

A surgeon's guide to research funding



Partners in cancer research

"Funding via a Wellcome Trust Research Training Fellowship has provided me with dedicated research time to investigate potential neoadjuvant therapeutic approaches in pancreatic cancer. This period has been an excellent introduction to the potential benefits of multidisciplinary research collaborations and has strongly influenced my planning towards a career in academic surgery."

**Colin Steele, general surgeon
Wellcome Trust Research Training Fellow**

"I applied for an MRC Clinical Research Training Fellowship in the second year of my urology training as an Academic Clinical Fellow in Cambridge. I was delighted to be awarded the fellowship, which has provided me with funding to cover my salary, support research costs and fees to enable me to do my PhD."

**Karan Wadhwa, urological surgeon
MRC Clinical Research Training Fellow**

I'm new to research... Is there short-term funding for training projects?

There are lots of short programmes that give surgeons a chance to try out research.

[Click here to see a list](#)

What funding is there to study for a research degree?

Funding is available for surgeons to do MDs, clinical MScs, MPhils and PhDs. These typically take between 1 and 3 years.

[Click here for a list of research degree opportunities](#)

"The CR-UK Clinician Scientist Fellowship allows me to split my time between practising surgery and doing translational research. I can continue to develop my skills as a colorectal surgeon, whilst undertaking cutting-edge cancer stem cell research into new chemotherapies for colorectal cancer."

**Simon Buczacki PhD, colorectal surgeon
CR-UK Clinician Scientist**



Clinical fellowships

These provide funding and time for specialist registrars with a higher degree to do research. Clinical fellowship awards cover your salary and last up to 5 years.

[Click here for a list of clinical fellowships](#)

I really enjoyed my research degree... What next?



Can I continue to combine research with my career in surgery?

There are lots of grants available that allow surgeons to lead a research group alongside their surgical duties. Grant funding can cover research and equipment costs, and last for up to 7 years.

[Click here for a list of grant awards](#)

"The NIHR Academic Clinical Lectureship allowed me to pursue academic research whilst completing my specialty surgical training. The post was a great stepping stone in my career as an academic surgeon, and led to an NIHR Clinician Scientist Award, which provides me with funding to build my own research programme."

**Peter Holt PhD, vascular surgeon
NIHR Clinician Scientist**



Postdoctoral research

A postdoctoral award covers your salary and research costs, and lasts between 2 and 4 years.

[Click here for a list of postdoctoral awards](#)



How about funding for clinical trials?

Clinical trial funding allows surgeons to test new surgical practice, techniques and equipment. Ask the funder for advice if you are unsure which scheme you should apply to.

[Click here for a list of selected clinical trial funding opportunities](#)



I'd like to apply for an award... Any advice?

[Click here to see some application tips from funders and experienced surgical researchers](#)

www.ncri.org.uk

Personal awards: Training and development

This is a snapshot of some of the UK-based funding opportunities for surgeons in October 2013. It is a cancer-focused view, but many of the schemes are open to applications on other topics. Please check individual funders' websites for full details and the most up-to-date opportunities.

Scheme name (Click below for more information)	Synopsis	Minimum stage in surgical career			Funding covers			How long?	How much?	Contact for further information		
		Medical graduate	Specialist Registrar		Consultant	Salary	Cost of research project			Training and development	Email	Phone
			Early	Late								
Cancer Research UK (CR-UK)												
Research Bursary for Clinicians	Funding to free clinicians from clinical duties to carry out research, prior to applying for a higher degree					✓	✓		Up to 1 year	Up to £25k	Dr Paul Wilcock	0203 469 8082
National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)												
Academic Clinical Fellowship (ACF)	Specialty training posts that incorporate academic training		✓			✓		£1k per year for conference / travel	Up to 3 years		iatquiries@nhrcc.org.uk	0113 346 6260
Prostate Cancer UK												
Clinical Research Training Fellowship (in partnership with Royal College of Surgeons)	Funding for clinicians to undertake research towards a PhD relevant to prostate cancer					✓			Up to 1 year		research@prostatecanceruk.org	0208 222 7161
Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh (RCSEd): Funding for RCSEd members												
Robertson Trust Research/Training Fellowship	Funding to support surgical research in Scotland, or by a Scottish researcher in the UK		✓			✓				Up to £50k per year	c.mccartney@rcsed.ac.uk	0131 527 1618
Joint RCSEd/Cutner Fellowship in Orthopaedics	Funding to support education and training in orthopaedics, including research		✓			✓			1 year	Up to £50k		
Maurice Wohl Research Fellowship in Surgery	Funding to support surgical research in the UK		✓			✓			1 year	Up to £50k		

Scheme name (Click below for more information)	Synopsis	Minimum stage in surgical career			Funding covers			How long?	How much?	Contact for further information		
		Medical graduate	Specialist Registrar		Consultant	Salary	Cost of research project			Training and development	Email	Phone
			Early	Late								
Royal College of Surgeons of England (RCSEng): Funding for RCSEng members												
One-year Surgical Research Fellowship	Funding for surgical trainees to undertake a period of research training in the UK		✓			✓	✓		1 year	Up to £50k		
Fullbright Research Award in conjunction with RCSEng	Funding for a surgeon to pursue non-clinical surgical research in the United States	✓							Between 3 and 12 months	£2350 per month		
Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow (RCPSG): Funding for RCPSG members												
Ritchie Trust Research Award	Funding to support research towards a higher degree		✓				✓		1 year	Up to £30k	scholarships@rcpsg.ac.uk	0141 221 6072
The Wellcome Trust												
Research Training Fellowship	Clinicians with little/no research experience wanting to develop a career in academic medicine. Funding to pursue research towards MD/PhD	Less than 10 years since medical degree obtained				✓	✓		2–3 years	No max.		0207 611 2020

Personal awards: Clinical research degree opportunities

This is a snapshot of some of the UK-based funding opportunities for surgeons in October 2013. It is a cancer-focused view, but many of the schemes are open to applications on other topics. Please check individual funders' websites for full details and the most up-to-date opportunities.

Scheme name <small>(Click below for more information)</small>	Synopsis	Previous academic experience <small>(e.g. Masters)</small>	Minimum stage in surgical career			Funding covers				How long?	How much?	Contact for further information		
			Medical graduate	Specialist Registrar		Salary	PhD tuition fees	Cost of research project	Training and development			Email	Phone	
				Early	Late									
Cancer Research UK (CR-UK)														
Clinical Research Training Fellowship	Funding for clinicians to undertake a PhD									Individual programmes differ; apply directly to funded institutes and centres listed on Cancer Research UK website	3–4 years			
Chief Scientist Office (CSO): For Scottish researchers or research in Scotland														
Clinical Academic Fellowship	PhD training for clinicians. Surgical applicants are particularly welcome			✓		✓	✓	✓	Up to £2k	3 years	Up to £30k	Karen.Ford@scotland.gsi.gov.uk	0131 244 2246	
Health and Social Care (HSC): For researchers based in Northern Ireland														
Health and Social Care Doctoral Research Fellowship	Funding for clinicians to undertake a PhD					✓	✓	✓	✓	Up to 3 years	Up to £250k	joanne.oneill@hscni.net	02890 553 617	
National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)														
Doctoral Research Fellowship (DRF)	Funding to undertake a self-proposed PhD project, with personal training plan	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	3 years (up to 5 years part time)		nihrfellowshipenquiries@nihtcc.org.uk	0113 346 6260	
Academic Clinical Fellowship (ACF)	Specialty training posts that incorporate academic training			✓		✓			£1k per year for conference travel	Up to 3 years		iatenquiries@nihtcc.org.uk		
Medical Research Council (MRC)														
Clinical Research Training Fellowship	Specialised research training for academic clinicians		✓			✓			Research support grant	2–3 years	Up to £60k	GrantsMRC@ssc.rcuk.ac.uk	01793 867 018	

Scheme name <small>(Click below for more information)</small>	Synopsis	Previous academic experience <small>(e.g. Masters)</small>	Minimum stage in surgical career			Funding covers				How long?	How much?	Contact for further information	
			Medical graduate	Specialist Registrar		Salary	PhD tuition fees	Cost of research project	Training and development			Email	Phone
				Early	Late								
The Wellcome Trust													
Clinical PhD Programmes	Funding for clinicians to undertake a PhD. Apply directly to programmes or centres of excellence listed on Wellcome website		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓				
Research Training Fellowship	Funding for clinicians with little/no research experience to pursue research towards MD/PhD		Less than 10 years since medical degree obtained			✓		✓		2-3 years	No max.		0207 611 2020
Yorkshire Cancer Research: Funding for cancer research relevant to the people of Yorkshire													
Clinical Research Training Fellowship	Funding for clinicians to undertake a PhD					✓	✓	✓		Up to 3 years	Up to £225k	hq@ycr.org.uk	01423 501 269

Personal awards: Clinical postdoctoral research opportunities

This is a snapshot of some of the UK-based funding opportunities for surgeons in October 2013. It is a cancer-focused view, but many of the schemes are open to applications on other topics. Please check individual funders' websites for full details and the most up-to-date opportunities.

Scheme name (Click below for more information)	Synopsis	Academic experience			Minimum stage in surgical career			Funding covers				How long?	How much?	Contact for further information			
		Previous experience e.g. masters	PhD/MD	PostDoc	Medical graduate	Specialist Registrar		Salary	Cost of research project	Funding for researchers	Training and development			Email	Phone		
						Early	Late										
Medical Research Council (MRC)																	
Clinical Research Training Fellowship	Specialised research training on academic-clinician career path		✓		✓			✓					Research support grant		Up to £60k	GrantsMRC@ssc.rcuk.ac.uk	01793 867 018
National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)																	
Clinical Lectureship	Specialty training posts that incorporate academic training		✓				✓	✓					£1k per year for conference /travel	Up to 4 years	IATenquiries@nihrtcc.org.uk	0113 346 6260	
Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (PDF)	Funding to undertake self-proposed postdoctoral research and personal training plan		✓	No more than 3 years experience	✓			✓	✓			✓	3 years (up to 5 years part time)		nihrfellowshipenquiries@nihrtcc.org.uk	0113 346 6260	
The Wellcome Trust																	
Postdoctoral Research Training Fellowships for Clinicians	Funding for clinicians to pursue postdoctoral research		✓				✓	✓	✓			✓	2–4 years	Up to £350k		0207 611 2020	

Personal awards: Clinical fellowships

This is a snapshot of some of the UK-based funding opportunities for surgeons in October 2013. It is a cancer-focused view, but many of the schemes are open to applications on other topics. Please check individual funders' websites for full details and the most up-to-date opportunities.

Scheme name (Click below for more information)	Synopsis	Academic experience		Minimum stage in surgical career			Funding covers					How long?	How much?	Contact for further information		
		PhD/MD	PostDoc	Medical graduate	Specialist Registrar		Consultant	Salary	PhD tuition fees	Cost of research project	Funding for researchers			Training and development	Email	Phone
					Early	Late										
Academy of Medical Sciences																
Starter Grant for Clinical Lecturers	Funding to enable research-active clinicians to pursue research	✓				✓				✓			2 years	Up to £30k		
Clinician Scientist Fellowship	Funding for clinicians to pursue translational research	✓	✓			✓			✓			✓	5 years		csf@acmedsci.ac.uk	
Cancer Research UK (CR-UK)																
Clinician Scientist Fellowship	Funding and time for clinicians to pursue academic research	✓				✓			✓	✓			4 years (renewable)		Dr Zoë Holland	0203 469 5468
Senior Cancer Research Fellowship	Funding to establish or further develop a research group	✓	6-12 years					✓	✓	✓			6 years		Dr Kelly Sheehan-Rooney	0203 469 5240
Medical Research Council (MRC)																
Methodology Research Fellowship	Funding for surgeons with health research experience to undertake methodological research	✓				✓			✓				Up to 4 years		GrantsMRC@ssc.rcuk.ac.uk	01793 867018

Scheme name (Click below for more information)	Synopsis	Academic experience		Minimum stage in surgical career			Funding covers					How long?	How much?	Contact for further information		
		PhD/MD	PostDoc	Medical graduate	Specialist Registrar		Consultant	Salary	PhD tuition fees	Cost of research project	Funding for researchers			Training and development	Email	Phone
					Early	Late										
National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)																
Career Development Fellowship (CDF)	Personal award including training for experienced postdocs to undertake research	✓	No more than 7 years experience	✓				✓		✓	✓	✓	3 years (up to 5 years part time)		nihrfellowshipenquiries@nihrtcc.org.uk	0113 346 6260
Clinical Trials Fellowship	Funding for current NIHR trainees to experience clinical trials first hand			✓				✓				Up to £5k	6 months	Up to £5k	clinical.trials@nihrtcc.org.uk	
Clinician Scientist	Personal award to pursue academic research. Can retain some clinical duties	✓				✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		Up to 5 years		NIHR.ClinicianScientists@nihrtcc.org.uk	
Senior Research Fellowship (SRF)	Research and training funding for current independent researchers aiming to become research leaders	✓	✓	✓				✓		✓	✓		Up to 5 years		nihrfellowshipenquiries@nihrtcc.org.uk	
Transitional Research Fellowship (TRF)	Focused training for skill development to allow transition from basic to clinical or clinical to translational research	✓	No more than 5 years experience	✓				✓		✓	✓		18-24 months		nihrfellowshipenquiries@nihrtcc.org.uk	

Scheme name (Click below for more information)	Synopsis	Academic experience		Minimum stage in surgical career			Funding covers					How long?	How much?	Contact for further information		
		PhD/MD	PostDoc	Medical graduate	Specialist Registrar		Consultant	Salary	PhD tuition fees	Cost of research project	Funding for researchers			Training and development	Email	Phone
					Early	Late										
National Institute for Social Care and Health Research (NISCHR)																
Clinical Research Time Competition	Protected time for clinicians and healthcare workers to undertake research in NHS Wales							To cover 20% of salary					Up to 3 years			
Medical Research Council (MRC)																
Clinician Scientist Fellowship (CSF)	Award to establish as an independent researcher	✓			✓			✓			Research support grant		Up to 4 years			
Tenure Track CSF	Funding to support career development into clinical academic medicine	✓			✓			✓			Research support grant		5 years			
Senior Clinical Fellowship	Funding for senior clinicians to pursue research	✓	No more than 3 years experience	✓				✓			Research support grant					
The Wellcome Trust																
Intermediate Clinical Fellowship	Funding for continued postdoctoral research	✓			✓			✓		✓			Up to 5 years	No max.		
Senior Research Fellowship in Clinical Science	Funding for research to become established as a leading investigator in clinical academic medicine	✓	3–5 years					✓	✓	✓			5 years (renewable)	No max.		0207 611 2020

Personal awards: Funding for principal investigators (PI)

This is a snapshot of some of the UK-based funding opportunities for surgeons in October 2013. It is a cancer-focused view, but many of the schemes are open to applications on other topics. Please check individual funders' websites for full details and the most up-to-date opportunities.

Scheme name (Click below for more information)	Synopsis	Academic experience			Minimum stage in surgical career			Funding covers				How long?	How much?	Contact for further information		
		PhD/ MD	PostDoc	PI	Medical graduate	Specialist Registrar		Consultant	Salary	Cost of research project	Funding for researchers			Training and development	Email	Phone
						Early	Late									
The Association for International Cancer Research (AICR)																
Project Grant	Funding to support basic or translational cancer research	✓	No more than 3 years experience						If junior researcher without tenured position	✓	✓		Up to 3 years	No max. (typically up to £250k)	helen.rippon@aicr.org.uk	
Breakthrough Breast Cancer																
Programme Grant Funding	Funding to cover research into breast cancer	✓	✓							✓	✓		Up to 5 years		research@breakthrough.org.uk	
Breast Cancer Campaign																
Pilot Grant	Funding to allow established scientists to develop a new area of research in breast cancer	✓	Established researchers may apply					✓		✓			Up to 1 year	Up to £20k	grants_admin@breastcancer_campaign.org	0207 749 4121
Project Grant	Funding for longer term projects in breast cancer	✓	Established researchers may apply					✓		✓			Up to 3 years	Up to £65k per year		
Scientific Fellowship	Funding for experienced post-doctoral researchers to pursue an independent research career in Breast Cancer	✓	3–9 years					✓		✓	✓		Up to 5 years	Up to £550k		

Scheme name (Click below for more information)	Synopsis	Academic experience			Minimum stage in surgical career			Funding covers				How long?	How much?	Contact for further information		
		PhD/ MD	PostDoc	PI	Medical graduate	Specialist Registrar		Consultant	Salary	Cost of research project	Funding for researchers			Training and development	Email	Phone
						Early	Late									
Cancer Research UK (CR-UK)																
Career Development Fellowship	Funding to start up an independent research group	✓	3 years					✓	✓	✓	✓		6 years		Dr Kelly Sheehan-Rooney	0203 469 5240
Career Establishment Award	Funding to start up an independent research group for those in first HEFCE post at UK university	✓		No more than 3 years experience						✓	✓		Up to 5 years			
Science Committee Programme Grant	Long term funding for multidisciplinary research								✓	✓	✓		Up to 5 years	No max.	science.Committee@cancer.org.uk	
Children with Cancer UK																
Start-up Grant	Pump-priming for new research on topics relevant to childhood cancers								✓	✓			1 year	Up to £50k	Katie.martin@childrenwithcancer.org.uk	0117 909 4809
Project Grant	Funding for research on topics relevant to childhood cancers	✓	✓						✓	✓	✓		Up to 3 years	Up to £250k		
Medical Research Council (MRC)																
New Investigator Research Grant	Funding for early career researchers in academic posts to establish as independent PIs	✓	3–10 years						✓	✓	✓		3 years	Up to £600k		
Research Grant	Funding for focused short- or long-term projects	✓	✓						✓	✓	✓		Up to 5 years			
Programme Grant	Funding for a coordinated group of research projects	✓		✓					✓	✓	✓		5 years (renewable)			

Scheme name (Click below for more information)	Synopsis	Academic experience			Minimum stage in surgical career				Funding covers				How long?	How much?	Contact for further information	
		PhD/MD	PostDoc	PI	Medical graduate	Specialist Registrar		Consultant	Salary	Cost of research project	Funding for researchers	Training and development			Email	Phone
						Early	Late									
National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)																
Research Professorships	Funding for early career academics to lead research	✓		No more than 5 years experience				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5 years		NIHRResearchProfessorships@nihrtcc.org.uk	
National Institute for Social Care and Health Research (NISCHR)																
Fellowship Award	Funding for early career researchers in NHS Wales to pursue academic research	✓	No more than 4 years experience						✓	✓	✓	✓	Up to 3 years		nischrgrants@wales.gsi.gov.uk	
Prostate Cancer UK																
Pilot Award	Funding for a defined prostate cancer project pursuing a new line of research	✓	✓							✓	✓		2 years	Up to £50k	research@prostatecanceruk.org	0208 222 7161
Project Grant	Funding to pursue prostate cancer research	✓	✓							✓	✓		Up to 3 years			
Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation																
Pilot Grant	Funding to allow established scientists to develop a new area of research in lung cancer	✓	✓							✓			Up to 1 year	Up to £20k		
Project Grant	Funding to support research into lung cancer	✓	✓							✓			Up to 2 years	Up to £75k		
Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow (RCPSG): Funding for RCPSG members																
Aileen Lynn Bequest Fund	Small equipment grant to support cancer research													Up to £5k	scholarships@rcpsg.ac.uk	0141 221 6072

Scheme name (Click below for more information)	Synopsis	Academic experience			Minimum stage in surgical career				Funding covers				How long?	How much?	Contact for further information		
		PhD/MD	PostDoc	PI	Medical graduate	Specialist Registrar		Consultant	Salary	Cost of research project	Funding for researchers	Training and development			Email	Phone	
						Early	Late										
Tenovus: Funding for research relevant to the people of Wales																	
Innovation Grant	Project funding for health research with a central patient focus in Wales												Flexible	Up to 1 year	Up to £30k		
The Wellcome Trust																	
Investigator Award (New)	Grant funding to pursue research	✓		No more than 5 years experience						✓		✓		Up to 7 years	Up to £425k	investigators@wellcome.ac.uk	0207 611 2020
Investigator Award (Senior)	Grant funding to pursue research	✓		Over 5 years experience						✓		✓		Up to 7 years	Up to £425k		
Strategic Awards in Biomedical Science	Flexible support to excellent research groups	✓		✓						✓	✓			5 years			
Principal Research Fellowship	Grant funding for researchers of international standing	✓		✓						✓	✓			7 years (renewable)			
Yorkshire Cancer Research: Funding for cancer research relevant to the people of Yorkshire																	
Project Award	Funding for lab-based research	✓	✓							✓	✓			Up to 3 years	Up to £225k	hq@ycr.org.uk	01423 501 269
Pump Priming Award	Funding to generate pilot data for a more substantial application	✓	✓								✓			Up to 3 years	Up to £150k		
Programme Award	Funding for a research programme			✓										Up to 5 years	Up to £1.5m		

Clinical trial funding opportunities

This is a snapshot of some of the UK-based funding opportunities for surgeons in October 2013. It is a cancer-focused view, but many of the schemes are open to applications on other topics. Please check individual funders' websites for full details and the most up-to-date opportunities.

Scheme name <small>(Click below for further information)</small>	Synopsis	Number of calls per year		Trial type								How much?	How long?	Contact for further information	
		Comissioned	Researcher-led	Pre-clinical	Ph I	Ph II	Ph III	Ph IV	Feasibility	Pilot	Evidence synthesis			Email	Phone
Cancer Research UK (CR-UK)															
CTAAC: Feasibility Study Project Grant	Preparatory studies to determine questions for phase III trials		3			✓			✓	✓		Up to £80k	Up to 4 years	Dr Reena Mistry	0203 469 5040
CTAAC: Phase III Clinical Trial Grant	Funding for phase III/IV and large phase II clinical trials		3			✓	✓	✓			£100k per year	Up to 10 years			
Chief Scientist Office (CSO): For Scottish researchers or research in Scotland															
Experimental and Translational Medicine Project Grant	Studies to improve clinical management, proof of concept studies to identify new targets or clinical interventions, and early-phase clinical trials		2	✓	✓				✓	✓		Up to £225k	Up to 3 years	alan.mcnaire@scotland.gsi.gov.uk	0131 244 2255
Health Services and Population Health Project Grant	Supports both meta analysis and primary research for better healthcare in Scotland		2						✓	✓	✓	Up to £225k	Up to 3 years	peter.craig@scotland.gsi.gov.uk	0131 244 2077
Marie Curie Cancer Care															
Cancer Care Research Programme	Clinical trials aiming to improve palliative care		1		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Up to £450k	Up to 3 years	Dr Sabine Best	0207 091 4144
Medical Research Council (MRC)															
Biomedical Catalyst: Early/late stage award	Funding for projects to improve prevention, diagnosis, prognosis, or treatment of health needs		3	✓	✓	✓						No max.	No fixed period	tom.foulkes@headoffice.mrc.ac.uk	
Biomedical Catalyst: Confidence in Concept	Awards for preliminary translational studies made directly to universities		3						✓			£250k – £1.2m	18 months		

Scheme name (Click below for further information)	Synopsis	Number of calls per year		Trial type								How much?	How long?	Contact for further information		
		Comissioned	Researcher-led	Pre-clinical	Ph I	Ph II	Ph III	Ph IV	Feasibility	Pilot	Evidence synthesis			Email	Phone	
National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)																
Invention for Innovation (i4i)	Supports and advances the R&D of innovative healthcare technologies and their translation into the clinical environment for the benefit of patients	2	2	✓	✓								No max.	Up to 3 years	i4i.programme@nihr-ccf.org.uk	0208 843 8015
Health Services and Delivery Research (HS&DR)	Funding for projects of both meta analysis and primary research for better NHS practice	3	3	Possibly – contact funder for details				✓	✓	✓	No max.	No fixed period	info@netscc.ac.uk	0238 059 5586		
Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation (EME)	Funding to aid the transition of pre-clinical studies into the clinic to determine efficacy following proof of concept	3	3		✓	✓		✓	✓		No max.	No fixed period				
Health Technology Assessment (HTA)	Studies to determine the clinical efficacy of an intervention, where the proof of concept has already been established	3	3			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	No max.	No fixed period				
Programme Grants for Applied Research (PGfAR)	To produce independent research findings that will have practical application for the benefit of patients and the NHS in the near future		2			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	No max. from December 2013	No fixed period	programme.grants@nihr-ccf.org.uk	0208 843 8085		
Research for Patient Benefit (RfPB)	To generate high quality research for the benefit of patients in the NHS in England		3			✓	✓	✓	✓		Up to £350k	Up to 3 years	rfpb@nihr-ccf.org.uk	0208 843 8057		
Public Health Research (PHR)	Funding for projects to evaluate public health interventions	3	3			✓	✓	✓	✓		No max.	No fixed period	info@netscc.ac.uk	0238 059 5586		
Programme Development Grant (PDG)	Funding for PGfAR preparatory work		2					✓	✓	✓	Up to £100k	Up to 18 months	programme.grants@nihr-ccf.org.uk	0208 843 8002		
Systematic Review (SR)	Funding for projects of meta analysis for better NHS practice		1							✓	Up to £400k	Up to 3 years	info@netscc.ac.uk	0238 059 5586		

Scheme name (Click below for further information)	Synopsis	Number of calls per year		Trial type								How much?	How long?	Contact for further information		
		Comissioned	Researcher-led	Pre-clinical	Ph I	Ph II	Ph III	Ph IV	Feasibility	Pilot	Evidence synthesis			Email	Phone	
Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh (RCSEd): Funding for RCSEd members																
Small Research Grants	Pilot project funding for surgical trainees or consultants									✓	✓		Up to £10k	1 year	c.mccartney@rcsed.ac.uk	0131 527 1618
The Wellcome Trust																
Health Innovation Challenge Fund (in partnership with Department of Health)	Funding to accelerate the translation of projects that are well advanced along the development pathway into the clinic				✓	Small							No max.	3 years	hicfundenquiries@hicfund.org.uk	
Yorkshire Cancer Research: Funding for cancer research relevant to the people of Yorkshire																
Programme Award	Funding for a research programme			✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		Up to £1.5m	Up to 5 years	hq@ycre.org.uk	01423 501 269	
Commercial Development Award	Funding to move pre-clinical cancer technologies into early phase clinical trials			✓	✓	✓						£125k – £1.5m	Up to 5 years			
Clinical Project Award	Funding for clinical research involving patients				✓	✓						Up to £225k	Up to 3 years			
Pump Priming Award	Funding for pilot studies								✓	✓		Up to £150k	Up to 3 years			

Advice for a successful funding application

“One of the key features of a successful funding application is that it has a clear central research question. Your application should also have a solid research plan that describes a feasible approach in a realistic timescale. Acknowledge any potential pitfalls and show how you will avoid them.”

**Dr Kathryn Adcock, Senior Portfolio Developer
Wellcome Trust**

“Support for developing clinical and translational research is available through the surgical trials units (STUs) and the Royal College of Surgeons’ surgery specialty leads (SSLs). You can obtain their contact details and further information from the Royal College of Surgeons.”

**Prof Dion Morton
Professor of Surgery, University of Birmingham
Director of Clinical Research, Royal College of Surgeons of England**

“Ask lots of senior colleagues to critique your application before it is submitted. Find the toughest critic you can; their comments will help you make the application as good as possible before it goes in front of the reviewers and the Panel.”

**Dr Zoë Holland, Senior Research Funding Manager
Cancer Research UK**



“The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) funds clinical trials (and other kinds of study) from pre-clinical through to late phase and evidence synthesis. Check online if you are unsure about which scheme’s remit best suits your research.”

**Dr David King, Director
National Institute for Health Research
Central Commissioning Facility**

“You can apply to CTAAC for funding for feasibility studies and phase II/III clinical trials. Surgical research is an area of strategic importance for Cancer Research UK; surgical applications are considered carefully by our panel, and those of high quality are likely to be successful.”

**Kate Law, Director of Clinical Research
Cancer Research UK**