

Dear all

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Growing Social Care Research in the West Midlands

Date: Tuesday 19th October 2021

Time: 10.00 to 13.00

Venue: Online

Event hosted by The West Midlands Social Care Research Partnership

Are you passionate about improving social care services?

Do you have an idea(s) for social care research and/or improving practice and want to develop it?

Do you want to understand more about how research is relevant to social care, and how research can make a difference to social care practice?

If 'yes' then join us for our FREE half-day event on **19th October**, aimed at **researchers, practitioners, people with lived experience, commissioners and providers** of adult social care, and/or those at the health and adult social care interface, in the West Midlands.

- Find out how you can be supported to develop your research or practice improvement idea(s)
- Learn about funding opportunities available for social care research through the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)
- Understand more about contemporary issues in adult social care and how research can impact social care practice
- Network and connect with other researchers, practitioners, people with lived experience, commissioners and providers in the social care field
- Attend a choice of in-depth sessions on key aspects of social care research and the research grant application process, to help you take your ideas forward

Register [here](#)

Latest NIHR funding calls

NIHR: UK-wide antiviral clinical trial platform in non-hospitalised patients

NIHR are seeking to fund a research consortium to deliver a complex community-based clinical trial platform for antiviral candidates for COVID-19 that could augment the current vaccine and therapeutic programmes.

The Antivirals Taskforce (ATF) has been established by the Department of Health and Social

Care (DHSC) to identify effective antiviral treatments for COVID-19 to augment the current vaccine and therapeutic programmes. The ATF is seeking to make available oral (tablet or capsule) drugs that could be taken in non-hospitalised patients. The primary focus will be early treatment of confirmed (PCR positive) SARS-CoV2 infections in high-risk individuals to prevent hospitalisation, reduce symptoms, and speed up recovery.

The ATF is seeking to commission a research consortium that will be able to deliver a complex community-based clinical trial platform for antiviral candidates, focused primarily on major public health outcomes, notably reductions in hospitalisation and mortality.

Deadline for proposals: 17 August 2021

Find out more [here](#)

NIHR: Research for Patient Benefit - Competition 46

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: 10 November 2021

Find out more [here](#)

NIHR Research for Social Care – New calls into mental health and dementia

The RfSC call funds research which generates evidence to improve, expand and strengthen the way adult social care is delivered for users of care services, carers and the public.

The NIHR Research for Social Care (RfSC) call is inviting proposals for studies to address important social care questions relating to the following:

- **Dementia:** This RfSC call is an important part of the Department of Health and Social Care and NIHR's ongoing interest in strengthening dementia research in less well-supported areas, better understanding the needs of underserved populations and social care needs, as well as identifying best practice in relation to critical points, including diagnosis, hospitalisation, residential care and end-of-life care. The Research for Social Care (RfSC) call, is inviting proposals from eligible research teams to improve the evidence base around social care and dementia. This call is open to researchers at all career stages.
- **Mental health:** The RfSC call is inviting proposals from eligible research teams to better understand and manage the social care consequences of mental health conditions. They are particularly interested in populations in Northern England. Host organisations should be based in Northern England; however collaborators outside of the North are welcome to apply. Applications should be co-produced with service commissioners, providers, carers and service users wherever appropriate to better ensure findings are of immediate utility in policy and practice.

Deadline for proposals: 19 October 2021

NIHR HTA Programme: New commissioned calls

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 for the following topics, with a **deadline of 22 September 2021**:

- **21/541 Medication support interventions and strategies for people with learning disabilities**

The HTA Programme is accepting stage 1 applications for the following topics, with a **deadline of 01 December 2021**:

- **21/532 Intensive Interaction for children and young people with profound and multiple learning disabilities**
- **21/534 Surgical management of successfully reduced incarcerated inguinal hernia in children**
- **21/535 Follow-up strategy after radical treatment for prostate cancer**
- **21/536 Sodium bicarbonate in neonatal care**
- **21/537 Neuroendoscopic lavage for preterm babies with post-haemorrhagic ventricular dilatation**
- **21/542 Medication to manage sexual preoccupation in sex offenders**
- **21/538 Benefits and harms of reduced dose oral isotretinoin in the management of acne vulgaris**
- **21/539 Benefits and harms of maintenance therapy for refractory acne vulgaris or previous relapses by reduced dose isotretinoin regimens**
- **21/540 Pharmacological treatments for low back pain or sciatica**

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: Public health intervention development (PHIND)

Apply for funding to develop an intervention addressing a UK or global public health issue. PHIND proposals can include qualitative and quantitative primary research and the development of theory and logic models. However, emphasis should be placed on developing the intervention. Population level interventions, with a focus on non-health care settings (such as transport, education, employment, leisure and the built environment), are encouraged. Proposals should demonstrate a pathway to further development and

evaluation of the intervention and criteria for progression to the next stage of development should be detailed within the case for support.

Deadline for proposals: 15 September 2021

Find out more [here](#)

CRUK: Postdoctoral Research Bursary for Clinical Trainees

This award offers funding for clinical trainees to undertake a research project after completion of a PhD.

Deadline for proposals: 15 September 2021

Find out more [here](#)

Race Against Dementia: Seed grant to dramatically accelerate progress in dementia research

Race Against Dementia's vision is a breakthrough in the prevention or treatment of dementia with the greatest of urgency. What's your big idea to accelerate progress in dementia research? It might be to focus on a particular part of dementia science, or to facilitate better collaboration between disciplines and institutions. Or it may be to encourage and recruit more people to make their careers in this important area. Race Against Dementia are looking for out-of-box ideas and passionate people that have a plan to implement them.

Deadline for proposals: 06 September 2021

Find out more [here](#)

GUTS: Colon cancer research grants

GUTS works to raise awareness of bowel cancer and the steps people can take to reduce their own risk of developing the disease. They provide grants for research into new ways of detecting bowel cancer and better ways of treating the disease. Applications are invited for two grants of £500 each for innovative research projects relating to the care of colon cancer patients.

Deadline for proposals: 01 April 2022

Find out more [here](#)

Claire Wand Trust: Research Grants for GPs

The Claire Wand Fund is a trust established to provide scholarships and grants for research and the further education of doctors working in general practice.

Projects Awarded Grants Include:

- Research for dissertations leading to a higher degree.
- Audit.
- Research projects initiated by General Practitioners, with ethical committee approval and appropriate support and indemnity.
- Course fees where the course will lead to the development of new clinical services within the applicants practice.
- Travel for the study of general practise in different cultures.

The idea of the fund is to help improve general practice generally rather than the individual practitioner in particular.

Deadline for proposals: 04 October 2021

Find out more [here](#)

National Institute of Academic Anaesthesia: DAS Project Grant and Small Grant

The Difficult Airway Society (DAS) is pleased to announce project grants up to a maximum sum of £15,000 and small grants up to a maximum sum of £5,000, to support research in the broad area of airway management. DAS intends to interpret this aim widely as: any relevant research which aids in the understanding of airway management as it relates to anaesthetic practice.

Deadline for proposals: 24 September 2021

Find out more [here](#)

Association of Breast Surgery: Research Development Grants

The ABS and Prevent Breast Cancer are pleased to offer their research development grants. In addition Prevent Breast Cancer are making funds available for up to 2 grants focusing on breast cancer prevention, screening and early diagnosis.

Projects seeking funding from the ABS are asked to submit applications for a grant of up to £10,000. Applications should further the aims of the ABS, be of clear value to the NHS and take appropriate account of its priorities, needs and realities. For the joint grants with Prevent Breast Cancer applications must demonstrate a focus on breast cancer prevention, screening or early diagnosis. The PI can be a consultant, trainee or an allied health professional.

Deadline for proposals: 01 November 2021

Find out more [here](#)

Myeloma UK: Research proposals into Early Diagnosis of Myeloma

Delayed diagnosis in myeloma patients is the largest unmet need in the disease. Myeloma UK seek applications for research projects which will address this. Research projects should: (1) Address the factors that cause late diagnosis of myeloma; or (2) Progress our knowledge of the development of myeloma with a view to screening at-risk individuals; or (3) Have the potential to impact the way myeloma is diagnosed.

Myeloma UK welcome novel proposals which learn from other areas of cancer research and benefit from cross-disciplinary approaches.

Deadline for proposals: 30 September 2021

Find out more [here](#)

Coeliac UK: Research call into coeliac disease in children and young people

Coeliac UK is delighted to be able to offer this pilot/proof of concept grant for research into coeliac disease in children and young people. This is also supported by the British Society of Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (BSPGHAN).

Researchers are invited to submit applications to this call that will underpin Coeliac UK's top ten research priorities, in particular:

- Finding the best post diagnosis support
- Better support for healthcare professionals
- Understanding the link between coeliac disease and other conditions

Deadline for proposals: 13 September 2021

Find out more [here](#)

Latest Fellowships

Association of British Neurologists: Fellowships

The Association of British Neurologists' mission is to improve the health and well-being of people with neurological disorders by advancing the knowledge and practice of neurology in the British Isles. The ABN Clinical Research Training Fellowship scheme provides 3-year clinical research training fellowships in neurological disciplines resulting in a PhD.

Applications are welcomed with focus on:

- Any neurological disorder, for fellowships awarded by the ABN and its funding partners the Guarantors of Brain and the Patrick Berthoud Charitable Trust.
- Stroke*, funded jointly by the Stroke Association and the Berkeley Foundation.
- Epilepsy, funded by ABN/Epilepsy Research UK
- Neurodegenerative disorders, funded by ABN/Alzheimer's Research UK
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Deadline for proposals: 13 September 2021

Find out more [here](#)

News, info. and updates

Government press release: New strategy to attract world class talent and put people at the heart of R&D

The government has set out plans to make the UK the best destination in the world for researchers, making sure that it continues to attract the brightest and best from the UK and from overseas. The new **R&D People and Culture Strategy** builds on all the work already underway to make the UK a truly great place for research and innovation, led by individuals, universities and businesses and funders.

Find out more [here](#)

Training and events

MOOC-Introduction to Randomised Controlled Trials

Discover the importance of trials in evidence-based medicine and learn about the trial lifecycle from conception to publication.

This MOOC is **free to anyone**, and has open and global access. It requires a total of approximately 12 hours of learning over a 3-week period and the first run of the course will start on 26th July. The content provides a really good introduction to the importance of randomised controlled trials in healthcare, and provides an overview of their key design features, set-up, delivery, analysis and publication. “

Find out more and sign up [here](#)

NIHR INCLUDE Stakeholder Online Event

What: Many groups (such as women, older people and ethnic minorities) are under-served in clinical trials. NIHR's INCLUDE project (Innovations in Clinical Trial Design and Delivery for the Under-served) aims to ensure that health research includes the people who most need it.

This event will provide more information about INCLUDE, as well as the NIHR CRN Specialty Cluster E's Emerging Technology and Innovation project relating to improving health research for under-served groups.

The overall purpose of this virtual event is to share our findings to date on the INCLUDE project, celebrate successes, thank all our supporters and share what's next for INCLUDE.

When: 11:00-16:00 on 07 October 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.

For more information please contact: studysupport.crnwestmidlands@nihr.ac.uk.

Website: <http://www.nihr.ac.uk/nihr-in-your-area/west-midlands/>

Are you thinking of applying for research funding?

Access free advice and support from the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Research Design Service West Midlands (RDSWM)

Our multi-disciplinary team can offer advice on the key ingredients in a successful health or social care research proposal, including:

- Formulating a research question
- Statistics and health economics
- Qualitative methodology
- Support on involving patients and public in research
- 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/>

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