

HELP FOR HEALTH FUNDING FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH, MEDICAL EDUCATION and PROJECTS RELATED TO MEDICAL RESEARCH and DEVELOPMENT

Under the terms of its Charter, the Help for Health Trust awards funds at its discretion:

- ☆ For the furtherance of medical research and medical knowledge
- ☆ For the furtherance of medical education
- ☆ For the furtherance of other medically research related projects considered by the Trustees to be of likely benefit to the people of East Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire

1.1 Medical Research

Priorities:

Any research project supported must, at the outset, be able to demonstrate the likely benefit to *PATIENT CARE or WELLBEING*.

Priority will be given to those projects which, in the opinion of the Trustees [and their specialist advisors], are considered most likely to maximise this tenant.

The type of medical research favoured for grants is likely to involve

- ☆ clinical and applied research
- ☆ health services research
- ☆ public health research
- ☆ research carried out on a multidisciplinary basis
- ☆ activities that will expand research related capacity

Applicants should include details of the disease/condition and any associated conditions into which the research is directed, together with their incidence in the geographic area covered by Help for Health .Applicants will be expected to provide a clear demonstration of the effect the research is expected to achieve, within a reasonable time frame, in terms of patient benefit or in improving the health and well being of the population at large

1.2 Who can apply:

Applications will be considered from individuals and organizations based in East Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire who are part of, or within, a strong research environment.

These are likely to be research scientists, medical doctors and allied health professionals employed by the University, the NHS and other local social enterprises.

Applications from undergraduates, research students and other 'trainees'

- ☆ will be considered provided appropriate supervision and facilities are demonstrated.

More than one applicant can apply for a grant. The lead applicant should

- ☆ apply on behalf of the others naming the co workers and their designation within the application form

1.3 Principles:

Applications from commercial enterprise or projects likely to lead to

- ☆ corporate or personal financial gain will not be considered.

In the event of the Help for Health funded research leading to granting of patents these should be of financial benefit only to the institution and not the individual researcher.

- ☆ Help for Health will only support the use of animals in research when it is necessary to advance understanding of health and disease and the development of new treatments, and where no viable alternative exists.

Researchers must comply with best practice in animal welfare and advances in refinement, replacement and reduction of animal use. In this respect Help for Health agrees to the guidelines and policies of The Association of Medical Charities.¹

- ☆ H4H would expect all supported institutions to have in place systems which ensure research is conducted to best practice and to the highest standards of rigueur and integrity²

- ☆ Applications for further funding for the same project will not be considered within the timescale of its completion or within a 2 year period

1.4 Application process:

Guidelines and the appropriate on line application form are available on the Help for Health Website. Please note:

1. A signed letter giving consent to the proposed project is required from the organisation where the research will be undertaken
2. A detailed research project proposal [maximum 1,000 words] is required. This should be inserted in the appropriate section [page 3] of the application form and should include information under the following headings:
 - ✧ Summary of research project
 - ✧ Introduction [including scientific background to the research question]
 - ✧ Aims and objectives
 - ✧ Project design
 - ✧ Subjects [including justification of sample size]
 - ✧ Research methods
 - ✧ Data analysis
 - ✧ POTENTIAL OF RESEARCH FOR PATIENT CARE/WELLBEING
3. Two signed references per applicant are required.
The project supervisor or Head of Department may act as referee
4. Signed ethical approval or a statement from ethical committee that approval is not required
5. The applicant's Curriculum Vitae is required, together with those of any named co- workers

1.5 Scope of funding:

Funding for a given research project may include any or all of:

- ✧ Salaries of the principal investigator, co-investigators(s) , and additional posts [in part or in full]

- ☆ Equipment [excluding computer hardware]
- ☆ Consumables
- ☆ Soft ware deemed essential for the project
- ☆ Costs for data preservation and dissemination
- ☆ Travel expenses and refreshments of patient participating within the trial

The project funding will not cover:

Tuition costs for medical education, post graduate education or post doctorate education [unless solely for a designated project within the Trusts criteria]

Overseas education or travel

Attending overseas conferences

1.6 Assessment

The H4H grants are assessed by the Trustees [which include medically qualified members] with added expert independent medical or scientific opinion when deemed appropriate by the Trustees

In adjudicating the applications, the trustees and external assessors are asked to consider the following criteria—which you might therefore wish to specifically address in your application

1. ORIGINALITY

- ☆ will the project provide new insight into the problem
- ☆ would the project be valuable in confirming the results of existing studies

2. IMPORTANCE (CLINICAL OR OTHERWISE) OF THE WORK

- ☆ Is the project area of research already receiving much attention i.e. is further support warranted
- ☆ will the project contribute to further knowledge in the field
- ☆ will the project be of ultimate benefit to patient care or wellbeing

3.SCIENTIFIC RELIABILITY- PROJECT DESIGN AND METHODS

- ☆ is the project well designed
- ☆ are the methods appropriate to achieve objectives
- ☆ is the sample size justified i.e. not too small to answer the question, or too large, wasting resources
- ☆ is the use of controls appropriate
- ☆ are the supporting references up to date and relevant

4. DATA ANALYSIS

- ☆ is proposed data analysis described
- ☆ will the project be statistically sound i.e. have the requirements for statistical analysis been considered in advance

5 EXPERIENCE OF APPLICANT, FACILITIES and SUPPORT

- ☆ is the applicant sufficiently experienced and qualified to carry out the study
- ☆ is the applicant's department, work setting or level of supervision of an appropriate level to support the project adequately

6 APPROPRIATE USE OF FUNDS

- ☆ will the supplies or services for which funding is requested provide a valuable contribution to the project. Is the funding requested appropriate for the supplies or services detailed
- ☆ is completion of the project dependant on the applicant securing funds from other sources. If so, preference will be given to projects where the additional funding has already been obtained.
- ☆ would funding for this project be available from non voluntary sources

1.7 DATA PUBLICATION and ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Grant holders will be expected to acknowledge the support of H4H in any published articles, papers or other outputs which may result from the funded project. Copies of such publications should be lodged with the H4H secretariat.

Help for Health will assume that unless they hear to the contrary within fourteen days of notification a grant being awarded, they may refer to the grant application and award in Help for Health publicity and website.

1.8 UPDATING OF PROGRESS and OUTCOMES

Grant holders are requested to submit a yearly update of the progress of their funded project. Following completion of their funded project the grant holder will be expected to submit a final report to Help for Health.

Failure to comply with the premises of paragraphs 1.8 and 1.9 would compromise the likelihood of Help for Health awarding further funds to that particular department, institution or individual.'

2.1 Medical Education:

1. Tuition fees: undergraduate
post graduate
post doctorate
[including Overseas Education and Training]

are not funded by the Trust except where designated solely for a specific research project approved by the Trust

2. Funding for undergraduate /post graduate educational projects

Only under exceptional circumstances will funding be considered for:

expenses for writing/publishing educational books ,innovative teaching aids/developments
support for delivering medical educational meetings/conferences/courses in terms of hiring venue speaker fee ,admin/refreshments
symposia or medical educational meetings, grand rounds or regional workshops
web based programmes
electronic monographs
other innovative educational formats

Usually consideration will only be given when Help for Health has funded the research involved

3. Funding for a Research study or evaluation of a teaching innovation in a field of medical and healthcare education and training may be considered provided it will fulfill the basic tenure of improving patient wellbeing in East Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire.

4. Funding for curriculum ‘taught’ courses will not be considered

5. Funding solely for travel expenses and fees to attend medical conferences / courses /paper presentations will not be considered

3.1 Projects related to medical research and development

Funding will be considered for projects such as:

- ☆ Buildings or facilities to be erected solely for research/educational purposes within the confines of the Universities/Hospitals

- ☆ Equipment for medical research projects

- ☆ Equipment for novel and innovative medical treatments where NHS funding is not forthcoming

4.1 Patient treatment outwith the NHS [innovative or otherwise] will not be considered for funding by Help for Health

References:

1. <http://www.amrc.org.uk/publications/statements-on-use-of-animals-in-research>

2. The Concord to Support Research Integrity: <http://www.universities.ac.uk/highereducation/Documents/2012/TheConcordatToSupportResearchIntegrity.pdf>

Help for Health acknowledges the following sources of information:

BMA Foundation for Medical Research September 2016

The Dunhill Medical Trust

The Medical Research Council Guidelines