

Quick Reference

Please note that you must read the full Call document for guidance before submitting your proposal

Healthcare Impact Partnerships 2018/2019

Call type: Invitation for proposals

Intent to Submit required by: 16:00, 12 July 2018

Closing date: 16:00, 23 August 2018

Funding Available: At least £5 million is available from EPSRC for this call, and we expect to fund 5-7 projects.

How to apply: Intent to submit followed by full proposal.

Assessment Process: Full proposals will undergo postal peer review, followed by assessment at a prioritisation panel resulting in a rank ordered list.

Key Dates:

Activity	Date
Intent to Submit Deadline	12 July 2018, 16:00
Deadline for Full Proposals	23 August 2018, 16:00
Postal Peer Review	September 2018 - January 2019
Funding decision	March 2019
Grant start date	From April 2019

Additional information: Submitted proposals must involve both clinical and business partners. There is no requirement for institutional letters of support, however it is asked that institutions only submit the most promising applications.

Contacts:

- Ms Katherine Freeman, Senior Portfolio Manager – Healthcare Technologies (email: Katherine.Freeman@epsrc.ukri.org, tel: 01793 444052)
- Dr Timothy Shuttleworth, Portfolio Manager – Healthcare Technologies (email: Timothy.Shuttleworth@epsrc.ukri.org, tel: 01793 444134)
- EPSRC Healthcare Inbox (email: Healthcare@epsrc.ac.uk)

Healthcare Impact Partnerships 2018/2019

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Intent to submit required by: 16:00, 12 July 2018

Closing date: 16:00, 23 August 2018

Related themes: Digital economy, Engineering, Healthcare technologies, ICT, Manufacturing the future, Mathematical sciences, Physical sciences

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Summary

EPSRC invites proposals for Healthcare Impact Partnerships. A budget of at least £5 million is available to support projects that progress previous EPSRC funded research towards generating impact in healthcare. This call is intended to support novel Engineering and Physical Sciences research that is aligned to the Healthcare Technologies theme strategy and contributes to at least one of the Healthcare Technologies Grand Challenges. (<https://epsrc.ukri.org/research/ourportfolio/themes/healthcaretechnologies/strategy/grandchallenges/>)

This call is open to eligible UK based academics that have held an EPSRC grant, or portfolio of grants, who wish to build on the research outputs of the grant(s) to promote impact in human health and wellbeing within EPSRC remit. Some

EPSRC grants are not eligible qualifying grants for this call - please see the "Eligibility" section for more details.

Applicants will be required to partner with **both** clinicians and business, bringing together a range of expertise to provide the support and guidance required to promote impact in the healthcare sector. All partners will be expected to play an active role in the design and delivery of the project, as well as demonstrating significant direct or in kind contributions towards the project. Projects should involve clear demonstration of clinical engagement throughout the proposal in order to ensure the research will address an unmet clinical need and/or offer significant added value over current or alternative healthcare solutions. Please note that this call will only support preclinical and precompetitive research projects, and results will be placed in the public domain.

Proposals will be assessed on the research outputs of, and impact generated from, the previously funded EPSRC funded grant, the suitability of the proposed research team, the strength of the business and clinical partnerships, the quality of the proposed research, the strength of the pathway to impact of the proposed research (and resources requested to support this), and the extent to which further support will progress the previously funded research towards impact in healthcare.

Anyone intending to submit a proposal to this call must **register their Intent to Submit by 16:00, 12 July 2018** (see "How To Apply" section for detail). Applicants that do not register their intent to submit before the deadline will be ineligible for the call.

Background

This call is supported by EPSRC's Healthcare Technologies theme, which aims to accelerate the impact of EPSRC funded research through to products and practices by working to develop partnerships with key stakeholders across the healthcare sector. By directly building on our previous investments, this call gives applicants the opportunity to harness those productive collaborations with both business and clinical partners to help them in the delivery of impact in healthcare.

Applicants will be expected to propose a research project that progresses outputs from previously supported EPSRC research towards application in the areas covered by the Healthcare Technologies Grand Challenges (<https://epsrc.ukri.org/research/ourportfolio/themes/healthcaretechnologies/strategy/grandchallenges/>). Projects can address basic or applied research in the Engineering and Physical Sciences through to early proof of concept. Research must be the primary focus of these projects, although they may also include secondments, project-specific marketing assessments and early stage commercial exploration, as this is a recognised part of the pathway to impact. Further details are available as highlighted in the EPSRC Guidance on resources for Pathways to Impact:

<https://epsrc.ukri.org/funding/applicationprocess/preparing/impactguidance/>

This call will **only** support preclinical and precompetitive research projects, and results will be placed in the public domain. Projects aimed at product development and clinical trials are **excluded**. The applicant team must clearly demonstrate the appropriate multidisciplinary skills and expertise, including

involvement of potential end users and clinical expertise, and demonstrate how all partners involved will enhance the project. EPSRC reserves the right to reject proposals outside the remit and ethos of this call without reference to peer review.

For more information about EPSRC's portfolio and strategies, see our website: <https://epsrc.ukri.org/research/ourportfolio/>

Funding available

At least £5 million is available from EPSRC for this call, and we expect to fund 5-7 projects that progress outputs from previously-supported EPSRC research towards application in one of the Healthy Nation Outcomes.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

The long-term strength of the UK research base depends on harnessing all the available talent and the Research Councils have together developed the ambitious UKRI Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan (<https://www.ukri.org/about-us/policies-and-standards/equality-diversity-and-inclusion/>).

In line with the UKRI Diversity Principles, EPSRC expects that equality and diversity is embedded at all levels and in all aspects of research practice. We are committed to supporting the research community in the diverse ways a research career can be built with our investments. This includes career breaks, support for people with caring responsibilities, flexible working and alternative working patterns. With this in mind, we welcome applications from academics who job share, have a part-time contract, need flexible working arrangements or those currently committed to other longer, large existing grants. Please see our Equality and Diversity webpages <https://epsrc.ukri.org/funding/equalitydiversity/> for further information.

Equipment

Where possible, researchers are asked to make use of existing facilities and equipment, including those hosted at other universities. If equipment is needed as part of the research proposal, applicants must follow EPSRC's rules for requesting equipment over £10,000 in value. Individual items of equipment between £10,000 and £400,000 can be included on the proposal for this call if the equipment is essential to the proposed research and if no appropriate alternative provision can be accessed but research organisations will be expected to make a contribution to the cost. Given that capital provision has been reduced by about 50%, contributions of the order of 50% of the full cost of the equipment will be expected.

Additional justification of the requirement for individual items of equipment between £10,000 and £400,000, and details of the proposed contribution to the cost of the equipment, must be provided in the justification of resources. For items of equipment between £25,000 and £138,000 three verbally obtained quotes should be detailed in the justification of resources. For items over £138,000 three written quotes must accompany the proposal.

If there is a sole supplier of the equipment or fewer than three quotes this must be detailed in the justification of resources. For any items or combined assets with a value above £138,000 (including VAT) a two-page Equipment Business Case must also be included in the proposal documentation.

For more information on equipment funding and guidance on how to prepare an Equipment Business Case, please see:

<https://epsrc.ukri.org/research/facilities/equipment/>

Eligibility

The aim of this call is to promote impact from previous EPSRC investments. As such, this call is open to Principal Investigators, from eligible UK research organisations, that have been a principal investigator or co-investigator on an EPSRC research grant that completed on or after 01 April 2013 (inclusive) or is due to finish by 01 April 2019. The proposed three-way partnership must build on the outcomes of this qualifying grant to generate novel research outcomes within EPSRCs remit. The application must align to one or more of the following Healthcare Technologies Grand challenges:

- Developing Future Therapies
- Frontiers of Physical Intervention
- Optimising Treatment
- Transforming Community Health and Care

Collaboration with at least one business partner and at least one clinical partner is mandatory. Collaboration with other user organisations (charities, not for profit etc.) is also strongly encouraged. The application must clearly state the unmet clinical need and the benefits that this research will provide to the healthcare sector.

A qualifying grant will typically have an EPSRC grant reference beginning with 'EP/'. The call is aimed at those investigators who held EPSRC research grants funded through standard mode schemes, fellowships and calls for proposals which awarded research grants. Applicants **may not** apply with training grants (including Centres for Doctoral Training), network grants (including Bridging the Gaps awards), platform grants, existing Healthcare Impact Partnerships or any other EPSRC award which was not primarily aimed at conducting research. Applicants who have received funds through institutional awards such as the Impact Acceleration Accounts **may not** use these as qualifying grants. Applicants who wish to apply with an EPSRC grant awarded through a partnership with an external organisation should contact EPSRC to discuss their eligibility prior to application.

If you plan to build upon a portfolio of EPSRC grants, please state the most relevant grant to this proposal.

If you were originally a Co-Investigator you must seek the permission of the original Principal Investigator to use the grant to qualify for a Healthcare Impact Partnership and demonstrate this through a letter of support from the original grant's PI.

If you are still unsure please contact EPSRC directly before applying.

Co-Investigators on this proposal do not have to have held a qualifying EPSRC grant, but still must meet standard EPSRC eligibility criteria.

For information on the eligibility of organisations and individuals to receive EPSRC funding, see the EPSRC Funding Guide:

<https://epsrc.ukri.org/funding/howtoapply/fundingguide/>

As this call is a targeted funding opportunity provided by EPSRC, higher education institutions, and some research council institutes and independent research organisations are eligible to apply. A list of eligible organisations to apply to EPSRC is provided at: <https://www.ukri.org/funding/how-to-apply/eligibility/>

How to apply

Notify EPSRC of your intent to apply

Applicants must submit an Intention to Submit by 16:00, 12 July 2018 and applicants who have not submitted prior to this date will be ineligible to submit a full proposal.

To complete the Intention to Submit form please visit the call page at <https://epsrc.ukri.org/funding/calls/hips201819/> and complete the short web form. EPSRC will acknowledge receipt of the Intention to Submit. A full list of the questions asked during the Intention to Submit process is included in Appendix B of this document.

The information provided through the Intention to Submit process is not intended to unduly constrain the content of the full proposal. Survey responses will be used to give us an indication of the level of interest and enable us to identify peer reviewers and panel members more quickly. **Applicants that do not register their intent to submit will have their applications rejected.**

There are no constraints on the number of applications which may be submitted from a single institution through this call. However, EPSRC expects that universities will only put forward the most promising projects. Applicants must ensure that they have the support of their university before preparing an Intention to Submit.

EPSRC will reject applications that are not eligible at the Intent to Submit stage. Please see the eligibility section for details on the eligibility criteria.

Submitting an application

You should prepare and submit your proposal using the Research Councils' Joint electronic Submission (Je-S) System (<https://je-s.rcuk.ac.uk/>).

When adding a new proposal, you should select:

- Council 'EPSRC'
- Document type 'Standard Proposal'

- Scheme 'Standard'
- On the Project Details page you should select the 'Healthcare Impact Partnerships 2018' call.

Note that clicking 'submit document' on your proposal form in Je-S initially submits the proposal to your host organisation's administration, not to EPSRC. Please allow sufficient time for your organisation's submission process between submitting your proposal to them and the call closing date. EPSRC must receive your application by 16:00, 23 August 2018.

Proposals **must** be submitted on one single Je-S form with a single lead university even where they are multi-institutional bids.

Guidance on the types of support that may be sought and advice on the completion of the research proposal forms are given on the EPSRC website (<https://epsrc.ukri.org/funding/howtoapply/>) which should be consulted when preparing all proposals.

Guidance on writing an application

Full Proposal

Your submission should include the following documentation: A standard Je-S form, Case for Support, Pathways to Impact, Work Plan, Justification of Resources requested and Project Partner Statement(s) of Support. Specific requirements for this call are set out below. For general guidance on preparing a proposal see: <https://epsrc.ukri.org/funding/howtoapply/preparing/>

1. A Standard Je-S form

2. Case for Support (nine pages)

The nine-page Case for Support should include the following information using the headings below:

- **Track record of the research team (up to two pages)**
- **Review of previous grant and forward vision (up to five pages)**
 - Provide the title and grant reference number of the previous grant(s) this proposal is developed from. One of which must be the qualifying grant used to apply to this award (see 'Eligibility'). Demonstrate the alignment of the project to the Healthcare Technologies Grand Challenges.
 - Identify the key scientific findings from your previous grant(s) that will be developed further in this proposal.
 - Describe clearly the objectives for this programme of work and the research methodology.
 - Identify and described how your proposed programme of activities will work towards addressing an unmet clinical need and/or offer significant added value over the current or alternative healthcare solutions. Detail how clinical advice will influence the research

programme throughout, and, how and when you will obtain this advice.

- **Engagement plan for project and clinical partner(s) involvement (up to two pages)**

- Identify the partner(s) involved in your proposal. Outline their involvement in the project. Describe how you will work collaboratively to deliver the research vision and how the programme of activities will accelerate the research towards impact within healthcare.
- Describe the contributions the partner(s) will make to the research programme, direct or indirect and how these contributions will add value to the resource requested from EPSRC
- Applicants should demonstrate their knowledge of the relevant regulatory pathway and the steps that should be taken during the project to ensure that the research outputs are well placed to progress along that pathway once the grant has finished.
- Describe the current best practice employed in tackling the clinical need and how this solution could address the unmet aspects of that clinical need and/or offer significant added value over current or alternative healthcare solutions.
- Applicants should also describe the success metrics from the perspective of their collaborating business partner. Describe how the business partner will help take the research the next step along the pathway to impact in healthcare if the research is successful. If possible, provide some context for the interest of the business partner by indicating the scale of the potential market opportunity.

3. Project Partner Letter of Support

Statements of Support should be supplied for all project partners and include the following:

- Why they see value in partnering on this project.
- What their involvement will be during the Healthcare Impact Partnership and indicate their role in the preparation of the research proposal.
- Confirmation of any direct or in kind support they are contributing.
- What steps they will take to progress the research outputs of this programme towards impact in healthcare, if it is successful.

4. A diagrammatic Work plan/Timeline (one page)

This should show a timetable of planned activities associated with the Partnership.

5. A Justification of Resources (two pages)

This should provide a full justification for all the resources you have requested.

6. A Pathways to Impact plan (two pages)

This should present a coherent strategy for accelerating and maximising the impact of the proposed research, with a particular focus on the activities that will be undertaken to address barriers that might prevent impact from arising. In contrast to the Case for Support, this document should focus on the specific methodologies and strategies that will be employed to enhance the impact of the proposal and to outline the resources that will be requested (or otherwise acquired) in order to achieve this.

Applicants should demonstrate an understanding of the future development pathway for their proposed research and show that they have considered the likely next steps for the outcomes of their research. They should consider how they will obtain any data or evidence they will need, or other appropriate measures they will take, to sufficiently de-risk the technology to the point that it will be a suitable prospect for support from translational funding entities.

The Healthcare Technologies impact and translation toolkit highlights a number of potential barriers that applicants should consider:
<https://epsrc.ukri.org/research/ourportfolio/themes/healthcaretechnologies/strategy/toolkit/>

Applicants should use the Ethical Information section on the Je-S form to demonstrate to peer reviewers that they have fully considered any ethical issues concerning the material they intend to use, the nature and choice, current public perceptions and attitudes towards the subject matter or research area. EPSRC will not fund a project if it believes that there are ethical concerns that have been overlooked or not appropriately accounted for. All relevant parts of the Ethical Information section must be completed. If the research will involve human participation or the use of animals covered by the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 it is recommended that applicants pay particular attention to the guidance highlighted below. EPSRC reserves the right to reject applications prior to peer review if the Ethical Information sections are not completed correctly.

Further guidance on completing the Je-S form can be found at:
<https://je-s.rcuk.ac.uk/Handbook/pages/GuidanceonCompletingaStandardG/EthicalInformation.htm>

Other relevant guidance includes: EPSRC's policy on animal use in research (<https://epsrc.ukri.org/about/standards/animalresearchpolicy/>) and the Responsible Innovation Framework (<https://epsrc.ukri.org/research/framework/>).

If any attachments exceed the page limit stated, fail to adhere to the specified format or include any documentation that has not been specified your proposal will be returned or rejected.

Please note that on submission to EPSRC **all** non-PDF documents uploaded onto Je-S are converted to PDF, the use of non-standard fonts may result in errors or font conversion, which could affect the overall length of the document.

In addition, where non-standard fonts are present, and even though the converted PDF document may look unaffected in the Je-S System, when it is imported into the Research Councils Grants System some information may be removed. We therefore recommend that where a document contains any non-

standard fonts (scientific notation, diagrams etc.), the document is converted to PDF prior to attaching it to the proposal.

For general guidance on preparing a proposal see:
<https://epsrc.ukri.org/funding/applicationprocess/preparing/>

Assessment

Assessment process

Proposals will be considered by the standard process as outlined on the EPSRC website (see <https://epsrc.ukri.org/funding/assessmentprocess/overview/> for more details)

Full proposals will be sent to independent peer reviewers, at least one reviewer nominated by the applicant will be approached. The reviewers' role will be to comment on the scientific quality of the proposed research and the appropriateness of the engagement plan with the project partners(s) based on the criteria below. If sufficiently positive comments are received, applicants will be invited to respond to these comments. Proposals will be ranked by a prioritisation panel using the reviewers' comments and the PI response.

Assessment criteria

Full proposals will be sent to reviewers chosen for their expertise and will be assessed on the following criteria:

- Research Quality
 - The quality of the programme of research required to move the scientific findings from the previously funded grant the next step along the pathway (within EPSRC remit) to impact in healthcare.
- National Importance
 - This will include consideration of the project's alignment to the EPSRC Healthy Nation Outcomes and an assessment to the extent a clinical need has been understood by the team and their plan to address it.
- Pathways to Impact
 - The extent to which the plans for ensuring the partnership has an impact both in the relevant research and user communities and how the project will be taken forward by the partners after the award.
 - The extent to which topics in Impact and Translation toolkit have been considered and addressed as appropriate.
 - The activities planned and resources requested to support impact related activities during the project including public engagement.
- Applicants
 - The suitability of the proposed research team, including the balance of expertise and track record, and their ability to deliver to deliver the proposed project.

- Resources and management
 - The appropriateness of the requested resources and the effectiveness of the proposed management structure and plans.
- Partnership Strength
 - This includes demonstration of the close engagement and collaboration with business and clinical partners/ collaborators; this will contain information about how the partner is critical for the success of the project.
 - The extent to which the partners will add value to EPSRC's investment and how, if the project is successful, it will extend beyond the duration of the project to maximise the impact of the research.

Feedback

The postal peer review commentary will comprise the feedback to the applicants, unless the prioritisation panel provide specific additional comments. No feedback will be provided from the prioritisation panel process unless this is specifically requested by the panel. The final rank ordered list will be available on EPSRC Grants on the Web system when applicants are informed: <http://gow.epsrc.ac.uk>

Guidance for reviewers

Reviewers will be directed to this call for proposals when contacted to review the proposal.

Information about the EPSRC peer review process and guidance for reviewers can be found at: <https://epsrc.ukri.org/funding/assessmentprocess/review/>

Guidance for reviewing standard grants can be found here: <https://epsrc.ukri.org/funding/assessmentprocess/review/formsandguidancenotes/standardgrants/>

Moving forward

Submissions to this call will count towards the Repeatedly Unsuccessful Applicants Policy. Further information about the policy can be found at: <https://epsrc.ukri.org/funding/howtoapply/basics/resubpol/rua/>

Key dates

Activity	Date*
Call Launched	14 June 2018
Call open in Je-S	June 2018
Intention to submit deadline	12 July 2018

Activity	Date*
Closing date for full proposals	23 August 2018
Expert postal peer review	September 2018 - January 2019
Prioritisation panel	February 2019
Funding decisions announced	Q4 2018/19

*EPSRC aims to adhere to the key dates as published, however there may be exceptions where the sift or prioritisation meeting may have to change due to panel member availability.

Contacts

For further information relating to this call please contact:

- Ms Katherine Freeman, Senior Portfolio Manager – Healthcare Technologies (email: Katherine.Freeman@epsrc.ukri.org, tel: 01793 444052)
- Dr Timothy Shuttleworth, Portfolio Manager – Healthcare Technologies (email: Timothy.Shuttleworth@epsrc.ukri.org, tel: 01793 444134)
- EPSRC Healthcare Inbox (email: Healthcare@epsrc.ac.uk)

Please contact the Je-S Helpdesk if you experience difficulties using Je-S or have any questions regarding its use: JesHelp@rcuk.ac.uk, tel: 01793 444164

We would also like to remind applicants to contact their university research office for help and advice on writing their proposal and allow enough time before the closing date for their organisation's submission process.

Change log

Name	Date	Version	Change
Timothy Shuttleworth	03 May 2018	1	N/A
Timothy Shuttleworth	11 May 2018	1.1	

Appendices

A. Je-S attachments Check List

Standard:

Attachment Type	Maximum Page length	Mandatory/ Optional	Extra Guidance
Case for Support	9 pages	M	Comprising up to two A4 sides for a track record, up to five pages for a review of previous grant and forward vision, and up to two pages for an engagement plan for business and clinical partner(s) involvement.
Pathways to Impact	2 pages	M	Please see https://epsrc.ukri.org/research/our-portfolio/themes/healthcaretechnologies/strategy/toolkit/ .
Workplan	1 page	M	
Justification for Resources	2 pages	M	
CVs	2 pages each	As Required by EPSRC	For named and visiting researchers, and researcher co-investigators only.
Project Partner Letters of Support	No page limits	M	Must be included from all named project partners. Must be on headed paper, and be signed and dated within six months of the proposal submission date.
Letters of Support	No page limits	As Required by EPSRC	In exceptional circumstances a maximum of three letters can be submitted.
Equipment Quotes	No page limits	As required by EPSRC	
Equipment Business Case	2 pages each	As required by EPSRC	Required for any items or combined assets with a value above the OJEU limit.
Technical assessment	No page limit	As required by EPSRC	
Proposal Cover Letter	No page limit	Optional	The cover letter can be used to highlight any important information to EPSRC. This attachment type is not seen by reviewers or panel members.
Other attachment	No page limit	As required, at EPSRC request only	This can be used for a document that does not fit under any of the headings above. This attachment

			type is not seen by reviewers or panel members.
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Please ensure you adhere to the above attachment requirements when submitting your proposal. Any missing, over length or unnecessary attachments may result in your proposal being rejected.

B. Intent to Submit survey questions:

1. Principal Investigator name and institution of the research proposal.
2. Email address of the PI (please use the same email address which is registered in your Je-S profile).
3. Co-Investigators and institutions.
4. Confirmation that Research Office is aware of your intention to submit a proposal to this call.
5. Name and email address of contact in the Research Office that has been informed.
6. Title (tentative) of the proposed partnership.
7. Name all clinical partners/business partners involved with the proposal.
8. Name all project partners that are involved with this proposal.
9. Which Healthcare Technology Grand Challenge does your proposed Healthcare Impact Partnership proposal align to?
10. Does your research proposal align to the Healthy Nation EPSRC Delivery Plan investment priorities areas, if so which one?
11. Please list 5 keywords relating to the research in the proposal.
12. Approximate value of the funds (£s) to be requested from EPSRC (at 80% fEC).
13. Please provide the grant reference number of the EPSRC research grant upon which this proposal builds.
14. Please briefly describe the clinical need that the proposal is addressing (max 1000 characters).
15. Please briefly describe the research focus of the proposal and how the clinical & industrial partners will facilitate the impact of the research within health (max 2000 characters).