

## Joint Research Management Office

# Research News Bulletin

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# Research headlines

## Failure to use EDGE could seriously damage our wealth

EDGE is the local portfolio management system which our local research network in partnership with the JRMO have been implementing over the last six months.

Soon it will be the only accepted way to record trial accrual and failure by study teams to use it will mean accrual goes unrecorded and Barts Health and QMUL will lose significant amounts of funding from the NIHR.

Many of our research teams have now been trained and are using the EDGE system to report the number of participants into their studies. However to date only 10% of our Barts Health accrual of participants into research has been reported by our teams on EDGE. That is not good enough. If we do not use EDGE this will impact greatly on the research support funding we receive, such as Research Capability Funding.

In addition to features that must be used going forward, EDGE can be used to run reports, keep track of activity as well as for accrual capture.

If you or your teams would like to know more or need help using EDGE or would like to arrange for training sessions or any support in uploading accrual data please contact Liz Clough, JRMO Governance Operations Manager  
[Elizabeth.Clough@bartshealth.nhs.uk](mailto:Elizabeth.Clough@bartshealth.nhs.uk) 020 7882 7275

[More information about EDGE can be found here.](#)

## New research grants management system

As a part of the JRMO's programme of improved research management a new online Pre-Costing Questionnaire has been developed. This new, more streamlined format is designed to act as a conduit between the current excel form and the implementation of a new holistic

research management system, [Worktribe](#), that will gradually be rolled out during 2017.

The e-Costing Questionnaire will still retain much of the format of the current form, though it will provide a greater degree of clarity and accessibility, and serve to familiarise its users with proposal development functions within [Worktribe](#). This system is designed for both QMUL and Barts Health applicants to use although at present those without a QMUL ID will need to obtain a temporary log-in ID from the JRMO.

The current system for recording research grant applications and outcomes has been in urgent need of replacement for some time. A software solution called [Worktribe](#), also used at UCL and Imperial, is now being installed for the pre-award stage.

The system will go fully live in April 2017 but testing and training is underway now. If you would like to discuss how you can use [Worktribe](#) for your costing application to the JRMO please contact Coleen Colechin or Gerry Collins; [c.g.colechin@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:c.g.colechin@qmul.ac.uk) or [g.collins@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:g.collins@qmul.ac.uk).

A second stage of the project has just been approved, to start in Summer 2017, which will integrate with the pre-award system and also cover post-award activities. This will allow grant-holders and others rapid access to grant details and a variety of reporting tools.

## NIHR re-branding

The NIHR CRN co-ordinating centre has reminded all those who use NIHR branding in communications to ensure that new branding guidelines are followed. Users are requested to check that any of their materials, which include NIHR branding, comply with the new guidelines.

The main changes are:

- Removal of the old 'film strip' ribbon image at the bottom of documents, brochures and presentations;

- Addition of the new 'colour bar' to documents, brochures and presentations;
- Slightly amended logo (there is now just one single NIHR logo for all parts of the CRN); and
- The LCRN name written in NHS red on the top left-hand side of some documents (i.e. 'Clinical Research Network North Thames')

If you need a refresher on any of the branding needed for documents you produce that are associated with the CRN and/or NIHR, [you can view the new guidelines here.](#)

### CRN News

- **New CRN North Thames organogram published** Following recent internal changes our Clinical Research Network (CRN North Thames) has published a new organogram, including staff contact details. [This organogram can be downloaded from the NIHR website](#), where further information about the CRN can also be found.
- **Push the Pace project update.** On average, it takes 17 years for a medicine being developed in a laboratory to become patient ready. We estimate that around 10 of these years happen within the NIHR research pathway. Through its Push the Pace project the NIHR has signalled a commitment to reduce this pathway by 20 months. The latest newsletter from the project is now available. [To read more please click here.](#)
- **Latest CRN Senior Management Team blog available.** The latest CRN Senior Management Team blog by Laura Bousfield, Head of Operations, reflects on the great work that has been done at a central and local level to maximise researcher access to CRN study support. [To read more please click here.](#)

### Last chance to input in the review of SOP 14

This is the last chance to make comments on JRMO SOP 14: *Review of Research*

### *Including Peer Review and Departmental Authorisation*

As you may be aware a revised version of SOP 14 'Review of Research Including Peer Review and Departmental Authorisation' was released in September 2016.

As there are many parties involved or affected by the monitoring process, and CAGs and Institutes already have various review processes in place, we issued SOP 14 for use pending review and responses. Since September the JRMO has received a number of responses but the time has come to close the door and reissue the SOP in a fixed form. That is not to say it will never change again but for now the opportunity for substantive change is drawing to a close.

The JRMO would welcome any comments that you have regarding the SOP, the procedure and associated documents up to 5pm, Friday 17 February.

[The Draft SOP 14 can be viewed online here.](#)

If you would like a Word version of the SOP or wish to make any comments on it please email: [research.monitoring@bartshealth.nhs.uk](mailto:research.monitoring@bartshealth.nhs.uk) by 5pm on Friday 17 February 2017.

### New JRMO SOPs online

Since [the last R&D News Bulletin](#) the JRMO has released the following new or revised Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs):

SOP 8 - [Site agreements for clinical trials](#)

SOP 18b - [Project closure: guidance for research staff of hosted studies](#)

- Associated Document 1: [JRMO end of study notification form](#)

SOP 47 - [Trial committees](#)

- AD 1: [Sample charter](#)
- AD 2: [Example charter](#)
- AD 3: [Competing interests form](#)
- AD 4: [NIHR guidance](#)

All JRMO SOPs are [available at our website.](#)

# Local research update

## New Year's Honours List

We were delighted to hear that three of our colleagues were honoured in this New Year's Honours years' list:

- Professor Kam Bhui, Professor of Cultural Psychiatry and Epidemiology, will be appointed as a Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (CBE) for services to mental health research and care;
- Professor Jack Martin Cuzick, Director of the Wolfson Institute of Preventive Medicine and Head of the Centre for Cancer Prevention will also be appointed as a CBE for services to cancer prevention and screening; and
- Sarah Murray, of QMUL's Institute of Dentistry, will be appointed as a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (MBE) for services to oral health.

Congratulations to them from all the R&D community at Barts Health – Queen Mary University of London. [Further information about this year's honours can be found by clicking here.](#)

## Anita Sanghi appointed as Caldicott Guardian

Anita Sanghi has been appointed as Barts Health's new Caldicott Guardian.

The Caldicott Guardian's role is to:

- ensure that the Trust satisfies the highest practical standards for handling patient identifiable information
- facilitate and enable information sharing
- work as part of the broader Information Governance function
- represent and champion information governance requirements at Board level

Other responsibilities include data protection, human rights, Freedom of Information and our code of practice on confidentiality.

Anita is an experienced and respected consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist and replaces Dr Jane Hawdon who has moved on to The Royal Free.

Barts Health's Senior Information Risk Owner (SIRO) remains Ian Walker, Director of Corporate Affairs. The SIRO role is concerned with identifying and managing the information risks to the Trust and its partners. This includes oversight of our information security incident reporting and response arrangements. The SIRO also oversees the management of the Trust's Information Governance Department.

## New Joint Clinical Research Board

Following up on the December [R&D News Bulletin](#), a web page for the Joint Clinical Research Board (JCRB) has now been created.

The JCRB is a formal part of the structures of both organisations and is accountable directly to the Trust Board and to Queen Mary Senior Executive (QMSE) via the Clinical and Academic Strategy Board and the School of Medicine and Dentistry's Senior Executive Group (SMD-SEG) respectively.

Its purpose is to provide assurance to the Trust Board and QMUL QMSE that our research is being carried out in accordance with Trust and QMUL strategy and policy, legal and regulatory requirements and financial regulations.

The JCRB's remit covers all clinical research at Barts Health and QMUL's School of Medicine and Dentistry with a particular focus on research involving human subjects and tissues.

The JCRB's Terms of Reference, including membership, can be found on the website along with agreed minutes of past meetings and the dates of future meetings. The JCRB will next meet on 20 March 2017.

If you have any questions about this, or would like something raised at a JCRB meeting, please contact either your CAG

Research Director of Institute Director or the Board's Secretary Nick Good: [nicholas.good@bartshealth.nhs.uk](mailto:nicholas.good@bartshealth.nhs.uk).

### **Pharmacy trials email account**

The Clinical Trials Pharmacy team have created a generic email account for queries. This inbox will have someone looking at it daily and they will then forward the query to the relevant person/clinical trial pharmacy site for it to be answered.

The email address is [CTPharmacy@bartshealth.nhs.uk](mailto:CTPharmacy@bartshealth.nhs.uk)

### **£2.4 million awarded for international trial on major traumatic bleeding**

Queen Mary University of London (QMUL) and NHS Blood & Transplant have been awarded £2.4m from the National Institute for Health Research and Barts Charity to carry out a large multi-centre clinical trial to evaluate a new treatment in major traumatic haemorrhage.

The grant has been awarded to QMUL's [Centre for Trauma Sciences](#) (C4TS) to run the CRYOSTAT-2 trial. The trial will look into whether more lives can be saved through the early delivery of cryoprecipitate - a concentrated source of fibrinogen, which is a protein found in the blood that helps stop bleeding by forming blood clots.

The trial will compare this treatment with standard blood transfusion therapy on 1,544 severely bleeding trauma patients at all Major Trauma Centres across England and selected partners in North America and Australia.

The trial will recruit the first patients from July 2017, if not before, and run for 36 months. [For more information, click here.](#)

### **Barts Health and QMUL announce major new initiative in the Life Sciences**

Plans for a major new centre for Life Sciences in Whitechapel, home to the Royal London Hospital and a campus of

QMUL's Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry have been announced.

This initiative, led by QMUL and Barts Health, will draw on our expertise in areas such as genomics, cancer, heart disease, and diabetes - addressing important issues in population health that will benefit east London, the UK and well beyond.

The centre will benefit the diverse local population served by both the University and the Trust, in communities with substantial healthcare needs. Close partnership is also anticipated with other universities and NHS Trusts (including primary care providers), commercial companies (in the pharmaceutical and informatics industries), and charitable organisations.

A full copy of the Joint statement of Intent from QMUL and Barts Health is available on [request](#).

### **Major grant awarded to resolve debate on treatment after major surgery**

QMUL has been awarded \$1.5m (£1.2m) by Edwards Lifesciences to carry out a study into a debated therapy for preventing complications, especially infections, after major surgery. This research grant will be used to run the OPTIMISE II Trial to determine the impact of a type of fluid therapy on thousands of patients undergoing surgery.

Patients who have major surgery are regularly subjected to either too much intravenous fluid or not enough, which can lead to complications, especially infections, and affect their long-term health.

There is a particular method of giving intravenous fluid, known as 'cardiac output-guided fluid therapy', which uses a monitor to tell the doctor whether the fluids being given are improving heart function or not, so that they can adjust accordingly. However, studies of this method have been inconclusive to date, and doctors lack the comprehensive evidence they need to determine the therapy's impact on a patient's health.

The study will be led by Professor Rupert Pearse and will address a very important clinical problem that needs definitive answers. For a number of reasons, including a lack of high quality research, doctors are divided on the use of cardiac output-guided fluid therapy for surgical patients, and many remain uncertain as to whether to use it. The Optimisation of Perioperative Cardiovascular Management to Improve Surgical Outcome II (OPTIMISE II) Trial is an international clinical trial, involving hospitals in the UK, US, Canada, Germany, Spain, Sweden and Australia, which will recruit 2,502 patients who are undergoing major gut surgery.

Researchers will study the outcomes of using cardiac output-guided fluid therapy versus control groups, and monitor how many patients develop infections, especially surgical site infections and pneumonia. They will also closely monitor patients for any harm including small heart attacks to provide robust evidence on both safety and effectiveness.

The first patients were recruited last month

and the team say they hope to have results in approximately three years' time.

### **WHO award**

The Unit for Social and Community Psychiatry in the School of Medicine and Dentistry has been re-designated as a World Health Organisation collaborating centre ([WHOCC](#)), one of only 17 mental health related WHOCCs in the 53 countries of the European WHO region, and the only one specifically for Mental Health Service Development in the world. The re-designation is for another four years.

### **Best Nursing Poster**

The Best Nursing Poster at the [2016 Advances in Inflammatory Bowel Diseases](#), Crohn's & Colitis Foundation's Clinical & Research Conference has been named as one by Harry (Hilarious) De Jesus of the Children's Clinical Research Facility in the Royal London Hospital. Congratulations to Harry.

## **Events**

### **2017 Annual NHS R&D Forum**

The 2017 Annual NHS R&D Forum is open for bookings ahead of schedule. This event, produced in association with the Health Research Authority, is the meeting of the year for the health & care research management, support & leadership workforce. The theme of adding value together embraces all roles, research teams, and partners; clinical and non-clinical, university and industry, charitable and policy sector.

Please click on the following for further details:

- [Adding Value Together](#)
- [Bookings open early](#)
- [Call for Abstracts](#)
- [Exhibitor and Sponsorship Opportunities](#)

To find out more and to book your place [visit the conference website](#).

### **Opening the Door: Opportunities for health visitor engagement in clinical research**

Join an invited audience of 70 health visitors on **16 February 2017** to hear from leaders who have been asked to describe their research career and the opportunities available to health visitors and their teams in clinical research, specifically across a changing health service landscape with ongoing changes for service delivery models in the community.

Please note that registration is required in order to attend. Attendance is on a first come basis and is free of charge. Please note, however, that if you cancel your booking after 2 February, or if you do not attend on the day, you may be liable for a financial charge to meet the venue costs which will be incurred at that stage.

[For more information and to book \(essential\), click here.](#)

### 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 clinics will be held on Fridays: 24 February and 31 March, both 12 – 2pm. 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.](#)

## Training

### JRMO GCP training

To book your place on JRMO run GCP-related training courses please [visit our website](#). Core courses available are:

- Good Clinical Practice (GCP) full course One day
- GCP refresher 2.5 hours
- Research Governance Framework (RGF) full course 4.5 hours
- RGF refresher 2 hours
- GCP for Pharmacy - full course 4 hours
- GCP for Pharmacy - refresher 2 hours

[For more information on dates and instructions on how to book your places please see the JRMO website](#) or email: [research.training@bartshealth.nhs.uk](mailto:research.training@bartshealth.nhs.uk).

### Introduction to design, conduct and analysis of pragmatic clinical trials

The Pragmatic Clinical Trials Unit will hold its annual course on the introduction to Design, Conduct and Analysis of Pragmatic Clinical trials on 24-26 April 2017.

The course is aimed at novice trial investigators who have just begun working with/or plan to work with their own trials in the near future. Last year they had 20

participants, most of whom were young new CIs from QM/Barts, but also a few from outside - UCL, Cambridge, Bristol etc. We had very positive course evaluations from our participants who found it very useful with regard to thinking about design and analysis of a trial, and navigating the regulatory landscape in connection with setting up a trial.

[For more information and to book a place please click here.](#)

### Clinfield research training

Clinical Research runs a number of courses aimed at those new to the field of clinical research as well as those who have gained experience in the field but who would like to refresh their knowledge and skills and pick up tips and tools to enhance their practice. Over the next few months the following training is being offered ([click to see more](#)):

- [Clinical Research: Getting Started!](#) - 12 May at NCVO, London
- [Informed Consent](#) - 23 May at NCVO, London
- [Meeting the Challenges of Recruitment and Retention in Clinical Research](#) - 15 June at NCVO, London
- [Applying for Ethical Opinion in the NHS](#) - 29 June at NCVO, London

## Advancing your Career as a Clinical Trialist by NIHR Trainees Co-ordinating Centre (TCC)

This FREE event on 28 March 2017 in Leeds is open to any NIHR trainees interested in developing their research career in clinical trials and aspiring NIHR trainees considering applying for a NIHR personal training award to further their career in clinical trials research. The day will include:

- Information on the support available from the NIHR for aspiring clinical trialists
- Presentations from NIHR trainees currently leading trials and their Clinical Trials Unit (CTU) collaborators
- Breakout sessions on pilot and feasibility studies, complex intervention evaluation and health economic evaluation in clinical trials

Lunch will be provided. The event will run from 10:30 until 15:30. Current trainees may charge travel to and from the meeting to their award.

[To see more information and to book your place \(essential!\) follow this link before 24 March.](#)

## NHS RD Forum training courses

The Forum offers a range of professional development training courses all designed and delivered by experienced Forum members and trainers. Courses currently run are:

- A Practical Application of Monitoring in a Health Care Setting
- Research the Basics
- Regulatory Inspection Ready
- Archiving Master Class

[Details of the latest dates can be found by clicking here.](#)

# Research funding

## NIHR funding deadlines

### Round 10 of NIHR Fellowship

Applications for the 10th round of NIHR Fellowships opened this week. NIHR Fellowships are designed to support researchers whose work focuses on people and patient-based clinical and applied health research. For round 10, amendments have been made to the program to build capacity for clinical trials.

The NIHR Transitional Research Fellowship, which is commonly used to transition from basic research to an area of applied health or clinical research, can now also be used to embark upon a career in clinical trials, providing an intense period of clinical trials training for those new or relatively new to trials.

The NIHR has also launched a new and improved version of its [Clinical Trials Guide](#) for Trainees. The guide includes case studies from trainees active in clinical trials and research staff based at Clinical Trials Units, as well as additional guidance

on how to structure a Fellowship based around a clinical trial and/or clinical trials training, and how to utilise NIHR Fellowships to start or further a career in clinical trials.

The post-doctoral level is open for applications until 20 December 2016 and the doctoral level is open until 17 January 2017.

[For more information on NIHR Fellowships and to apply please click here.](#)

- [New MRC-funded PhD projects and Clinical Fellowships in trials methodology research](#). Closes 9/2/17
- [NIHR i4i \(Invention for Innovation\) Challenge Award in mental health](#) and medtech. Closes 5/4/17

### [Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation Programme - Commissioned call](#)

Closing date: 14 March 2017

Latest EME commissioned call topics: epilepsy, treatment resistant depression,

targeted drug delivery and mechanisms of action of health interventions.

[For more information about EME Commissioned funding opportunities click here](#)

**[Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation Programme - Researcher-led call](#)**

Closing date: 17 March 2017

[For more information about EME Researcher-led workstream click here.](#)

**[Public Health Research Programme - Researcher-led call](#)**

Closing date: 4 April 2017

The Public Health Research Programme are accepting applications to their researcher-led workstream as follows:

16/131 - standard outline proposal  
16/132 - evidence synthesis full proposal  
[For more information and to apply click here.](#)

**[Health Technology Assessment Programme - Researcher-led call](#)**

Closing date: 5 April 2017

The Health Technology Assessment Programme is accepting applications to their researcher-led workstream as follows:

16/167 - Researcher - led, Expression of Interest to Full proposal  
16/166: Researcher - led, Evidence Synthesis Full  
[To find out more please click here.](#)

**[Health Technology Assessment Programme - commissioned call](#)**

Closing date: 6 April 2017

The Health Technology Assessment Programme is accepting applications on the following commissioning briefs, in the areas of primary research:

16/147 - Pharmacological management of post-traumatic seizures  
16/148 - Treatments for women with recurrent stress urinary incontinence after failed primary surgery  
16/149 - Delivering babies in or out of water  
16/150 - Long term impact of pre-incision

antibiotics on babies born by caesarean section

16/151 - Rescue cerclage  
16/152 - Selective gut decontamination in critically ill children  
16/153 - Harm reduction intervention for severe drug and/or alcohol dependence among people who are homeless  
16/154 - Pramipexole for treatment resistant bipolar depression  
16/155 - Problem solving therapy for depression in older adults with dementia  
16/156 - Improving communication for adults with profound and multiple learning disabilities  
16/157 - Clozapine in the treatment of borderline personality disorder  
16/158 - Reducing the risk of anxiety disorders in children of parents seeking help for their own anxiety  
16/159 - A risk assessment tool to help identify prisoners at further risk of self-harm  
16/160 - Knee braces in the management of knee osteoarthritis  
16/161 - Partial removal of dental caries in permanent teeth  
16/162 - Low-dose antidepressants for the treatment of irritable bowel syndrome and evidence synthesis:  
16/165 - Modelling the potential for health gain and cost effectiveness of the NHS Health Check Programme  
For more information please visit the [HTA Commissioned calls webpage here.](#)

**[Public Health Research Programme - Commissioned call](#)**

Closing date: 25 April 2017

The Public Health Research Programme are accepting applications to their commissioned workstream for the following topics:

16/121 - Healthy diet in early years  
16/122 - Interventions in community organisations  
16/123 - Migrant health and wellbeing  
16/124 - Age-friendly environments  
For more information and to apply, please visit the [Public Health Research Programme Commissioned web page here](#)

For more information about all NIHR funding opportunities [visit the NIHR website](#). To subscribe to the NIHR's themed call mailing list please [click here](#).

## **BMA foundation for medical research Grants available in 2017**

Below is a list of research grants that will be awarded by the BMA foundation for medical research in 2017. The Closing date for online applications is 3 March 2017:

- **Doris Hillier – £50,000** to assist research into rheumatism and arthritis. *Applicants must be UK-registered medical practitioners and a member of the BMA.*
- **T P Gunton – £50,000** to assist research into public health relating to cancer. *Applicants must be UK-registered medical practitioners or research scientists.*
- **H C Roscoe – £50,000** 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 and a member of the BMA.*
- **Helen H Lawson – £50,000** to promote research into novel technologies and/or organisational systems to assist in patient care, primary care or public health. *Applicants must be UK-registered medical practitioners and a member of the BMA.*
- **Dawkins and Strutt – £60,000** to assist research into multimorbidity in an ageing population. *Applicants must be UK-registered medical practitioners or research scientists. Projects must relate to the UK only.*
- **Josephine Lansdell – £50,000** to assist research in the field of heart disease. *Applicants must be UK-registered medical practitioners and a member of the BMA.*
- **Margaret Temple – £50,000** to assist research into schizophrenia. *Applicants must be UK-registered medical practitioners or research scientists. Projects must relate to the UK only.*
- **Kathleen Harper – £50,000** to assist research into the impact of working pressures on the medical profession. *Applicants must be UK-registered medical practitioners or research scientists.*
- **The James Trust – £65,000** to assist research into asthma. *Applicants must*

*be UK-registered medical practitioners and a member of the BMA*

- **Vera Down – £50,000** to assist research into neurological disorders. *Applicants must be UK-registered medical practitioners and a member of the BMA.*
- **The Scholarship Grant – £50,000** to assist research comparing risks of injury and mechanisms of injury across sport in children and adults.

For further information on BMA foundation for medical research, [please visit the BMA website by clicking here.](#)

## **Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851 awards**

**Research Fellowships** - Close: 16 February 2017

Do you have 3 years or less post-doctoral research experience and want to conduct innovative research of your own instigation? Research Fellowships in Science and Engineering are intended to give scientists or engineers of exceptional promise the opportunity for early independence with the objective of contributing to the knowledge base required for a healthy and innovative national culture. These fellowships are open to all nationalities, usually intending to carry out research at a UK institution.

Please read the [2017 Terms and Conditions](#) with care for full eligibility criteria, details of benefits and how to apply. Application is entirely online and cannot be submitted without all sections being complete, including references from two academics, neither of which should be from the proposed host institution. Referees are asked particularly to comment on the individual's ability to undertake original research. References are submitted online via a secure portal and confidential login instructions are sent to referees by automatic email generated by the candidate during the application process

**Industrial Design Studentships** - Close: 27 April 2017

Do you have a good degree in science or engineering and are intending to complete a master's in Industrial Design? The aim of

the scheme is to stimulate industrial design capability among the country's most able science and engineering graduates. In the Commissioners' view, industrial design cannot be dissociated from a clear understanding of the underlying engineering science of the product and it is for this reason that first degrees in science or engineering are prescribed. These are complementary, not alternative disciplines. For products to succeed they must not only be fit for purpose, but they must also look good and represent value for money.

Please read the [2017 Terms and Conditions](#) with care for full eligibility criteria, details of benefits and how to apply. Around 9 Studentships are offered each year for outstanding engineering or science graduates who wish to develop their capabilities in industrial design and who aspire to becoming leading designers in British industry. The scheme is open to applicants resident in the UK who are intending to make a career in British Industry.

#### **Worshipful Company of Curriers' Millennium Healthcare Bursary**

The Curriers' Company, one of the 110 Livery Companies of the City of London, marked the beginning of this century in a number of ways, one of which was to establish a Bursary for primary healthcare professionals to enhance the health care of individuals, families and children in inner London who, through socio-economic deprivation or other adverse social factors, are at risk of physical and psychological illness. The Bursary provides funding for research projects and further training courses. Applications are welcomed from any qualified practitioner of primary health care. Since its inception, the Bursary has attracted submissions from nurses, midwives, mental health workers, a pharmacist, a physiotherapist, speech & language and occupational therapists, an ophthalmologist as well as GPs.

The Bursary can be worth up to £10,000; any award over £3,000 will normally be paid over 2 years.

**Completed applications are required not later than noon on 31 March 2017.** Interviews of short-listed applicants will be

held on Thursday, 22 May 2017 in the City of London.

[For guidance and a downloadable Application Form please click here.](#)

#### **2017 BMA research grants – deadline for applications approaching**

The 2017 BMA research grants are closing soon. The deadline for applications is 5pm on **3 March 2017**.

The BMA would like to draw attention to a new grant we are now accepting applications for online called the **J Moulton grant** for research into **idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura** to the value of **£50,000**. Applications are accepted from doctors or research scientists working in the UK.

[Details of all BMA funding available, eligibility criteria and an online application form to apply for a grant can be found on the BMA webpages here.](#)

#### **Weston Brain Institute grant programme**

The [Weston Brain Institute](#) funds outstanding translational research to accelerate the development of therapeutics for neurodegenerative diseases of aging. It is expanding its grant programme in the UK, with two new opportunities for UK-based researchers.

The [UK: Novel Biomarkers 2017](#) granting program supports high-risk, high-reward translational projects on understudied and/or underfunded biomarkers in clinical samples/data or patients. Projects can request up to £333,000 over up to 3 years. Applications close 19 April 2017.

Nominations are open for the [Weston Brain Institute Outstanding Achievement Award 2017](#), which honours a UK-based investigator who has made exceptional advances in the field of translational research to accelerate the development of therapeutics for neurodegenerative diseases of aging. The winner of this prestigious award will receive a £25,000 prize.

For more information, please [visit the Weston Brain Institute website](#).

### **Action for AT: Cal for proposals**

Action for A-T is inviting medical research applications for research into ataxia-telangiectasia. Applications are invited for high quality research projects that have the potential to lead to treatments and therapies for ataxia-telangiectasia.

Applications are welcome for project grants of up to 3 years in duration for a maximum award of £100,000. The deadline for submission of full applications is Monday 3 April 2017. Grants will be awarded within 4 months.

[For funding guidelines and further information, please visit the Action for AT website here.](#)

### **QMUL proof of concept fund**

The QMUL Proof of Concept Fund is designed to provide funding for fast-track commercial validation of research.

Expressions of interest are required by 5pm on Monday 20 February. Successful expressions of interest will progress to the next stages of the programme, during which your investment pitch will be developed and refined. The funding decisions will be made at the Investment Panel meetings in late April/early May 2017.

[For further information and to download an application form please click here.](#)

If you have any questions about your application please contact Michele Hill-Perkins ([m.hill-perkins@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:m.hill-perkins@qmul.ac.uk))

### **Research professional:**

Research Professional (formerly Research Research) now offer an easy to use self-service 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).