

## In this issue:

- RDS Blog - The COVID-19 pandemic creates a myriad of research questions and ideas: An economic perspective
- launch of the NIHR Programme Development Grants - Competition 28
- Health Education England North / NIHR Bridging Scheme
- changes to NIHR stage 1 application form
- events and funding opportunities

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## RDS Blog: The COVID-19 pandemic creates a myriad of research questions and ideas: An economic perspective

Despite being an indispensable part of research for many funding bodies and programs, health economics is still an enigma for many researchers. The Research Design Service (RDS) Blog this month looks at the economic questions we need to incorporate into our research and illustrates how health economics can be used to support public health, health promotion, and disease prevention policies such as the ones we've seen during the Covid-19 pandemic. [Read the full blog here.](#)

### Launch of the NIHR Programme Development Grants - competition 28

Programme Development Grants (PDG) are designed to enable a research team to carry out targeted preparatory work to develop a competitive Programme Grants for Applied Research (PGfAR) funding application. They can also be used to further develop an existing or ongoing PGfAR-funded programme of research.

Individual awards are for a maximum of £150,000 over a period of 12 to 24 months. The amount of funding awarded, however, is determined by the scale and nature of the research activity to be conducted.

Applications to PDG are made with the support of an NHS body and other providers of NHS services in England. **Deadline for proposals is 1.00 pm on 23 September 2020.** [Find out more about PDG here.](#)

In the latest NIHR blog Professor Elaine Hay, Director of NIHR's Programme Grants for Applied Research, explores how PDG are evolving to support further work based on previously funded programmes of research. [Read the full blog here.](#)

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### Events

[6<sup>th</sup> International Clinical Trials Methodology Conference](#)

Date: 11 to 14 October 2020 Venue: Harrogate

[RDS NW developing funding proposals in applied health and social care: NIHR Research for Patient Benefit \(RfPB\) programme](#)

Online event - Save the Date - 14 October 2020

More event and funding information on our [website here.](#)

### Health Education England North / NIHR Bridging Scheme

This scheme is designed to help nurses, midwives, allied health professionals, pharmacists and healthcare scientists to build the strongest possible applications for a PhD or a post-doctoral level fellowship primarily, though not exclusively, within the NIHR Integrated Clinical Academic (ICA) programme. To be eligible for one of these personal awards you must be about to complete a masters degree or PhD, hold a professional registration and have begun to develop a research profile within an NHS organisation.

Enquiries and applications are invited from eligible professions working across the North West, North East and Yorkshire and Humber regions of England. [Further information and details on how to apply can be found here.](#)

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### Changes to NIHR stage 1 application form

A new shorter version of the online application form for NETSCC (NIHR Evaluation, Trials and Studies Coordinating Centre) administered funding programmes will be in use from 13 August. This is to further streamline the process of applying to the NIHR. [Further information on the application form can be found here.](#)

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### Funding opportunities

[NIHR Recovery, Renewal, Reset: Research to inform policy responses to COVID-19 in the health and social care systems](#)

Closes: 1.00 pm on 22 October 2020

[NIHR Research for Patient Benefit – Competition 43](#)  
Closing date: 1.00 pm on 11 November 2020

[Diabetes UK: Project Grants](#)  
Deadline: 1 December 2020

Please always check with the event organiser or funder for up-to-date information