

Dear all

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RDS Blog: Reflections on “That Co-production Podcast”

In this blog Kati Turner and Julie Wright, two public members on the RDS South East Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement Team, reflect on their experiences of working on ‘That Co-production Podcast!’ recorded during the lockdown as a result of covid-19. They talk about the confidence and skills they gained as well as their highlights from the podcast series.



Read the blog [here](#)

Latest funding calls

NIHR Programme Grants for Applied Research

NIHR Programme Grants for Applied Research (PGfAR) funds collaborative, multidisciplinary programmes of applied research to solve health and social care challenges. Programme Development Grants (PDG) are available for researchers to carry out targeted preparatory work to strengthen a future full PGfAR application and to enhance the outcomes of existing PGfAR awards.

Applications are invited for Stage 1 research proposals to develop individual programmes of research. Research funded through a Programme Grant typically consists of an interrelated group of high quality projects focused on a coherent theme and hence require multidisciplinary approaches, including clinical, health economics, statistics, qualitative and behavioural sciences, to ensure that research objectives can be met. The amount awarded and the length of the funding period will depend on the nature of the proposed work, in particular whether or not the proposal includes a substantial powered trial.

Deadline for proposals: 28 July 2021

Find out more [here](#)

NIHR Clinical Research Facilities

The NIHR has launched a new, open competition to designate and fund NIHR Clinical Research Facilities (CRFs) in England. NIHR CRFs support the delivery of early translational and experimental medicine research studies, including early-phase clinical trials. They provide dedicated purpose-built facilities in the NHS specifically for the delivery of high-intensity research that requires dedicated space, facilities and specialist expertise.

NIHR CRFs are a key part of the UK’s leading early-stage clinical research infrastructure and play an important role in making the country a global hub for life sciences and delivery of the government’s Life Sciences Industrial Strategy. They will also play a key role in realising the ambitions set out in the vision for the future of UK clinical research delivery.

Deadline for proposals: 29 September 2021

Find out more [here](#)

Mental health research in Northern England

The Research for Patient Benefit (RfPB) programme, including the Research for Social Care (RfSC) call, have launched a call for research to better understand and manage the health

and social care consequences of mental health conditions. This call is an important part of the Department of Health and Social Care's ongoing interest in mental health and the ambition in the recently established Mental Health Research Goals 2020-2030 to fund high-quality and timely evidence and to support research at the source of need.

The call is particularly interested in research in populations in Northern England, where there is a disjoint between the mental health burden and research activity. Host organisations should be based in Northern England, however collaborators outside of the North are welcome.

Deadline for proposals: 22 June 2021

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 / EPSRC: Using data to improve public health: COVID-19 secondment

Apply for funding to work for a year with experts in the analysis and interpretation of: (1) national anonymised linked electronic health records; (2) multiple population longitudinal studies.

Awards will support the development of a national cadre of interdisciplinary, big-data enabled researchers and professionals from analytical backgrounds as part of a 12-month secondment to the Longitudinal Health and Wellbeing National Core Study for COVID-19 (UCL website).

You will receive on-the-job experience alongside leading expertise in analysis and interpretation of national anonymised linked electronic health records and multiple population longitudinal studies. You will join a cross-disciplinary, cross-institutional team working on a chosen research theme or data platform and will be attached to one of the collaborating institutions where you will work alongside a designated mentor.

The Longitudinal Health and Wellbeing National Core Study for COVID-19 aims to inform policy on the following COVID-19 related research themes:

- long COVID (definition, risk factors and outcomes)
- mental health
- health and society
- healthcare disruption
- vaccination

Deadline for proposals: 06 Jul 2021

Find out more [here](#)

Great Ormond Street Hospital: GOSH Charity and Sparks National Funding Call

GOSH Charity is inviting project grant applications for paediatric health research studies focusing on complex or rare diseases. The call will support research across the spectrum of medical conditions affecting the foetus, neonates and children directly, as well as pregnancy disorders that affect the child. Similar to last year, we will also consider applications seeking to understand how COVID-19 affects children, particularly in the context of pre-existing diseases or conditions. Qualitative and mixed-methods research projects, including healthcare management and service delivery for specific childhood diseases/conditions or groups of closely related conditions, are also welcomed

All projects must aim to improve understanding of the disease or associated conditions or to improve outcomes for the affected child. Proposals will be expected to have the potential to lead to new medical developments or improved healthcare (e.g. diagnostic tools, novel interventions) through laboratory and/or clinically based research. Applicants must clearly articulate the route to clinical application and/or potential for patient benefit, regardless of where their proposed studies are positioned along the basic to-applied research continuum.

Deadline for proposals: 07 July 2021

Find out more [here](#)

The Urology Foundation: Smaller Research Projects

The Urology Foundation tackles all urology diseases. They are campaigners, researchers, volunteers, fundraisers, patients, doctors, and dedicated staff members who are all leading the fight against urology disease.

TUF will fund projects for patient benefit that seek to improve clinical services, treatments and education, as well as communications with patients and carers. The project must incorporate outcome measures which evaluate and demonstrate improved care or well-being of patients.

These awards are for small, stand-alone projects which could lead towards an improvement in the treatment and care of patients. They are not meant to be used as top up funding for projects which ideally should fall within TUF's annual Research Scholarship application call, or associated with larger projects already funded.

Deadline for proposals: 31 October 2021

Find out more [here](#)

Diabetes UK: Small Grants and Project Grants

Diabetes UK aims to improve lives through pioneering research into all forms of diabetes and diabetes-related complications. The work they support helps us understand the causes of diabetes, bring about life-changing breakthroughs in care, treatment and prevention and brings us closer to a cure.

The following calls are open for application:

- **Project grants:** For high quality, hypothesis driven diabetes research projects, lasting up to five years and costing less than £500,000. Current research priority areas are: (1) New glucose monitoring technologies in inpatient care; (2) Understanding the pathogenesis of diabetes that develops atypically, or in minority populations

Deadline for applications: 01 December 2021

- **Early-Career Small Grants:** supports early-career basic scientists and members of Allied Health Professions to undertake small research projects related to diabetes. The scheme will enable scientists at an early stage in their career to develop their work and go on to obtain additional grant funding from other organisations. Nurses, pharmacists and members of the Allied Health Professions who meet the eligibility criteria may apply through this scheme.

Deadline for applications: 01 December 2021

The Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund: Project Grants

The Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund awards grants for research on aspects of leukaemia and for relevant studies on related haematological malignancies. Applications are sought for first class research on innovative proposals and are particularly welcomed from those with applications close to the care of leukaemia patients or the prevention of leukaemia or related diseases.

It is intended that KCLF funding should not be the 'core' funding of any research group. Applicants should state clearly how their proposal relates to their core funding. Applications are particularly encouraged from individuals within 5 years of their first independent group leader position. Grants will be awarded for research on aspects of leukaemia and for relevant studies on related haematological malignancies. Requests for support for basic science programmes may be considered. Clinical trials will not be supported. Proposals which are closely related to the prevention, diagnosis, or therapy of leukaemia and related diseases are particularly encouraged.

Deadline for proposals: 01 July 2021

Find out more [here](#)

British Heart Foundation: Translational Awards

Translational Awards aim to progress the development of novel, innovative technologies towards benefits to human cardiovascular health. The scheme supports the development of technologies with transformative potential from the proof-of-concept stage to being ready for the commercial market. Proposals are expected to demonstrate a strong intellectual property position and a development proposition that could attract follow-on investment.

The project should be novel and inventive and address an unmet clinical need within the BHF remit. The project should result in a product, technology or intervention that is ready for market development.

The application should provide clear and compelling information on the following:

- An unmet healthcare need in heart and circulatory disease
- The advantages of the proposed technology over competing solutions
- Supporting proof of concept data
- A structured project with non-overlapping milestones, each with SMART GO/NO-GO success criteria
- The intellectual property position
- A proposed route to market and commercialisation
- A strategy to navigate the relevant regulatory processes
- Long term aims beyond the BHF Translational Award

Deadline for proposals: 13 September 2021

Find out more [here](#)

Latest Fellowships

British Heart Foundation: Fellowships for Nurses and Healthcare Professionals

The research proposed should usually be related to the improvement of care and outcomes for people with cardiovascular disease. More fundamental/basic science research may be better supported through our other funding schemes. If you have any queries about the suitability of your research for this scheme, please contact us in advance of submitting an application.

The following Fellowships are open for application from the British Heart Foundation:

- **Research Training Fellowships for Nurses and Healthcare Professionals:** To provide a foundation in research training in an established research institution in the UK for healthcare professionals, leading to the award of a PhD.
- **Career Development Research Fellowships for Nurses and Healthcare Professionals:** To provide a career opportunity in an established research institution in the UK for individuals with an established research record, who intend to become leaders in academic health professional-led research.

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Deadline for proposals: 20 October 2021

Patient and Public Involvement

NIHR blog: How to promote diversity in patient and public involvement

Esther van Vliet, Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement Manager at the NIHR School for Primary Care Research (SPCR), writes about how colleagues are engaging under-represented communities and encouraging fresh voices in patient contribution.

Find out more [here](#)

Training and events

Webinar for those applying for the NIHR “Improving support for adult and/or older carers” call

What: The NIHR HS&DR Programme will be holding a webinar to discuss the call “**Improving support for adult and/or older carers**”. The webinar will be immediately followed by a limited number of virtual clinics, providing an opportunity for potential applicants to discuss their proposed research with the NIHR team and where possible, NIHR RDS colleagues. Applicants may apply to attend a 15 mins clinic by expressing their interest in the questions section of the webinar registration form.

When: 13:00-14:00 on 10 June 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/>

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/>

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