

e-bulletin

RDS NW – www.rds-nw.nihr.ac.uk

November 2012

The NIHR Research for Patient Benefit (RfPB) research programme seminar 23 November 2012 – Leyland

This seminar aims to give researchers a better understanding of funding priorities, application processes and future plans and an opportunity for dialogue with panel members and successful grant holders.

[Further information...](#)

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Getting Funding via the Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation (EME) programme

Who are EME?

In 2008 the Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation (EME) Programme was launched with an ultimate view to improving health and patient care. Instant answers are rarely produced in research but the EME Programme aims to bridge the gap in translation from early to later phase clinical trials producing scientific evidence that help change practice.

Programme remit

EME will fund the exploration of new scientific and clinical principles within a larger study, and applicants can also include the development or testing of new methodologies as part of clinical research studies. The programme will support laboratory based or similar studies (not animal) that are embedded within the main study if relevant to the remit of the EME programme. It will not support confirmatory studies, or trials of refinements to existing interventions. It will only fund studies with current relevance for the NHS, rather than global health.

The programme has two funding streams, researcher-led and commissioned with three calls a year in each workstream. In addition, the EME Programme participates in NIHR-wide-cross-programme themed calls.

The commissioned workstream

The commissioned workstream particularly encourages working partnerships and collaboration between academia, industry, and the NHS. It can also include the involvement of charities.

Through the commissioned workstream EME will fund projects that are large and often staged with clear milestones, which are of benefit to patients and the NHS. Specific information on each commissioned call is contained within the Research Brief, which is available on the EME website www.eme.ac.uk/funding.

The researcher-led workstream

The researcher-led workstream offers researchers the opportunity to submit applications on any topic at three cut off dates per year. It also has a fast-track funding process

that shortens the total time from submission to receipt of a funding decision by three months. For more detail on fast-tracking see

www.eme.ac.uk/funding/fast_track_scheme.asp.

Making an application

We consider applications to be much improved by RDS involvement in the design and conduct of the research. All applicants are strongly encouraged to make contact with their RDS early in the process of designing their application.

Tips for success

- Seek our advice via the Resources link on our website (www.eme.ac.uk/resources), or by phone or email (tel: 023 8059 4303 email: info@eme.ac.uk).
- Offer to peer-review for the EME Programme and see how others put together their applications.
- Speak to funded EME researchers who can be Identified through the Funded Projects page on the EME website.

Current funding opportunities are always available on www.eme.ac.uk/funding

Three commissioned and three researcher-led calls are advertised each year via twitter @OfficialNIHR, rss feed, and on the EME website. We also send out email alerts to our mailing list, which you can join from the website.

We are always happy to answer any questions before you start to submit an application! We have a lot of guidance available on our website and can talk through any queries you may have about the EME Programme. Please contact our team on tel: 023 8059 4303 or email: info@eme.ac.uk.

The EME programme is funded by the MRC and NIHR, with contributions from the CSO in Scotland and NISCHR in Wales and the HSC R&D, Public Health Agency in Northern Ireland. It is managed by the NIHR Evaluation, Trials and Studies Coordinating Centre (NETSCC) based at the University of Southampton.