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## **i4i Connect: funding for SMEs to accelerate medical technology development**

The [NIHR Invention for Innovation \(i4i\) Programme](#) is launching a new funding stream - i4i Connect - aimed at small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in need of a funding boost to reach their next stage in the development pathway.

Offering up to £150,000 over a 6 to 12 month period, i4i Connect will help SMEs get to the point of eligibility for a full i4i award or, down the line, follow-on funding. This will enable accelerated development of promising medical technologies, in line with recommendations from the [Government's Accelerated Access Review](#).

NIHR's i4i Programme is a translational funding scheme that supports healthcare technologies, devices and interventions for patient benefit in areas of existing or emerging clinical need. The aim is to de-risk projects, making them attractive to follow-on funders and investors. i4i Connect is specifically tailored for SMEs at this later point of product development, as well as in the early stage to provide support on the pathway to full i4i funding, with an NHS or academic partner.

Read the [full press release here](#).

**The i4i Connect funding call will launch on 16 August when full details of the programme, key dates and application process will be available on the [NIHR website](#).**

**For free research design and funding advice, download the [RDS NW advice request form here](#).**

### **Funding opportunities**

#### **[NIHR Public Health Research \(PHR\) - commissioned](#)**

Closing date - 14 November 2017.

#### **[NIHR Public Health Research \(PHR\) - researcher-led](#)**

Closing date - 21 November 2017.

#### **[NIHR Research for Patient Benefit - competition 34](#)**

Closing date - 22 November 2017.

#### **[NIHR Health Technology Assessment \(HTA\) Programme - commissioned](#)**

Closing date - 23 November 2017.

#### **[NIHR Health Technology Assessment \(HTA\) Programme - commissioned](#)**

Closing date - 30 November 2017.

#### **[NIHR Health Technology Assessment \(HTA\) Programme - researcher-led](#)**

Closing date - 5 December 2017.

### **Events**

#### **From research idea to funding application support event**

12 October 2017, Lancaster - save the date.

#### **[Improving Health by Improving Trials: Clinical Trial Training for Investigators](#)**

25 September 2017 - Liverpool.

#### **[NIHR Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation \(EME\) Programme Researcher-led Webinar](#)**

2 or 9 October 2017 - online.

#### **[EME commissioned - 17/57 - Hyperkinetic movement disorders Webinar](#)**

2 or 9 October 2017 - online.

#### **[PHR Information Events](#)**

Various dates and locations.

#### **[INVOLVE at 21](#)**

28 November 2017 - London.

### **Approaching funding deadlines**

**[NIHR HS&DR - researcher-led](#)** - 7 September 2017.

**[NIHR HS&DR - commissioned](#)** - 14 September 2017.

**[NIHR HTA - commissioned](#)** - 28 September 2017.