Pilot & ECR springboard awards - Round 3

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BRC Resp theme: Co theme lead

Scope

1. Awards are designed to support those **that have not yet received any BRC support**

2. **Notable:** applicants that hold a **primary contract with the trust both RBH-GSTT or ICHT are eligible***

- **Two types of award**
- *BRC pilot award £25,000*
- *ECR springboard award £42,000*
- **12 months max:** *earliest start 1/09/2025*
- **Launch:** 1st April 2025
- **Close:** **02**nd May 2025 EOB

* See conditions

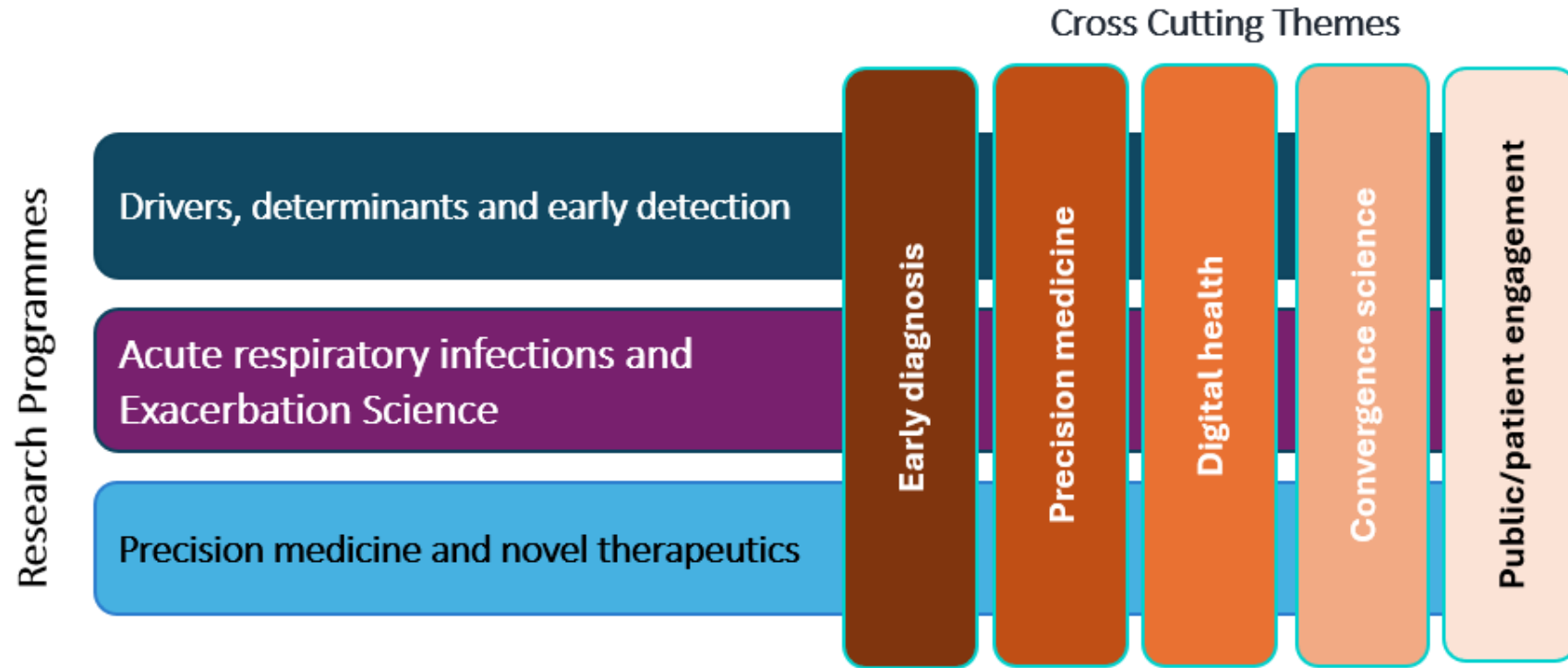**NIHR** | Imperial Biomedical Research Centre

What are we looking for?

- **Pilot awards:** *Pretty much anyone doing research (PI or ECR)* ***within the NIHR remit, 'seed funding'*** *that will lead to successful follow-on funding ideally*

- **Early career springboard:** *Early career researchers, yet to receive major funding or BRC support -* ***plan to submit substantive fellowships***

- *Both awards are for a* **maximum period of 6 months and eligibility and funding will be prioritised to** *applications that can demonstrate feasibility to deliver and spend the funds within 6 months with no extensions permitted*

Alignment with the main objectives of the theme

Eligibility: both awards

1. **Applicants are invited from Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust (ICHT) and the Royal Brompton Hospital** - subject to the research proposal being aligned to one of the core BRC sub-themes.

2. **ICHT/RBH lead applicants <u>must</u> hold an honorary contract with Imperial College <u>OR</u> apply with a substantive college employee as co-applicant.**

3. *Both awards are for a* **maximum period of 6 months and eligibility and funding will be prioritised to applications that can demonstrate feasibility to deliver and spend the funds within 6 months with no extensions permitted.**

4. Non-clinical applicants **<u>must</u>** demonstrate evidence that their proposal will lead to research that has/will have a **<u>direct</u> patient benefit.**

5. **Cross cutting BRC proposal with other themes (https://imperialbrc.nihr.ac.uk/) are encouraged** – with applicants expected to have co-developed their proposal (and discuss co-funding) with a second theme.

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Additional eligibility: ECR Springboard awards

- **Applicants would typically be expected to be at the following career stages**: academic clinical lecturer, advanced fellow, lecturer (clinical or non-clinical), allied health care professional or early NHS consultant stage

- Applicants should **not** have received major funding (>£300,000) from a UKRI, Wellcome or NIHR funder.

- Applicants should **not** have received funding from the Imperial NIHR BRC for a previous springboard award.

- Applications from researchers with **established protocols, appropriate knowledge and technical expertise and personnel in place to complete and funded grant budget within 6 months will be shortlisted for funding**.

- Applicants should **demonstrate how the funding will be used to bridge successful fellowship applications and the timescales for fellowship** applications.

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Additional eligibility: Pilot awards

- **Applicants would typically be expected to be at the following career stages**: professor, reader, senior lecturer, lecturer, academic clinical lecturer, advanced fellow, (clinical or non-clinical), allied health care professional or early NHS consultant stage

- Applicants should **not** have received funding from the Imperial NIHR BRC for a previous pilot award.

- Applications that **show evidence of matched funding where possible with other BRC themes or centres will be shortlisted for funding.**

- Applicants should **demonstrate how the funding will be used to bridge successful fellowship applications and the timescales for fellowship** applications.

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How will we score your application?

- Rationale and background - sound hypothesis?

- Project plan & deliverables, risks/mitigation

- Operational readiness

- Potential for Impact/NIHR Remit/likely secure follow-on funding

- Resources and value for money

- ECR awards: previous high impact papers, trajectory and likelihood of securing fellowship funding?

PPIE and your application

- All applications will be scored by our Theme Community Partners following initial triage

7) Benefit to patients (i.e. how have you identified that this research question is a priority/of benefit for patients/the public) and the NHS (Max 150 words). *Please write this section in lay language as it will be reviewed by public reviewers.*

8) What plans do you have to involve and engage with members of the public as part of this research project proposal? (max. 300 words). Please write this section in lay language as it will be reviewed by public reviewers. Please see guidance on Public involvement for grant applications
Please see the Public Involvement Resource Hub for guidance or contact the Imperial Patient Experience Research Centre on publicinvolvement@imperial.ac.uk

For further advice **please contact** publicinvolvement@imperial.ac.uk or

Katherine Lodge k.lodge@imperial.ac.uk (Respiratory PPIE Lead) or

MaryAbkir m.abkir@imperial.ac.uk (Respiratory PPIE Lead)'

How to apply?

- Read the **guidance notes** for the call

- Fill out your **application form** and submit by the deadline

- Send a **2-page CV also** – *if you are applying for an ECR springboard award or are the lead applicant for a pilot award*

- *Costings will need a* ***WorkTribe to be attached***

Launch: 1st April 2025
Close: 02nd May 2025 EOB
e-mail forms to: c.tytgat@imperial.ac.uk

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