



# Knowledge & Library Service

## Research Funding Bulletin April 2026

### **NIHR** | National Institute for Health and Care Research

All current and future funding information on NIHR funding can be found on the [NIHR Funding website](#).

NIHR funding includes:

#### **Public Health Research (PHR) Programme**

[PHR Development Awards - women in the armed forces](#)

[Women's health communication](#)

#### **Policy Research Programme (PRP)**

[PRP \(44-02\) Evaluation of Liberty Protection Safeguards](#)

[PRP \(44-03\) Evaluation of Phase 1 of reforms to the Mental Health Act \(MHA\)](#)

[PRP \(44-04\) A service evaluation of CQC's statutory Mental Health Act \(MHA\) duties](#)

#### **Doctoral Award**

[Doctoral Award \(Cohort 3\)](#)

#### **Postdoctoral Award**

[Postdoctoral Award \(Cohort 3\)](#)

#### **Future Focused Leadership Programme**

[Future Focused Leadership Programme - Emerging Research Leaders \(Cohort 6\)](#)

#### **Better Methods Better Research**

[Develop guidance for better research methods](#)

#### **Health and Social Care Delivery Research (HSDR) Programme**

[HSDR - Researcher-led](#)

[NIHR NICE rolling funding opportunity](#)

#### **Themed call**

[Shaping and supporting the health, public health and social care workforce of the future](#)

#### **Research for Patient Benefit (RfPB)**

Our [new RfPB commissioned funding opportunity](#) is due to open on 11 March. This will replace the usual researcher-led funding opportunity.

#### **Evidence Synthesis Programme**

[Researcher-Led – Evidence Synthesis](#)

#### **Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Programme**

- [NIHR James Lind Alliance Priority Setting Partnerships Rolling Funding Opportunity](#)
- [NIHR NICE Rolling Funding Opportunity](#)
- [Researcher-led - Primary Research](#)
- [Early intervention programmes for infants with an increased chance of neurodisability](#)
- [Pharmacological treatment with and without cognitive behavioural therapy for the treatment of gambling that harms](#)
- [Target trial emulation: utilising routine data to answer key health and care questions](#)
- [Transabdominal ultrasound surveillance for gallbladder cancer in patients with gallbladder polyps](#)
- [What is the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of specialist palliative care support in care home settings?](#)

#### **Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation (EME) Programme**

- [EME Programme researcher-led](#)

- [NIHR NICE rolling funding opportunity \(EME Programme\)](#)
- [NIHR James Lind Alliance Priority Setting Partnerships rolling funding opportunity \(EME Programme\)](#)

#### **Invention for Innovation (i4i)**

- [i4i Product Development Awards \(PDA\) NICE early use - April 2026](#)
- [i4i Product Development Awards \(PDA\) - April 2026](#)
- [i4i Funding At the Speed of Translation \(FAST\) - April 2026](#)

#### **Masters for Research Delivery Leadership**

- [Funding for the Masters for Research Delivery Leadership](#)



**UK Research and Innovation**

#### **UK Medical Research Council Opportunities – UKRI**

- [Using the ‘Our Future Health’ data resource for research](#)

This is a pilot scheme through which the Medical Research Council (MRC) will cover data access costs for eligible researchers who are currently supported by MRC. Data is accessed through Our Future Health and you must apply for access through the Our Future Health process.

- [Future Leaders Fellowships: round 11](#)

Funding to support ambitious research and innovation across UK Research and Innovation (UKRI)’s remit. You must be a researcher or innovator who is looking to establish or transition to independence.

- [MRC: new investigator research grant: applicant-led](#)

Apply for funding to take the next step towards becoming an independent researcher. Your research must be in the remit of the Medical Research Council. You must have:

- the skills and experience to ‘transition to independence’

- the support of an eligible host research organisation

#### **Other Funding Opportunities**

##### **Wellcome Trust**

All Funding Opportunities can be found on the [Wellcome Trust website](#).

- [Wellcome Trust Early-Career Awards](#)

**Summary:** This scheme provides funding for early-career researchers from any discipline who are ready to develop their research identity. The researcher will deliver shifts in understanding that could improve human life, health and wellbeing. By the end of the award, they will be ready to lead their own independent research programme. Project duration is usually 5 years but may be less for some disciplines and longer if held on a part-time basis.

**Award:** Your salary and up to £400,000 for research expenses.

**Deadline:** July 2026

- [Wellcome Trust Career Development Award](#)

**Summary:** This scheme provides funding for mid-career researchers from any discipline who have the potential to be international research leaders. They will develop their research capabilities, drive innovative programmes of work and deliver significant shifts in understanding that could improve human life, health and wellbeing.

**Award:** Provides a salary for the grant holder (if required) and research expenses. Please request for level and duration of funding that's justifiable for your proposed research.

**Deadline:** July 2026

##### **British Heart Foundation**

- [Clinical Study Grants](#) – deadlines 27<sup>th</sup> August 2026

##### **Diabetes UK**

- [Project Grants](#) (deadline – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026)
- [Early-career small grants for basic scientists and healthcare professionals](#) (deadline 31<sup>st</sup> July 2026)
- [Sir George Alberti Research Training Fellowship](#) (deadline 1<sup>st</sup> October 2026)

## Cancer Research UK

- [Prevention and Population Project Award](#) (deadline 18<sup>th</sup> June 2026)
- [Prevention and Population Programme Award](#) (deadline 15<sup>th</sup> July 2026)
- [Clinical Scientist Fellowship](#) (deadline 10<sup>th</sup> September 2026)
- [Clinical Future Leaders Fellowship](#) (deadline 10<sup>th</sup> September 2026)

## Arthritis UK

### ▪ Career Development Fellowship 2027

Our Career Development Fellowship aims to attract and retain talented researchers committed to a career in any discipline relevant to arthritis.

Award range and duration: Maximum £750,000 for up to 60 months.

Open for applications: [find out more](#)

Deadline: 16:00 on Wednesday 3 June 2026

### ▪ Early Detection and Targeted Treatments 2026

We plan to invest around £3 million in projects which aim to improve the diagnosis and treatment of arthritis.

Award range and duration: £100,000 - £1,200,000, for up to 60 months.

Open for applications: [find out more](#)

Deadline: 16:00 on Wednesday 3 June 2026

### ▪ Living Well 2026

We plan to invest around £2 million in projects which address unmet needs for people with arthritis.

Award range and duration: £400,000 - £1,000,000, for up to 36 months.

Open for applications: [find out more](#)

Deadline: 16:00 on Wednesday 24 June 2026

## The Urology Foundation

### ▪ Small Projects Fund

Small Projects Fund focuses on projects that seek to improve the quality of clinical services and patient treatments and care. The maximum award available from this funding stream is £10,000. (deadline 30<sup>th</sup> September)

## Research related opportunities

### NIHR Principal Investigator Pipeline Programme

Our Principal Investigator Pipeline Programme (PIPP) is a 12–18 month development programme that helps health and care professionals become confident and capable Principal Investigators (PIs).

Combining hands-on experience with structured learning, the programme equips you with the skills and insight to lead research in your organisation.

Whether you're exploring the PI role or ready to step into it, PIPP gives you the experience and support to get there.

[Find out more and apply by 29 May](#)

### Essential Guide to Grant Applications 3-day masterclass

**Tuesday 19 to Thursday 21 May – Online**

Our NIHR Research Support Service (RSS) is hosting a free online masterclass for anyone

thinking of applying for an applied health, public health or social care research grant from the NIHR or other competitive peer-reviewed funding programmes.

The 3-day course will include Q&A sessions, presentations and panel discussions.

[Find out more and register.](#)

### New bite-sized IP guidance modules on the NHS Learning Hub

Following the launch of updated NHS Intellectual Property (IP) guidance, a new series of bite-sized modules is available to support putting the guidance into practice. These short videos bring the guidance to life, making the key concepts clear and actionable.

[Start learning now.](#)

### Rehab Forward 2026: Starting Community Research

**Monday 22 June from 10am – London**

Learn from inspiring community rehabilitation

research and take early steps towards becoming research activity at this NIHR-supported Community Rehabilitation Research Network event.

This in-person event will help multi-disciplinary community practitioners build confidence and learn new skills through presentations, workshops and panel discussions.

[Find out more and reserve your place.](#)

### **Compassionate and inclusive leadership**

**Monday 1 June at 1pm**

Cultivate a nurturing environment by engaging and empowering others to flourish. Attend our 1-

hour webinar to understand why compassionate leadership and inclusivity matters. It will share what the evidence says about their impact in health and social care settings and explore 4 habits for more inclusive, everyday leadership.

[Find out more and register.](#)

### **Learn how to write a plain English summary**

Watch our webinar to learn how public contributor insights can strengthen your research application and where to access key support and resources. [Watch the webinar anytime on](#)

[YouTube.](#)

### **Further information**

If you need help accessing any of the links outlined above please contact Katherine France, Knowledge & Library Service Manager, [Katherine.France1@nhs.net](mailto:Katherine.France1@nhs.net)

Please see our website for information about Knowledge & Library Services available to you.

<https://www.dbth.nhs.uk/services/library-services/>

**If you are applying or thinking of applying for one of these funding opportunities, please get in touch with the research team. They can offer support, advice and guidance throughout the application process. Contact: 01302 644073 or emailing [dbth.clinicalresearch@nhs.net](mailto:dbth.clinicalresearch@nhs.net)**

