

Joint Research Management Office

Research News Bulletin

Issue 107

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Need to know

Introducing the interactive Costing Tool (iCT)

As of October 2018, NHS England and the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) are requiring all R&D offices to use the Industry Costing Template.

Work has now begun to move on from the excel spreadsheet based costing template to a new Interactive Costing Tool (iCT), in which the current 250 procedures and investigations available in the template will be expanded to more than 3,000. There will also be the facility, for the first time, for the industry to input codes from their own Grantplan systems to help ascertain costs for their selected sites. It is hoped, with this collection of specific data, that we may be able to complete recommendations laid down by NHS England to provide a single cost per study nationally across the UK.

The new Interactive Costing Tool is being developed by a joint PA Consulting and CRN CPMS team. This is the next major project within our Integrated Research Intelligence System Roadmap. Work started in October and the plan is for this work to be completed by the end of March 2019.

For more information about the interactive Costing Tool [please click here](#).

Better management of excess treatment costs

The way in which excess treatment costs (ETCs) are met is changing, addressing the frustrations expressed by researchers, commissioners and providers about the complexity and variation in previous processes.

A trial period for the new arrangements began in October 2018 and will progress to full implementation from April 2019. This change is being managed by a partnership of organisations across the research landscape, including the HRA, [Department of Health and Social Care](#), [the National Institute for Health Research](#), [NHS England](#) and others, ensuring a consistency of approach and a more streamlined process.

This is designed to enable Local Clinical Research Networks (LCRN) to manage the

excess treatment costs process on behalf of their local Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs). It should also establish a more rapid, standardised and consistent process for the management of excess treatment costs to avoid delays during study set up and to maximise patient recruitment.

New guidance shared by Public Health England is now available to download from the NIHR website for researchers who are undertaking public health research in organisations in England and who are seeking funding for excess treatment costs. To find out more about the new arrangements please [visit the NIHR website here](#).

That information includes a five-minute video outlining the new arrangements.

New CRN Clinical Directors

Following changes to the senior team at our local Clinical Research Network last year, two new, Joint Clinical Directors have been appointed: Prof Margaret Johnson and Prof David Wheeler.



Professor Margaret Johnson is one of the UK's leading consultants in Respiratory and HIV medicine, practising at the Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust. She has completed three years as academic president at the Royal College of Physicians. She has been working as a consultant in Respiratory Medicine and General Medicine for over 20 years. She has a special interest in HIV

infection; diagnosing, treating clinical complications of HIV and antiretroviral therapy.

David Wheeler is Professor of Kidney Medicine at University College London and Honorary Consultant Nephrologist at the Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust. He is a clinician-scientist interested in the complications of chronic kidney disease, specifically those that increase the burden of cardiovascular disease and/or accelerate the progression of kidney failure.



The pair, accustomed to working with each other at their base, the Royal Free Hospital, applied for the role together as a 'job-share'. Professor Wheeler said, "I am delighted to take up this opportunity with Margaret and we have clearly outlined how we will operate in this joint role". Management and staff at the CRN are pleased with the appointment and are looking forward to building on the successes of Professor Lyn Chitty, who helped establish CRN North Thames from its inception.

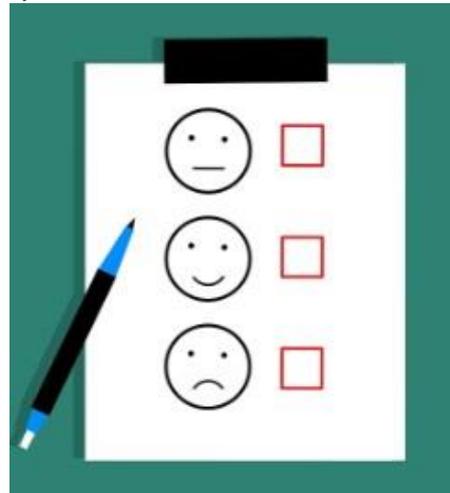
Professor Johnson and Professor Wheeler have been appointed for the duration of the CRN contract which currently ends in 2022

For more information about the Network please [visit its website here](#).

Patient Research Experience Survey 2018-19

Barts Health NHS Trust participated in the NIHR CRN Patient Research Experience Survey (PRES) for the first time in 2018. The collection period ran from September to December, with Barts Health research staff returning 242 completed patient surveys in total. Barts Health placed third overall in the CRN: North Thames network, just behind The

Royal Free NHS Foundation Trust, who had 251 completed surveys and Luton, Essex and Herts Primary Care team with 410 completed surveys.



The NIHR CRN will publish both the regional results (April 2019) and the national results by the end of July 2019.

Placements for Health Economics Students Summer 2019 - City, University of London

During the summer, City University MSc students have an opportunity to be placed in organisations to work on research projects, where they can apply the skills they have learned in their MSc and produce a dissertation based on this project. Typically, the organisation suggests a research topic and students express their interest based on the project. Students will apply directly to an organisation and it will lead the selection process of potential candidates.

Before beginning a placement, students will be assigned an academic supervisor at City who needs to approve the research topic. The academic supervisor's approval is necessary to ensure that the project meets the required standards and merits for the award of the MSc Health Economics or MSc Economic Evaluation in Healthcare degree. The student is expected to be assigned a supervisor at the organisation, who will guide the student during the project.

If a Queen Mary or Barts Health researcher is interested in this scheme, they should contact Victoria Serra-Sastre, Programme Director MSc Health Economics & MSc Economic Evaluation in Healthcare: Tel.020 7040 0171, email v.serra-sastre@city.ac.uk.

Worktribe implementation

Phase 2 of Worktribe went live on 27 November and the Pre- and Post-award Helpdesk went live on 3 December. This means that:

- A 'cradle to grave' research management process is now operational, delivering full visibility of projects both before and after they are awarded to both our research community and staff across Queen Mary.
- The JRMO has been supporting the pre-award use of Worktribe since early 2018, including costing and manage Barts Health applications. For the time being Barts Health's different financial management system precludes roll-out of post-award modules.
- Worktribe gives the JRMO the ability to monitor both individual projects and the range of projects from the initial application stage to completion.
- A new Milestone function allows users to manage and monitor how well the research project is progressing against the plan and to ensure that income is received in a timely manner.

Worktribe Helpdesk

The JRMO Helpdesk, launched in December, logs and monitors all costings and general account-related enquiries received by the JRMO - from both internal and external sources.

Each enquiry receives a ticket number which the enquirer can monitor and update accordingly from a provided link. Each ticket is allocated to a named member of JRMO staff. This improves the flow of requests, enabling the team to prioritise requests and users to see how their issues are being progressed.

To raise a ticket with the JRMO Helpdesk please email the following, depending on the nature of the enquiry:

- Pre-Award Queries: jrmo-helpdesk-preaward@qmul.ac.uk
- Post-Award Medical Queries (Whitechapel): jrmo-helpdesk-smdpostaward@qmul.ac.uk
- Post-Award Non-Medical Queries (Non-Medical): jrmo-helpdesk-nonmedpostaward@qmul.ac.uk

- EU Unit Queries: jrmo-helpdesk-eu@qmul.ac.uk
- Barts Health Queries: jrmo-helpdesk-bartshealth@qmul.ac.uk

Costings for Grant Applications must be submitted [through the JRMO e-Costings website](#).

JRMO Local Portfolio Management System change

The Governance section is preparing the migration of all our study records from REDA to EDGE. EDGE will become our main Local Portfolio Management System (LPMS). Once we have created clear written guidance to our JRMO staff, all new studies and amendments will start to be set up on EDGE.

Further communication on this will be released in due course.

JRMO staff changes

A new Governance Team Leader, Mr Shafa Ullah, has replaced Pushpsen Joshi who left last autumn. A new Costings and Contracts Manager has just arrived, Mr Yemi Adebisi, who replaces Juan-Carlos Rodriguez-Prados.

A mini restructure within the Governance Section has led to the appointment of 2 new Senior Governance officers, Jack Biddle and Marria Khan, who will be directly line-managing the Governance officers and reporting to the new Team leader. This had previously been a flat structure with all governance officers reporting to the Team leader.

The Governance Section's 'Key Worker' system is now in place. This means that each governance officer is assigned to a particular clinical group; which aligns with the 6 CRN Divisions. Key workers will be supporting researchers with study set-up, sponsorships and amendments. As the researchers and the same governance officer will be working more closely together, the aim here is to build better working relationships, produce higher quality applications and improve set up timelines.

Full details of who is responsible for which areas will be made available in due course. In

the meantime, [contact information can be found on the JRMO website.](#)

| | |
|--|---|
| | Research studies own account (∴ not NIHR portfolio eligible) |
|--|---|

Reminder: JRMO contacts

As covered in [previous editions of the Bulletin](#) the Governance Section is now using '@qmul.ac.uk' email addresses:

General queries, including training, monitoring, new study submissions and study closure:
research.governance@qmul.ac.uk

Amendments to existing studies: research.amendments@qmul.ac.uk

Safety or pharmacovigilance reporting:
research.safety@qmul.ac.uk

Prioritising studies for sponsorship review

On rare occasions the JRMO's workload becomes extremely high and, when this is coupled with staff shortages, it needs to prioritise which studies take precedent for sponsorship review. The proposal put to the Joint Clinical Research Board in December was for four levels of prioritising. This is now operational but if you would like to discuss this, either generally or in relation to a particular piece of work please contact Mays Jawad, Governance Operations Manager: m.jawad@qmul.ac.uk

The four levels are:

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Level 1 | MHRA regulated studies – NIHR portfolio eligible |
| Level 2 | Interventional studies – NIHR portfolio eligible Research studies – NIHR portfolio eligible MHRA regulated studies funded but not NIHR portfolio eligible |
| Level 3 | Interventional studies funded but not NIHR portfolio eligible Research studies funded but not NIHR portfolio eligible MHRA regulated studies own account (∴ not NIHR portfolio eligible) |
| Level 4 | Interventional studies own account (∴ not NIHR portfolio eligible) |

New JRMO SOPs

Since the last Research News Bulletin the JRMO has released the following new or revised Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and associated documents:

SOP13a & 13b, associated documents 1 & 2:

- JRMO Protocol Template for Research Studies
- JRMO sponsorship review proportionality document

SOP 17a - Amendments for sponsored studies - process for JRMO

SOP 17c - Amendments for sponsored studies - process for researchers

- Associated document 1: confirmation of costs for amendments
- Associated document 2: notification of non-substantial amendment NHS studies

SOP 26a - Pharmacovigilance and safety reporting for sponsored ATIMPs/CTIMPs

- Associated document 1: BH/QMUL SAE form
- Associated document 2: Pregnancy reporting form
- Associated document 3: DSUR template
- Associated document 4: DSUR MHRA cover letter

SOP 37 - Reporting of serious and non-serious breaches of GCP or the trial protocol

- Associated document 1: MHRA notification of serious breaches form
- Associated document 2: Non-CTIMP notification of serious breaches form

SOP 46 - Site selection, site initiation and site activation

- Associated document 1: Site feasibility assessment guidance
- Associated document 2: Site activation checklist
- Associated document 3: SIV presentation template
- Associated document 4: Site initiation visit report template

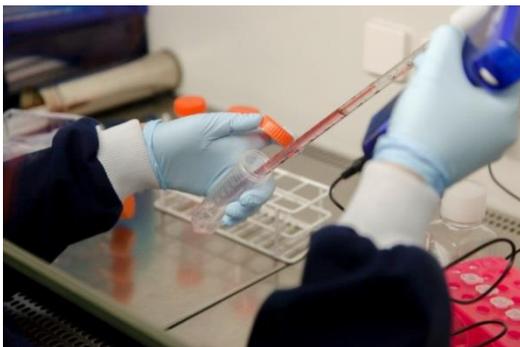
These and all other current JRMO SOPs are [available to download from the JRMO website.](#)

Barts Charity funding at the Trust and School



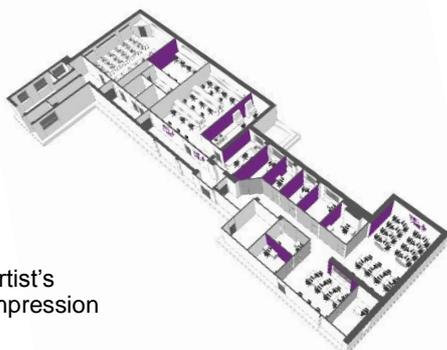
Cancer research at Barts Cancer Institute - £10 million

With the final instalment of the £10m grant, Barts Charity has funded 5 translatable projects in key areas of [cancer research](#). This grant is being applied across 5 translatable research projects which have been identified as key targets for research in the next decade: cancer prevention and risk reduction, screening and early diagnosis, cancer genomics and evolution, targeting tumour cells and targeting the tumour stroma.



Charterhouse Square research campus redevelopment - £6.5 million

This campus regeneration will create over 130 more workspaces for researchers and is filled with state-of-the-art equipment. The new space will allow teams to be co-located, strengthening collaboration. [Read more >](#)



Artist's impression

Did you know: over the last financial year, Barts Charity granted £14.4m to the Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry. Here are a few of their recently funded projects...

Brain tumour research - £1.6 million

Brain tumours kill more people under the age of 40 than any other cancer. Lack of research funding in this area has been a major barrier to developing treatments. This grant will fund a clinical platform which will allow researchers at the School to take basic science to patients in the Barts Health Hospitals. [Read more >](#)



Barts Charity lectureship programme - £6.5 million

16 lectureships are being offered to support some of the world's best young researchers through one of the most difficult phases in their careers. The lectureships will help to form a new generation of lead researchers for the next decade and beyond.

Endocrinology research - £1.5 million

This project is working on improving screening for some malignant adrenal diseases and improving the genetic diagnosis of children with adrenal failure. We're supporting the Department of Endocrinology's ambition to become the world's leading centre for clinical care and translational research in adrenal disease.

Local research

Queen Mary academic awarded a prestigious prize to conduct research on the cultural history of sleep

Sleep is often thought of as private oblivion, a refuge from the world and an opportunity to recharge our batteries. Yet, as we grow more preoccupied with monitoring sleep and the quality of our sleep it is increasingly on display. Using funds from the Philip Leverhulme Prize, Dr Tiffany Watt Smith, Lecturer in Drama, Theatre and Performance at Queen Mary will explore this in a forthcoming project, *The Theatre of Sleep*, which will begin in 2019.



The Philip Leverhulme Prize is given to scholars whose work has attracted international attention and whose future careers are deemed to be exceptionally promising. Up to 30 prizes of £100,000 are awarded each year across a range of academic disciplines.

Dr Watt Smith's research will focus on the so-called performance of sleep across medical, historical and artistic contexts, reconsidering it as a part of life which is more theatrical than is often assumed.

The Theatre of Sleep has multiple strands which include a history of sleep experiments of the 20th and 21st centuries as well as testimonies from clinicians in sleep clinics. Anecdotal evidence suggests that patients attending sleep clinics rarely 'perform' their symptoms and might even experience 'stage fright'.

Dr Tiffany Watt Smith is a regular media commentator and in 2014 she was named a BBC New Generation Thinker. An expert on the cultural history of emotions, her latest work, *Schadenfreude*, was published in 2018.

For more information see the [Centre for the History of the Emotions website](#).

Bees can count with just four nerve cells in their brains

Bees can solve seemingly clever counting tasks with very small numbers of nerve cells in their brains, according to researchers at Queen Mary University of London.

In order to understand how bees count, the researchers simulated a very simple miniature 'brain' on a computer with just four nerve cells – far fewer than a real bee has. The 'brain' could easily count small quantities of items when inspecting one item closely and then inspecting the next item closely and so on, which is the same way bees count. This differs from humans who glance at all the items and count them together.

In this study, published in the journal [iScience](#), the researchers, led by Dr Vera Vasas, propose that this clever behaviour makes the complex task of counting much easier, allowing bees to display impressive cognitive abilities with minimal brainpower. This finding demonstrates that the intelligence of bees, and potentially other animals, can be mediated by very small nerve cells numbers, as long as these are wired together in the right way. The study could also have implications for artificial intelligence because efficient autonomous robots will need to rely on robust, computationally inexpensive algorithms, and could benefit from employing insect-inspired scanning behaviours.



Prof Lars Chittka, also from Queen Mary and leader of the team in which the study was performed has added that the findings add to the growing body of work showing that

seemingly intelligent behaviour does not require large brains, but can be underpinned with small neural circuits that can easily be accommodated into the microcomputer that is the insect brain.

For more information see the research paper: 'Insect-inspired sequential inspection strategy enables an artificial network of four neurons to estimate numerosity'. Vera Vasas and Lars Chittka. [iScience](#).

Treat vitamin D deficiency to prevent deadly lung attacks

Vitamin D supplements have been found to reduce the risk of potentially fatal lung attacks in some chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) patients, according to a study led by Queen Mary University of London.



The new findings add to a growing list of health benefits for the 'sunshine vitamin'. While vitamin D is best known for its effects on bone health, previous studies by Queen Mary researchers have revealed its role in protecting against [colds](#), flu and [asthma attacks](#), and even helping with weight gain and brain development in [malnourished children](#).

The latest research, carried out at Queen Mary and funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), found that the use of vitamin D supplements led to a 45 per cent reduction in lung attacks among COPD patients who were deficient in vitamin D. No benefit was seen for patients with higher vitamin D levels. COPD describes a number of lung conditions, including emphysema and chronic bronchitis, where a person's airways become inflamed, making it harder to breathe. Almost all COPD deaths are due to lung attacks (termed 'exacerbations') in which symptoms worsen acutely. These are often triggered by viral upper respiratory infections – the type that causes the common cold.

Lead researcher Prof Adrian Martineau from Queen Mary explained that the latest study shows that giving supplements to vitamin D-deficient COPD patients nearly halves their rate of potentially fatal attacks. Vitamin D supplementation is safe, and it costs just a few pence to supplement a person for a year – so this is a potentially highly cost-effective treatment that could be targeted at those who have low vitamin D levels following routine testing.

The study, published in the journal [Thorax](#), is based on a new analysis of data from 469 patients across three clinical trials in the UK, Belgium and the Netherlands.

Clinical trials investigating the effects of vitamin D supplementation on COPD have shown conflicting results. By pooling all the individual patient data from different clinical trials, the team set out to determine whether vitamin D might have a protective effect on certain groups of COPD patients. The analysis found that vitamin D supplements, given by mouth, reduced the rate of moderate/severe COPD exacerbations in patients with low vitamin D levels (less than 25 nmol per litre of blood or 10 nanograms per millilitre).

Giving supplements to patients who did not have such low levels of vitamin D did not reduce their risk of COPD attacks. The researchers, therefore, highlight that this would need to be a targeted therapy, with doctors first testing vitamin D levels in COPD patients who experience frequent attacks, and then giving vitamin D supplements to those who are deficient.

This echoes the Queen Mary team's previous studies which found that vitamin D had the strongest protective effects against asthma exacerbation and acute respiratory infections such as colds and flu in people who had the lowest vitamin D levels to start with.

Public Health England and the Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition advise a [daily intake of 10 micrograms](#) of vitamin D.

More information see the research paper: 'Vitamin D to prevent exacerbations of COPD: systematic review and meta-analysis of individual participant data from randomised controlled trials' by David A. Jolliffe, Lauren Greenberg, Richard L. Hooper, Carolien Mathysen, Rachida Rafiq, Renate T. de Jongh, Carlos A. Camargo Jr, Christopher J. Griffiths, Wim Janssens, Adrian R Martineau. [Thorax](#).

£20m awarded to tackle cancer's biggest questions

A global research team involving scientists from Queen Mary University of London have been awarded £20 million by Cancer Research UK in an initiative that aims to answer some of the biggest questions facing cancer research.



Cancer Research UK's [Grand Challenge](#) brings together the brightest scientists from around the world and from different disciplines to find solutions to cancer's toughest challenges and save more lives.

[Dr Stuart McDonald](#) from Queen Mary's [Barts Cancer Institute](#) is a co-investigator in the team STORMing Cancer, consisting of collaborators from the US, Canada, UK and Israel, and led by the University of California, San Francisco. This pioneering team has been awarded the funding to uncover how chronic inflammation promotes the development of

cancer and identify novel ways to prevent cancer from developing in high-risk patients with chronic inflammatory diseases.

Inflammation is the body's first defence against infection and injury; however, chronic inflammation- where the immune system fails to limit itself and inflammation is inappropriately sustained- is involved in 20-25 per cent of cancers globally. It is currently not fully understood how chronic inflammation drives cancer development. The team aims to discover the mechanism behind this process in a number of different cancers and use this information to develop novel therapies that target or adjust their signals to return a tumour to a 'normal' or 'benign' state.

Dr McDonald will be focussing on Barrett's oesophagus, an inflammatory condition (mainly caused by acid reflux) in which the normal cells (epithelial cells) that line the oesophagus are replaced by ones that look like those in the bowel. Barrett's oesophagus is common in the UK, and those with the condition have a 40-fold increased risk of developing oesophageal cancer compared with the normal population.

As part of the Grand Challenge, Dr McDonald hopes to identify changes that occur which promote progression from Barrett's oesophagus to cancer, by examining samples from the same patients over time. This should lead to the identification of novel features that may be used to predict which patients are at high risk of developing oesophageal cancer.

Events

Research Matters 2019

The Engagement and Diffusion team are planning the Trust's annual Research Matters programme, to mark International Clinical Trials Day 2019 (20 May).

Researcher-led activities and events will take place between 13 and 27 May 2019, with the main event on Wednesday 22nd May in The Great Hall at St Bart's Hospital. Details of the full programme will be posted on [the Take Part in Research page of the Barts Health website](#) in due course.

If your team would like to get involved in hosting events and activities to engage staff,

patients and the public in your research, please contact Olivia and Neeta at patientsinresearch@bartshealth.nhs.uk for more information.

British Conference of Undergraduate Research – BCUR 2019

BCUR is a national academic conference in which over 400 undergraduate students from different universities present their work – either in the form of a research poster or presentation.

Since 2016, Queen Mary has sent increasing numbers of students from each Faculty to

BCUR. If the student is successful, travel, accommodation and conference ticket will be organised and funded by Queen Mary. But, to get the place funded, the student needs to go through an internal abstract submission and selection. Key aims for being involved in BCUR are:

- To raise the profile of undergraduate research at QMUL;
- To strengthen students' motivation for their own research, and help build key 'soft skills' that complement their discipline-based knowledge and expertise;
- To encourage students to consider the possibility of postgraduate study.

Like last year, we are keen to have undergraduates at any level of their study attending. For more information please see the Queen Mary BCUR page [here](#).

Patient and public involvement workshops

- RD London is running PPI workshops that are free and open to health researchers and health care professionals in London. Co-hosted with NIHR Biomedical Research Centre at Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, the workshops are a great opportunity for researchers that are currently in the process of applying to the NIHR or similar funding streams. You can now register for the following dates: 3 April and 20 May. Registration is available via the [RDS London website](#).
- The NIHR University College London Hospitals Biomedical Research Centre in partnership with UCLPartners is also running a programme of regular workshops for clinical academic researchers on patient and public involvement (PPI) in research. The workshops aim to build researchers' skills to effectively involve lay people in the research process, from setting research priorities to designing protocols. For more information please see [the UCLH PPI Training page](#) and email ppihelpdesk@ucl.ac.uk with any queries or to book a place.

London Arrhythmia Summit 2019

Taking place on 15 March 2019, the London Arrhythmia Summit, hosted by the Royal Brompton and Harefield NHS Foundation Trust in partnership with Arrhythmia Alliance and the Kings' Fund, is a one-day arrhythmia focussed meeting which offers delegates the opportunity to meet cardiologists and cardiac experts from all over the world, hear concise lectures and take part in lively debates.

Whether you are seeking continuing professional development points, revalidation points or simply looking to enhance your knowledge of all matters arrhythmia related - this is a key event in the UK. Get succinct updates in this field from guidelines, key clinical trials, catheter ablation and pacing from an exceptional and highly selected faculty and enjoy no-holds-barred debates with heavyweights in the arrhythmia field tackling challenging clinical scenarios and questions.

The course is highly subsidised to enable all involved in delivering arrhythmia health care, from consultant, trainees and allied health professionals to attend. Our aim is they leave enthused, informed and better equipped to enhance care for all their arrhythmia patients.

For more information [visit the London Arrhythmia website here](#)

JRMO drop-in sessions

The JRMO runs monthly research advice drop-in sessions on the second Wednesday of every month. There is no need to book - please just turn up.

We will be happy to assist with any research support topics including:

- Project Set-up
- Research Governance
- Finance
- Costing and contracts
- Patient and public involvement

All sessions take place from 10 am to 12 noon. The next planned dates are 13 February 2019
13 March 2019
10 April 2019

[Venue: JRMO meeting room, Lower Ground Floor, QM Innovation Centre, 5 Walden Street, Whitechapel](#)

More details can be found [on the JRMO website](#).

Training

New JRMO researcher training course

In response to a recent survey, a 3-day course, designed to help new investigators and research managers/coordinators, has been established. This will provide training on:

- Costing studies;
- Funding options;
- Applying for sponsorship and local approvals to start recruitment;
- Setting up the trial master file;
- Managing the study throughout its lifecycle;
- How to access budgets and help the JRMO raise invoices; and
- How to design the appropriate data management system that is appropriate for the study type.

Further communication about this course will be provided in due course. [Information about JRMO GCP and other training can be found on the JRMO website.](#)

JRMO GCP training

It is QMUL and BH policy that all researchers conducting research at our sites must attend appropriate training. It is mandated that all researchers of MHRA regulated trials must complete a GCP course and refresh it every 2 years. The same is advised as the best practice for all other researchers.

Core courses available are:

- GCP full course
- GCP refresher
- GCP for Labs
- Good practice for research studies
- Good practice for interventional studies
- Planning and managing your ethical ly approved research project

[For more information on dates and instructions on how to book your places please see the JRMO website](#) or email research.governance@qmul.ac.uk

RDS London drop-in clinics

RDS London holds regular next drop-in clinics for researchers preparing applications to NIHR Applied Health Streams (RfPB, EME, HTA, Programme Grants, Programme Development

Grants and Fellowships) or medical charities. Drop-ins take place in East London on the last Friday of the month. RDS London can support researchers at all stages of preparing grant applications. Advice and guidance can be provided on study design, identifying a research team and targeting an appropriate funding stream.

The next East London clinic will be held on Fridays 30 November, 12 – 2 pm. There is no need to book, just turn up on the day: Room G15, Yvonne Carter Building, 58 Turner Street, London, E1 2AD (reception: 020 7882 5882). [For more information please click here.](#)

R&D Forum AcoRD Master class – 25 March

The NHS R&D Forum is running a Spring Master Calls on the [AcoRD](#) process. Using materials agreed with the members of the DHSC non-commercial costing group this new important 1-day course will take an in-depth look at the AcoRD guidance and attribution in practice.

The outcome will be to understand and apply AcoRD guidance correctly; understand the processes used for capturing all types of cost attribution including how these processes relate to external funding and other supported tools (e.g. Schedule of Events Cost Attribution Tool (SoECAT), the NIHR Annual Allocation, Specialist Commissioning etc); and appreciate attribution in the wider context including roles and responsibilities, NHS commissioning and the research management process.

This course is for Sponsors and R&D office staff, universities, non-commercial funders, finance teams, facilitators or grant advisors who are working with researchers on their cost attribution and completion of their SoECAT for funding applications. Materials will contain all up to date information received from DHSC and the AcoRD specialist community so that Forum members are accessing consistent training. As this is intended to be a master class members should have completed the NIHR e-learning course and have some practical experience before attending.

[For further information, and to book a place, visit the R&D Forum website here.](#)

Data Management in a Health Care Setting – 3 April

All staff involved in the operational conduct or oversight of clinical research across NHS, academic and commercial research units including Data Managers, Study Monitors, Research Managers, Study Coordinators, Sponsor representatives and other site staff. The NHS R&D Forum has partnered with the Association of Clinical Data Management to deliver this master class for research management, support and leadership teams working in and for a health and care setting.

Objectives of the training will be to:

- Ensure high-quality research data is a key role for those working for NHS R&D sponsor and host organisations but they may not be data management experts themselves.
- Provide an understanding of the regulatory framework with a key focus on data management systems and processes including key aspects of the ICH GCP R2 Addendum
- Identify what SOPs might be needed in a health and care setting
- Provide a comprehensive overview of data management systems and processes

[For more information, and to book a place, visit the R&D Forum website here.](#)

Research funding

NIHR funding deadlines

- [Research call on measuring the impact of adult social care support models for older people with moderate levels of care needs](#) **Closing date: 12 February 2019** In this call we invite proposals for research to measure the impact of adult social care support models for older people with moderate levels of care needs.
- [Research call for evidence review facility to support national policy development and evaluation](#) **Closing date: 12 February 2019** Through this call, the NIHR PRP is seeking to continue and boost capacity for evidence synthesis to support policy.
- [Research call for fast response research and analytical facility to support policy development and evaluation](#) **Closing date: 12 February 2019** Ensuring rapid access to early scoping work, access to expert advice, and initial underpinning analyses are important elements of PRP work, particularly at the policy development stage and when considering potential impacts. While a number of Policy Research Units already provide such support, the NIHR Policy Research

Programme seeks to let an additional contract for capacity to focus entirely on fast, responsive research and analytical activity.

- [Research call on the implementation and assessment of restrictions on the promotion of food and drink high in fat, sugar and salt by location and by price](#) **Closing date: 19 February 2019**. A 2-stage funding call for the Policy Research Programme.
- [Data-enabled trials](#) **Potential advert date: 28 February 2019** The Health Technology Assessment Programme is considering this topic area for future commissioned research.
- [A qualitative review focusing on gender inequalities in clinical academic careers](#) **Closing date: 4 March 2019** We are inviting parties to tender proposals for the following research study: Understanding the attractiveness of and attrition in clinical academic careers for doctors and dentists across the UK – a qualitative and systematic review focusing on gender inequalities.
- [19/08 EME 10-year impact assessment](#) **Closing date: 6 March 2019**. The Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation Programme is

accepting stage 2 applications to this funding opportunity.

- [18/184 Public Health Research Programme: Researcher-led.](#) **Closing date: 12 March 2019.** The Public Health Research Programme are accepting stage 1 applications to their researcher-led workstream.
- [18/151 PHR Themed Call: Frailty](#) **Closing date: 12 March 2019.** The PHR Programme is participating in the Themed Call: improving the outcomes of health and social care for frail people and their carers.
- [18/152 PHR Themed Call: Chronic pain](#) **Closing date: 12 March 2019.** The PHR Programme is participating in the Themed Call: the management of chronic pain.
- [18/162 Tobacco cessation, control and harm reduction interventions \(PHR Programme\)](#) **Closing date: 12 March 2019** The Public Health Research Programme are accepting stage 1 applications for this primary research topic.
- [18/163 Tobacco cessation, control and harm reduction interventions \(EME Programme\)](#) **Closing date: 19 March 2019.** The Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation Programme is accepting stage 1 applications for this primary research topic.
- [18/158 EME Themed Call: Cannabis-based products for medicinal use](#) **Closing date: 19 March 2019.** The EME Programme is participating in the Themed Call: cannabis-based products for medicinal use.
- [18/161 HTA Themed Call: Cannabis-based products for medicinal use](#) **Closing date: 19 March 2019.** The HTA Programme is participating in the Themed Call: cannabis-based products for medicinal use
- [18/138 Suicide prevention in high-risk groups](#) **Closing date: 19 March 2019.** The Public Health Research Programme

are accepting stage 1 applications to their commissioned workstream for this topic.

- [18/140 EME Themed Call: Frailty](#) **Closing date: 19 March 2019.** The EME Programme is participating in the Themed Call: Improving the outcomes of health and social care for frail people and their carers.
- [18/141 EME Themed Call: Chronic pain](#) **Closing date: 19 March 2019** The EME Programme is participating in the Themed Call: the management of chronic pain, as follows.
- [18/147 Air pollution: outdoor air quality and health](#) **Closing date: 19 March 2019** The Public Health Research Programme is accepting stage 1 applications to their commissioned workstream for this topic
- [18/148 Air pollution non-road-traffic-related outdoor air pollution and health](#) **Closing date: 19 March 2019** The Public Health Research Programme is accepting stage 1 applications to their commissioned workstream for this topic:
- [18/149 Contractual Levers in Local Government](#) **Closing date: 19 March 2019.** The Public Health Research Programme are accepting stage 1 applications to their commissioned workstream for this topic:
- [18/168 Precision medicine \(EME Programme\)](#) **Closing date: 19 March 2019** The Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation Programme is accepting stage 1 applications for this primary research topic.
- [18/167 End of life care \(EME Programme\)](#) **Closing date: 19 March 2019.** The Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation Programme is accepting stage 1 applications for this primary research topic.
- [18/170 Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation Programme - Researcher-led](#) **Closing date: 19 March 2019** The

Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation Programme is accepting stage 1 applications to their researcher-led workstream:

- [18/171 Dental health - disorders of the teeth and gums](#) **Closing date: 19 March 2019** The Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation Programme is accepting stage 1 applications to their commissioned workstream:
- [18/172 Benign gynaecological disorders](#) **Closing date: 19 March 2019** The Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation Programme is accepting stage 1 applications to their commissioned workstream:
- [18/179 End of Life Care \(PHR Programme\)](#) **Closing date: 19 March 2019** The Public Health Research Programme is accepting stage 1 applications for this primary research topic
- [18/176 Precision medicine \(HTA Programme\)](#) **Closing date: 19 March 2019** The Health Technology Assessment Programme is accepting stage 1 applications for this primary research topic.
- [18/177 End of life care \(HTA Programme\)](#) **Closing date: 19 March 2019** The Health Technology Assessment Programme is accepting stage 1 applications for this primary research topic.
- [18/174 End of life care \(HS&DR Programme\)](#) **Closing date: 19 March 2019**. The Health Services and Delivery Research (HS&DR) Programme are accepting stage 1 applications to their commissioned workstream.
- [18/175 Precision medicine \(HS&DR Programme\)](#) **Closing date: 19 March 2019** The Health Services and Delivery Research (HS&DR) Programme are accepting stage 1 applications to their commissioned workstream.

- [18/173 Digital technologies to improve health and care](#) **Closing date: 19 March 2019**. We are accepting stage 1 applications for this primary research topic.
- [18/169 Mechanisms of action of health interventions](#) **Closing date: 19 March 2019** The Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation Programme is accepting stage 2 applications to their commissioned workstream:
- [Research for Patient Benefit Programme- Competition 38](#) **Closing date: 20 March 2019** Applications are invited for Competition 38 of the Research for Patient Benefit programme. The deadline for applications is 20 March 2019.

For further information on these and other grants available from the NIHR please see the NIHR website: <http://www.nihr.ac.uk/funding-and-support/current-funding-opportunities/>

To subscribe to the NIHR's themed call mailing list please [click here](#).

Bloodwise Project Grants

Bloodwise is the UK's specialist blood cancer research charity dedicated to improving the lives of people living with and beyond blood cancer. The charity's research is targeted at understanding more about blood cancer, finding causes, improving diagnosis and treatments, and running ground-breaking clinical trials for patients.

Applications for projects of a value up to £250,000 and up to three years in duration are invited. These must be for clearly defined research projects addressing key questions in the field of blood cancer. The remit of the project grant scheme also includes research projects that maximise the value and outcome of a clinical trial.

The deadline for project grant applications is **4 pm on Thursday 14 February 2019**. There is no limit on the number of applications we receive.

More information and details of how to apply are available [on the Bloodwise website](#).

[MRC Clinical Academic Research Partnerships](#)

This new scheme is designed to be a mechanism for NHS consultants who are not currently research-active, to participate in collaborative high-quality research partnerships with established leading biomedical researchers.

Funding is flexible to enable applicants to tailor the support requested to their individual collaborative plans. Awards will be a minimum of one year and a maximum of three years in duration. Each award will support between 30-50% of the applicant's basic salary to support protected research time, and costs for consumables to undertake the project. No additional support for salaries may be requested.

For further information, including how to apply, please [see the MRC website](#):

The closing date for submissions is **12 March 2019**.

Curriers' Millennium Trust awards bursaries

The Curriers' Millennium Trust awards bursaries (up to £10,000 over two years) on an annual basis providing funding for pilot research projects and professional development training courses. Applications are welcomed from any qualified practitioner in Primary Healthcare working in the London area. The closing date is 31 March 2019. Interviews are in May 2019 and awards made the same day. More information is available on [the Curriers' Company website](#).

BMA Foundation for Medical Research Grants

The BMA Foundation for Medical Research awards research grants each year (totalling just over £800,000) to encourage and further medical research in a variety of areas. Applications are invited from doctors and research scientists and can be for either research in progress or prospective research. All BMA Foundation grants are available now to apply for online on the BMA Foundation [website](#). If you have any queries please contact researchgrants@bma.org.uk.

The application deadline is **1 March 2019**.

Rosetrees Trust 2019 Young Enterprise Fellowships

Rosetrees Trust, a charity that supports medical research throughout the UK, has announced the launch of a new nationwide scheme called 'Young Enterprise Fellowships'. These are aimed specifically at recently qualified postdoctoral researchers primarily in the fields of engineering, physical sciences, maths and computer science, who wish to develop a long-term programme of biomedical research. The scheme is designed for researchers to develop a new and truly innovative idea rather than extend their current research. Applicants must either be in the final year of their PhD studies or be an early-career researcher with a maximum of 3 years post-doctoral experience (excluding career breaks). The fellowship offers up to £60,000 per annum for three years available for salary and consumables costs. Further information can be found on [the Rosetrees website](#).

The closing date for applications is **31 March 2019**.

Research professional

Research Professional (formerly Research Research) now offers an easy to use sign up: <http://www.researchprofessional.com/>

Funding information: [Further funding information can be found on the Research Professional website – to access click here \(account and password required\)](#).

BMA Foundation for Medical Research Grants available in 2019

Online applications will open 1 January and close on 1 March 2019.

Doris Hillier – £65,000

To assist research into rheumatism and arthritis. *Applicants must be UK-registered medical practitioners and members of the BMA.*

T P Gunton – £65,000

To assist research into public health relating to cancer. *Applicants must be UK-registered medical practitioners or research scientists working in the UK.*

H C Roscoe – £65,000

To promote research into the elimination of the common cold and/or other viral diseases of the human respiratory system. *Applicants must be UK-registered medical practitioners or research scientists working in the UK.*

Helen H Lawson – £65,000

To promote paediatric research. *Applicants must be UK-registered medical practitioners and members of the BMA.*

Dawkins and Strutt – £65,000

To assist research in the field of gastroenterology. *Applicants must be UK-registered medical practitioners or research scientists working in the UK. Projects must relate to the UK only.*

Josephine Lansdell – £65,000

To assist research in the field of heart disease. *Applicants must be UK-registered medical practitioners and members of the BMA.*

Margaret Temple – £65,000

To assist research into schizophrenia. *Applicants must be UK-registered medical practitioners or research scientists working in the UK. Projects must relate to the UK only.*

Kathleen Harper – £65,000

To assist research into antimicrobials. *Applicants must be UK-registered medical practitioners or research scientists working in the UK.*

The James Trust – £65,000

To assist research into asthma. *Applicants must be UK-registered medical practitioners and members of the BMA.*

Vera Down – £65,000

To assist research into neurological disorders. *Applicants must be UK-registered medical practitioners and a member of the BMA.*

J Moulton Grant – £65,000

To assist research into mental health through clinical trials. *Applicants must be UK-registered medical practitioners or research scientists working in the UK. Projects must relate to the UK only.*

Scholarship Grant – £65,000

To promote research into the mental health of medical students. *Applicants must be UK-registered medical practitioners or research scientists working in the UK. Projects must relate to the UK only.*

Lift into Research – up to £20,000

To support innovative ideas at their inception that may progress to an application for funding to support a research project. *Applicants must be UK-registered medical practitioners and members of the BMA.*

If you would like to receive alerts about the BMA Foundation grants or find out more information about the 2019 grants available, please email researchgrants@bma.org.uk



BMA Foundation for Medical Research

www.bmafoundationmr.org.uk

 @BMAFoundationMR