

Heart Research UK AI Policy

This policy describes Heart Research UK's position on the use of generative AI throughout the funding application process. The policy applies to all those involved in developing HRUK funding applications or the expert review process. This including researchers and their teams, host institutions, external and panel reviewers as well as members of our Research Advisory Group which comprises people with lived experience.

Generative AI is artificial intelligence (AI) that can create original content in response to a user's prompt or request. Examples include ChatGPT, Gemini, Copilot.

Guidance for researchers applying to Heart Research UK

Heart Research UK recognises the benefits that generative AI can bring to the application process, however we encourage applicants to use caution in using generative AI to develop a funding application. We require applicants to state in their application if generative AI has been used, except where the use is to help with language, and to check any generative AI outputs that are included in an application are valid.

In addition to this, in line with [AMRC recommendations](#), applicants should consider the technology's limitations:

- the confidentiality, processing and retention of information shared with public generative AI tools, and the potential repurposing of scientific ideas with other users of AI
- the risk of bias and potential need for mitigation in the tools' outputs.

Guidance for researchers providing expert review

The use of generative AI is not permitted in any part of the expert review process.

Our expert reviewers are selected for their expertise and experience in their field and we value their unique perspectives. We adhere to the AMRC's six principles of expert review to ensure a robust and fair process.

We follow guidance developed by AMRC through the [Research Funders Policy Group](#).

Maintaining confidentiality is essential for safeguarding the exchange of scientific opinions and assessments. Information uploaded into generative AI models can be retained by the programmes and can no longer be considered confidential. **As such, our peer reviewers must not input content from our confidential funding applications or reviews into, or use, generative AI tools to develop their peer review critiques or applicant responses to critiques.**

Use of generative AI by Heart Research UK

Heart Research UK may use the Dimensions platform to identify potential external reviewers. It does not use generative AI to make decisions on grant applications.