



Grants Academy: CSO, MRC & NIHR funding for clinical studies and trials

ResearchConnect

The University of Aberdeen subscribes to ResearchConnect - a comprehensive database of research funding opportunities. Using institutional credentials University of Aberdeen researchers can set up regular bespoke alerts to inboxes.

Supporting Grant Applications (SGA) / Intention to Submit (ITS)

Applications should follow the relevant School or Institute SGA/ITS process. Please aim to complete this at least 8 weeks ahead of the call deadline; please liaise with your R&I Research Development Executive for further guidance.

Overview

NIHR, MRC translational programmes and the CSO work collaboratively to provide a range of funding opportunities to support all stages of clinical studies and trials. The MRC/NIHR [Guidance for identifying funding schemes for clinical studies](#) is designed to help researchers determine which funding scheme is the most relevant for their project.

Contents

Scottish Government Chief Scientist Office (CSO)	Page 2
Medical Research Council (MRC) -UKRI	Page 3
National Institute for Health Research (NIHR):	
Rolling Calls	Page 4
Themed Calls	Page 5
Researcher-led Calls	Page 6
Commissioned Calls	Page 8



CSO CALL	REMIT	DEADLINE	TERM	FUNDING
<u>Health Improvement, Protection & Services</u>	For research aimed at or protecting health or improving the quality, safety and/or effectiveness of healthcare in Scotland.	2 x p.a. Jan and Jun	3 years	£300K
<u>Translational Clinical Studies</u>	For research aimed at or improving treatments and / or diagnostic approaches for conditions of clinical importance in Scotland.	2 x p.a. Jan and Jun	3 years	£300K
<u>Applied Health Research Programmes</u>	Funding for a coherent group of inter-related projects that can have a high level of direct impact addressing an important Scottish population health or NHS challenge within the lifetime of the grant or soon after.	Annual (April)	5 years	£1M



Medical
Research
Council

MRC CALL	REMIT	DEADLINE	TERM	FUNDING
<u>Experimental medicine</u>	For interventional studies in humans, designed to further the understanding of the cause, progression and treatment of disease. Any disease area and intervention modality, however all studies must involve an experimental intervention, or challenge, and be focussed on validating a mechanistic hypothesis.	2 calls p.a.	-	-
<u>Developmental Pathway Funding Scheme</u>	Funding to drive fundamental discoveries along the developmental pathway towards patient benefit and or commercialisation. Wide remit, providing support from prototype development, pre-clinical refinement, evaluation, and safety and regulatory assessment through to clinical refinement and early phase clinical studies and trials (up to and including phase IIa).	2 calls p.a.	-	£2M



NIHR ROLLING CALLS

NIHR Rolling calls encourage applications in the stated areas and are open on a rolling basis, receiving applications across the ongoing NIHR board deadlines. Current rolling calls are:

NIHR ROLLING CALL	REMIT	DEADLINE	TERM	FUNDING
NICE rolling call	<p>For research projects meeting recommendations in research identified in NICE guidance that has been published or updated since 2015.</p> <p>Applications can be submitted to: Health Technology Assessment (HTA), Public Health Research (PHR), Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation (EME) or Health and Social Care Delivery Research (HSDR) programmes.</p>	As per deadline of relevant NIHR Board	-	-
James Lind Alliance (JLA) rolling call	<p>For research studies addressing JLA priority setting partnerships research priorities.</p> <p>Applications can be submitted to: Health Technology Assessment (HTA), Public Health Research (PHR), Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation (EME) or Health and Social Care Delivery Research (HSDR) programmes.</p>	As per deadline of relevant NIHR Board	-	-



NIHR THEMED CALLS

NIHR themed calls are funding opportunities focusing on a particular research area, in which all NIHR programmes participate. Themed calls are annual calls prioritised by the UK Chief Medical Officer and advertised across all of the NIHR programmes.

CURRENT THEMED CALLS & RESEARCH PRIORITIES

These previous themed call topics remain ongoing research priorities for all NIHR programmes, and researchers are encouraged to submit applications to the programmes' researcher led workstreams.

Antimicrobial resistance

Brain Tumours

Chronic pain

Compound Pressures on the NHS and social care

Complex health and care needs in older people

Dementia

Frailty

Long term conditions in children

Medicinal cannabis

Mental health

Motor Neurone Disease

Multimorbidities in older people

Obesity

Primary care

Sustainability in health and social care

NIHR RESEARCHER-LED CALLS

NIHR CALL	REMIT	DEADLINE	TERM	FUNDING
<u>Efficiency and Mechanism Evaluation</u>	For ambitious studies evaluating interventions with potential to make a step-change in the promotion of health, treatment of disease and improvement of rehabilitation or long-term care. Supports clinical studies when there is initial evidence that the technology is efficacious in patients but a large-scale study is needed to determine definitive proof of clinical efficacy and safety and which addresses mechanistic questions.	<u>2 p.a.</u>	Not set	Not set
<u>Health Technology Assessment</u>	Research about the clinical and cost-effectiveness of healthcare treatments and tests, for those who plan, provide or receive care from NHS, and social care services. For when there is evidence to show the technology is efficacious but uncertainty around its clinical and cost effectiveness in a real life NHS setting, compared to current best alternative(s).	<u>3 p.a.</u>	Not set	Not set
<u>Public Health Research Board</u>	For research to generate evidence to inform delivery of non NHS interventions intended to improve public health and reduce inequalities.	<u>2 p.a.</u>	Not set	Not set
<u>Health and Social Care Delivery Research</u>	Funding to evaluative research with potential to improve health and social care services. Research may be primary (qualitative and/or quantitative), secondary and evidence syntheses. Typical projects are mixed-methods studies with a clear focus on the organisation and quality of care. There should also be a focus on the experience of patients, staff and users.	<u>2 p.a.</u>	Not set	Not set
<u>Invention for Innovation (i4i):</u>	Translational funding aimed at research and development or evaluation of medical devices, in vitro diagnostic devices and digital health technologies addressing an existing or emerging health need.			
	<u>Product Development Awards</u>	2 p.a.	3yrs	Not set
	<u>Challenge Awards</u>	2 p.a.	3-5yrs	Not set
	<u>Connect Awards</u>	1 p.a.	1yr	£150K
<u>Research Programme for Social Care</u>	Funding for research which generates evidence to improve, expand and strengthen the way social care is delivered for users of care services, carers and the public	<u>2 p.a.</u>	3yrs	£350K

<u>Programme Grants for Applied Research</u> – to be led by NHS, supported by academic partner	For collaborative, multidisciplinary programmes of applied research to solve health and social care challenges. Research will lead to clear and identifiable patient, service user or carer benefits, typically through promotion of health and wellbeing, prevention of ill health, and optimal disease management (including safety and quality).	3 p.a. (Feb, Jun, Oct)	3-6yrs	£1.5M-£2.5M
<u>Programme Development Grants</u>	To carry out targeted preparatory work to strengthen a future full Programme Grant (above) application.	3 p.a. (Mar, Jul, Nov)	1-2yrs	£150K

NIHR COMMISSIONED CALLS

NIHR CALL	REMIT	DEADLINE	TERM	FUNDING
<u>Efficiency and Mechanism Evaluation</u>	Remit as for researcher-led (above) addressing call specification of published commissioned call.	See current calls	Not set	Not set
<u>Health Technology Assessment</u>	Remit as for researcher-led (above) addressing call specification of published commissioned call.	See current calls	Not set	Not set
<u>Public Health Research Board</u>	Remit as for researcher-led (above) addressing call specification of published commissioned call.	See current calls	Not set	Not set
<u>Health and Social Care Delivery Research</u>	Remit as for researcher-led (above) addressing call specification of published commissioned call.	See current calls	Not set	Not set
<u>Research Programme for Social Care</u>	Remit as for researcher-led (above) addressing call specification of published commissioned call.	See current calls	3yrs	£350K