

Translational Research Project Grants

Research Grant Policy and Information

Please read this document before completing the application form and retain for future reference

HRUK aims

The Charity's objects are restricted to the promotion and furtherance of medical research into the prevention, treatment and cure of heart disease and related conditions including practical help with the prevention and treatment and the rehabilitation of those with such diseases.

Applying for a grant

- 1) Application forms can be downloaded from the HRUK website www.heartresearch.org.uk
- 2) Before completing the application form, applicants should read the AMRC statements on the use of animals in research and the use of health information for medical research. AMRC statements can be downloaded from the HRUK website <http://heartresearch.org.uk/about/position-statements>
- 3) The Principal Applicant must be in a tenured position at the Host Institution and is responsible for managing the grant, both scientifically and financially.
- 4) All Co-applicants and Collaborators must be listed in the application and letters of support from Collaborators should be included.
- 5) Section H of the application form must include all authorising signatures and no person should sign in more than one capacity.
- 6) When submitting an application, please send the following using Arial 11 Font :
 - a) One original application with signatures, including Appendix 1 for PhD studentships
 - b) One copy of the Terms and Conditions initialled on each page and signed on the final page by the Principal Applicant and, for and on behalf of, the Host Institution.
 - c) CVs of Principal Applicant, Co-Applicant(s) and any research workers (if appointed)
 - d) Letters of support from Collaborators.
 - e) Copy of the ethical approval letter (if applicable).
 - f) Copy of front page of Home Office project licence (if applicable).
 - g) Copy of Code of Good Research Practice (or its web address).
 - h) Electronic copy of the entire application (including supporting documentation, except for Code of Good Research Practice and HRUK Terms and Conditions) sent as a single Word/PDF file to research@heartresearch.org.uk Please note that the electronic copy should not include signatures.

- 7) The documents listed above must be received by HRUK by **1pm, 1 June** (or the following working day if a weekend or bank holiday). Submission of an electronic version by the closing date does not qualify as meeting the deadline.

Funding details

- 1) The maximum grant award is £150,000 which may include maximum equipment costs of up to £10,000.
- 2) A full breakdown and detailed justification of the funding requested must be included and costings will be scrutinised by our reviewers.
- 3) Please ensure that the costings in Section B add up correctly both in the annual subtotals and totals.
- 4) Accurate costings must be provided at the time of application as supplementary funding is not permitted following an award.
- 5) When calculating salaries for research staff, annual increments and cost of living increases should be factored into the calculations where applicable.
- 6) Grants do not cover the Apprenticeship Levy which was introduced in 2017, as this is not a direct cost of research.
- 7) Items of equipment may be included if specifically required for the project. Costs should exclude VAT (unless the item is non-exempt). Suppliers' quotes for equipment or other evidence of cost must be included with the application.
- 8) VAT should be excluded from the application. Certain goods and services purchased by an eligible body, when they are paid for using charitable or donated funds have a zero rate of VAT. See HM Revenue & Customs website for more information
- 9) Publication costs and staff recruitment costs are not covered by HRUK grants and should not be included in the application.
- 10) AMRC member charities have a policy of not paying the indirect costs of medical research and only directly incurred research costs should be included in the application. Therefore any indirect costs such as contributions towards the applicants' salaries, administrative costs and/or other overheads imposed by the institution must not be included in the application. The government-funded Charity Research Support Fund (CRSF) is available to help universities cover the indirect costs of charity-funded research.
- 11) Funding requests for attendance at conferences or scientific meetings should not be included in the application. HRUK grantholders may apply for a travel grant by returning a completed HRUK Travel Grant Request Form at least six weeks before the event. A maximum of £1,000 per grant is allowed for authorised attendance at meetings or conferences relevant to the grant. Receipts or other evidence of the costs of travel must be provided and reimbursement will be made after we have received a 1-page report on the event.

PhD Studentships

- 1) If applying for PhD funding, then two supervisors are required, including one with previous supervisory experience or training. 'Appendix 1: PhD Details' must be completed and submitted with the application, giving details for a named student and supervisors as

requested. In addition, a full CV and two academic references for a named PhD student must be provided.

- 2) If there is no nominated PhD student at the time of application, then funding will not be released until the suitability of the appointed student has been approved by HRUK.
- 3) Applications for PhD Studentships can include a stipend of up to £16,000 per annum, together with the annual University PhD tuition fees.
- 4) Applicants for PhD Studentships should note that research consumables funding is limited to a maximum of £5,000 per annum and will need to be fully justified in the application.
- 5) If the PhD student leaves during the project, then any remaining funds must be returned to HRUK.

Grant selection process

- 1) Heart Research UK is a member of the Association of Medical Research Charities (AMRC) which is now widely accepted as a 'mark of quality' by universities, government, other funders and research organisations. In compliance with AMRC-membership criteria, HRUK uses peer review to decide how to allocate funding for medical research.
- 2) Grant applications are assessed by carefully-selected, independent external peer reviewers. External reviewers assess the value, quality and potential impact of the science, and provide a written report of their expert opinion to the HRUK Medical Review Panel (MRP).
- 3) The HRUK MRP meets on an annual basis to consider the grant applications and make recommendations for funding to the HRUK Trustees.
- 4) Applicants for HRUK Translational Research Project Grants will be informed about the outcome following the December meeting of the HRUK Trustees.

Determining whether an application is suitable for a Translational Research Project Grant

Translational research bridges the gap between scientific research and patient care, bringing about clinical benefits in the most efficient way. This may advance current practice or enable innovative discoveries to be efficiently transferred into practical tools to prevent, diagnose and treat human disease.

Translational research is a dynamic and evolving process to continually improve healthcare and should not stop once the technology is at the patient's bedside. It can be thought of as taking a scientific breakthrough from 'laboratory bench to hospital bedside and back to bench' to be further improved. For example, it may help to explain why some treatments stop working or why side-effects may occur.

The introduction of Translational Research Project Grants shows our commitment to supporting innovative 'bench-to-bedside' research which can improve the health and treatment of patients with cardiovascular disease. The maximum funding limit (up to £150,000) for a given project grant will therefore exclude applications for large-scale clinical trials.

Disclaimer

A grant application will not be accepted unless the Principal Applicant and their Host Institution agree to and agree to abide by our Terms and Conditions.

HRUK cannot and does not give any undertaking that they will fund any research in any round of funding applications. HRUK regularly receives more entirely worthwhile and fully justified applications for funding than they can possibly support. Any failure to secure funding is in no way any criticism of any research proposal, any researcher, supervisor or department or indeed any institution. Sadly, applications are more often unsuccessful than not and research opportunities that the Trustees would like to support cannot always be supported. The deliberations of HRUK and the Medical Review Panel are confidential.

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