Knowledge & Library Service

Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Research Funding Bulletin
October 2026

NIHR | National Institute for Health and Care Research

All current and future funding information on NHIR funding can be found on the NIHR Funding website.

NIHR funding includes:

Department of Health and Social Care

- **UK – Japan collaborative clinical trials on children and young people's cancers**
  (deadline 17th February)

Future Leaders Fellowship

- **Future Leaders Fellowship (Cohort 2)**
  (deadline 14th January)

Postdoctoral Award

- Postdoctoral Award (Cohort 4)
  (deadline 14th January)

Programme Development Grants (PDG)

- October 2026
  (deadline 16th December)

Health and Social Care Delivery Research (HSDR) Programme

- NIHR James Lind Alliance Priority Setting Partnerships rolling funding opportunity
  (deadline 20th January)
- Researcher-led
  (deadline 20th January)

Invention for Innovation (i4i)

- i4i Product Development Awards - October 2026
- i4i Product Development Awards NICE early use recommendation - October 2026
  (deadline 2nd December)

Programme Grants for Applied Research (PGfAR)

- PGfAR - October 2026
  (deadline 2nd December)

Research Delivery Network

- Strategic funding
  Wider care settings funding
  (deadline 17th November)

- **Research Professorship**
  Research Professorship (Cohort 17))
  (deadline 9th December)

Research Programme for Social Care

- Research Programme for Social Care - September 2026

Senior Clinical and Practitioner Research Award

- Cohort 4

Pre-Application Support Fund

- Cohort 10

Short Placement Award for Research Collaboration

- NIHR SPARC (Cohort 13)

Better Methods Better Research (BMBR) Programme

- Development of novel evaluative methodologies to overcome systemic barriers in social care research
- Researcher-led
- The use of synthetic data in health and social care research

Health Technology Assessment Programme

- Researcher-led - primary research
- NIHR NICE rolling funding opportunity
- NIHR James Lind Alliance Priority Setting Partnerships rolling funding opportunity
- Broad call for interventions for improving outcomes in adults with faecal incontinence
- Definitive social care evaluations
- Interventions for children and young people with nonprogressive motor disorders affecting their speech
- Interventions for school-aged children with a developmental stammer
- Reducing central line-associated bloodstream infections in neonates
- Speech and language therapist-led interventions for school-aged children with developmental language disorder
- Early surgical intervention compared to standard care in neonates with symptoms of necrotising enterocolitis (NEC)

Public Health Research (PHR) Programme

- Using 'big data' to impact health and health inequalities
- Women's health communication
- NIHR James Lind Alliance Priority Setting Partnerships rolling funding opportunity
- NIHR NICE rolling funding opportunity
- PHR researcher-led

Themed call

Shaping and supporting the health, public health and social care workforce of the future

Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Programme

- Increasing social support and parenting skills for parents with learning disabilities

Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation (EME) Programme

- EME Researcher-led
- NIHR James Lind Alliance Priority Setting Partnerships rolling funding opportunity
- NIHR NICE rolling funding opportunity

Better Methods, Better Research (BMBR) Programme

- Development of novel evaluative methodologies to overcome systemic barriers in social care research
- The use of synthetic data in health and social care research

UK Research and Innovation

UK Medical Research Council
Opportunities – UKRI

- **Experimental medicine stage one**

Apply for funding to investigate the causes, progression and treatment of human disease.

- **Experimental medicine: invited stage two application**

Apply for funding to investigate the causes, progression and treatment of human disease.

- **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.

- **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

- MRC Centre of Research Excellence: round five: outline application

Apply for MRC Centre of Research Excellence (MRC CoRE) funding to tackle complex and interdisciplinary health challenges.

Other Funding Opportunities

Wellcome Trust

All Funding Opportunities can be found on the Welcome Trust website.

- Wellcome Early-Career Awards

You can apply to this scheme if you are an early-career researcher and you are ready to design, plan and deliver your own innovative research project that aims to:

• advance understanding in your field and/or
• develop methodologies, conceptual frameworks, tools or techniques that could benefit health-related research.

During the award, we expect you to:

• expand your technical skills and/or your experience of different research methodologies or frameworks
• build a collaborative network with other researchers in your field
• develop your people management skills
• advance your understanding of how to complete research responsibly and promote a positive and inclusive culture.

By the end of the award, you should have the research maturity to develop, manage and lead your own creative, independent research programme.

If you decide not to pursue a career in research, you'll have transferable skills that you can use in roles related to research or outside of research, for example in industry or teaching.

- **Award:** Your salary and up to £400,000 for research expenses. Certain costs do not count towards the £400,000 research expenses limit.

- **Wellcome Career Development Awards**

Summary: You can apply for a Wellcome Career Development Award if you are a mid-career researcher and you are ready to lead a substantial and innovative research programme. You must aim to make a key contribution to your field by:

- generating significant shifts in understanding
- and/or
- developing methodologies, conceptual frameworks, tools or techniques that could benefit health-related research.
- During the award, we expect you to:
- develop your research capabilities and leadership skills
- support others to undertake research responsibly and promote a positive and inclusive culture
- start training the next generation of researchers and develop their research skills and careers.
- By the end of the award, you should have achieved international standing in your area of research.
- You should also have the skills and experience to apply for permanent positions at research organisations.
- **Award:** You should ask for the resources you need for your research programme – see the 'Research costs we'll cover' section on this

page. You will need to work with your organisation to justify your request in the context of the support they will provide. The annual expenditure for a Career Development Award is usually below £250,000 excluding the applicant's salary. Applications above this value will be subject to additional scrutiny.

- Wellcome Discovery Awards

Summary: You can apply for a Wellcome Discovery Award if you are a researcher who wants to pursue bold and creative research ideas. You must aim to make a major contribution to your research field by:

- generating significant shifts in understanding

and/or

- developing methodologies, conceptual frameworks, tools or techniques that could benefit health-related research.

An award can be held by an established researcher or a team of researchers led by an established researcher.

- **Award**: You should ask for the resources you need for your research programme – see the 'Research costs we'll cover' section on this page. You will need to justify this in your application. The average size of a Discovery Award is £3.5 million. Applications above £5 million will be subject to additional scrutiny.

British Heart Foundation

- Clinical Study Grants **– deadline 13th January 2026**

Diabetes UK

- Project Grants (deadline – 1st December 2026)
- Early Career Small Grants (deadline – 1st December 2026)

Cancer Research UK

- Clinical Research Funding Scheme (deadline 3rd December)
- Early Detection and Diagnosis Programme Award (deadline 21st January 2027)
- Early Detection and Diagnosis Project Award (deadline 3rd December)

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

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