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# forCrohns/Guts UK Crohn’s Disease Research Grant - Research scope and eligibility criteria

## Overview

forCrohns and Guts UK are announcing a joint grant call for research projects on Crohn’s disease. forCrohns (www.forcrohns.o rg) funds research that helps people with Crohn’s disease today and can contribute to finding a cure in the future. Guts UK ([www.gutscharity.org.uk](http://www.gutscharity.org.uk)) funds research on all digestive disorders. The two organisations have teamed up for a third time to support research in their area of synergy.

## Research scope

To align with forCrohns charitable objectives the research question must focus on Crohn’s disease, though projects might also benefit patients with other Inflammatory Bowel Diseases. The research project should specifically investigate Covid and/or anything related to health and quality of life for people with Crohn’s disease.

To ensure the research is innovative and efficient, applicants will be asked to demonstrate their understanding of ongoing studies on Crohn’s disease, and explain how their proposed project fits in within the current research landscape on Crohn’s disease.

It is envisaged that the research project could allow the collection of pilot or proof-of-concept data that will enable a high-quality competitive application to be made subsequently to a research council or other large funder, such as the National Institute of Health Research.

Applications will be assessed on the following criteria:

* Scientific excellence (plausibility, feasibility, importance, originality, potential to elicit clinically useful results).
* Value for money.
* Suitability of research team (track record of the applicants).
* The potential difference the research will make to the lives of patients.
* The potential for further funding and/or follow up studies.

## Eligibility criteria

The grant call is open to research established investigators, both clinicians and scientists, based at a UK university or hospital. Academic Clinical Lecturers who have a contract of sufficient length to cover the duration of the research project will be considered. This award is not for a fellowship; the principal applicant must have an established academic or clinical position. Fellows can be co-applicants, but their salary must be covered by other funds. Funding will be available only in the UK.

## Budget and research duration

The maximum allowed budget per project is £25,000. It is envisaged that three grants will be awarded. Only the direct costs associated with the project will be funded. Overhead allocation or other indirect costs, including senior or supervisory posts which are already covered by other funding will not be funded; equipment or capital costs will not be funded either. All costs must be clearly explained and justified. The maximum duration of the projects should be 24 months.

## Other considerations

forCrohns and Guts UK are keen that the research starts as soon as possible after the award of the grant. Ethical approval will be needed before the work commences, if required by the project. If relevant, all licences pertaining to research using animals must be valid and in place.

Provided the study meets the NIHR’s definition of a research study, the selected project(s) will also be eligible for adoption by the UK Clinical Research Network and therefore will be eligible for NIHR support.

## Terms and condition

These grants will be bound by the Guts UK Terms and Conditions of Grants, as well as by any special conditions relevant to the grant call. For details of the Guts UK Terms and Conditions of Grants please see the Guts UK website. In addition to the requirements described in that document, forCrohns requests the following special conditions:

* Grant holders are required to produce an interim progress report after 6 months of the project.
* Grant holders are required to plan and deliver an educational event for Crohn’s disease patients at some point during the grant period. Grant holders can decide what is presented, whether it is an overview of the project and its findings or a more general educational event about the disease. forCrohns and Guts UK will be the exclusive charities at such an event (i.e. the event cannot be held alongside another event).

## Application process

An application form and guidance notes for completing the form can be downloaded at <http://gutscharity.org.uk/research/research-awards-information/>

The deadline for applications will be 5pm **Monday 5th July 2021**. Applications will be initially reviewed by a subset of the Guts UK Research Awards Committee. The top scoring applications will be assessed by the Guts UK Research Awards Committee at a meeting at the end of November. The trustees of both charities will approve the award of a grant to that research project. The successful applicant will be notified by the end of December 2021.

Please email your application together with a scanned copy of the application with wet signatures to [research@gutscharity.org.uk](mailto:research@gutscharity.org.uk) (including copies of supporting letters/emails). Due to the Covid-19 pandemic currently we are accepting electronic signatures. However, after the deadline, we might ask you to post a wet-signed copy to Research Awards, Guts UK, 3 St Andrews Place, London NW1 4LB.

**Please note:** Any queries relating to submission of the application must be referred directly to Guts UK via the above email address. Applicants or their colleagues may not contact a Research Awards Committee member or Guts UK or forCrohns trustees to discuss any aspect of an application or the decision reached on it.

**For details of the Guts UK terms and conditions of grants please see the website.**