#)

Latest Fellowships

Versus Arthritis Joint Funded MRC Clinician Scientist Fellowship

Details: These fellowships allow talented medically and other clinically qualified professionals, who have gained a higher research degree to lead their own research, establish a research team and make the transition to independent investigator. The clinical scientist fellowship (CSF) provides either four year or five years' support, covering personal salary costs, together with support for research staff, consumable expenses, travel costs and capital equipment appropriate for the research project.

Deadline for proposals: 7th January 2021

Find out more [here](#)

Patient and Public Involvement

NIHR article: Serving the under-served – how NIHR's INCLUDE initiative will make trials better reflect all members of society

Shaun Treweek, Ella Anderson, Adepeju Oshisanya and Miles Witham write about the problem of trials that do not represent the communities they are meant to serve. Here they explain how the NIHR INCLUDE initiative aims to change this.

Find out more [here](#)

Training and events

Webinar: NIHR Incubator for Methodology: Designing health research using routine data

What: Find out how routine data can be safely and rigorously used to address important questions in applied health research. This two-hour webinar, organised by the NIHR Incubator for Methodology, is aimed at people from different academic and professional backgrounds, and will be looking at the 'evidence' of a gap in capacity development for people interested in 'designing health research using routine data'.

When: 14:00-16:00 on 7th December 2020

Where: Online

Find out more [here](#)

NCRM: Social Research Methods Suited or Adapted to Covid-19 Times

What: This NCRM webinar addresses key points for adapting particular methods for Covid-19 times. The webinar is aimed at social researchers - from academia, government, industry and the third sector - who are grappling with methodological adaptations in light of the dynamic social restrictions and uncertainties due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

This webinar focuses on decisions and experiences and addresses key points for adapting particular methods for Covid-19 times: interviews, surveys, and participatory, sensory, creative and ethnographic methods. We will show how researchers have adapted or selected research designs and methods and highlight influential contextual factors such as time, participant group, research relationships and well-being.

When: 10:00-12:00 on 28th January 2020

Where: Online

Find out more [here](#)

NCRM: Emerging Issues in Changing Research Practices for Covid-19 Times

What: This NCRM webinar focuses on what is methodologically at stake in Covid-19, what matters of concern arise and how these are being addressed. The webinar is aimed at social researchers - from academia, government, industry and the third sector - who are grappling with methodological adaptations in light of the dynamic social restrictions and uncertainties due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The webinar focuses on what is methodologically at stake in Covid-19, what matters of concern arise and how these are being addressed in different areas. It draws on materials identified throughout the project, including contributions from the workshops, and will highlight important themes, strategies and issues regarding methods in the research community. The project team will discuss the core challenges and responses they have identified in relation to making research happen, making research ethical and making research valid. An expert panel of discussants - including Dr Helen Kara who, with Dr Su-Ming Khoo, has recently edited a three-volume collection titled *Researching in the age of Covid-19* – will respond to these topics and to questions from participants.

When: 10:00-12:00 on 11th February 2021

Where: Online

Find out more [here](#)

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.

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.**