



www.rds-yh.nihr.ac.uk

The NIHR Research Design Service
for Yorkshire & the Humber

'TAKE FIVE' - February 2012

Join our **email alert list** to receive our newsletter, 'Take Five' (monthly funding update) and information about events and other RDS activities - www.rds-yh.nihr.ac.uk

Welcome to the February 2012 edition of 'Take Five', from the Yorkshire and Humber RDS, a regular email update, groaning with events, research funding and the latest health news, and websites in neat little sets of five.

Please do feel free to forward this update to colleagues in your workplace.

Upcoming Events

For more details about events run by the RDS for the Yorkshire and the Humber and information about how to book a place on one of these courses please see our website: <http://www.rds-yh.nihr.ac.uk/learning-events.aspx>

We are currently developing a number of their Learning Events as online resources, please see: <http://www.rds-yh.nihr.ac.uk/learning-events/podcasts.aspx>

We also have videos of a number of past RDS events, please see: <http://www.rds-yh.nihr.ac.uk/learning-events/video-resources.aspx>

Current Awareness

1. **Stem cells used to 'heal' heart attack scars**

Damage caused by a heart attack has been healed using stem cells gathered from the patient's own heart, according to doctors in the US. The amount of scar tissue was halved in the small safety trial [reported in the Lancet medical journal](#). The authors said there was also an "unprecedented" increase in new heart muscle. The British Heart Foundation said it was "early days", but could "be great news for heart attack patients". <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-17012688>

2. **BMA calls for fresh debate on rate of organ donation**

Society should have a fresh debate on organ donation, says a new report by the British Medical Association. The number of organ donations has increased sharply in recent years but still lags a long way behind the number of people waiting for a transplant. The BMA says new types of donors may need to be considered, like brain dead patients kept alive on ventilators. And it calls for an opt-out donation system, where people are presumed to have agreed to donate their organs. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-16988213>

3. **Expert challenges 'myth' of falling NHS productivity**

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Official figures do not reflect the real improvements made in the NHS in England, according to a paper in the Lancet medical journal. It says a myth has grown up that the health service became less productive as funding increased. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-16984450>

4. Immune cells use 'starvation tactics' on HIV

Scientists have shown how some cells in the body can repel attacks from HIV by starving the virus of the building blocks of life. Viruses cannot replicate on their own; they must hijack other cells and turn them into virus production factories. A study, [published in Nature Immunology](#), showed how some parts of the immune system destroy their own raw materials, stopping HIV. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-16968795>

5. Big meals in 'memory loss link' in elderly

A link between memory loss and a high calorie diet has been suggested by researchers in the US. They were investigating mild cognitive impairment (MCI), which can be an early sign of dementia. Research, presented at a conference, claimed a high calorie diet was linked to having twice the risk of MCI, compared with a low calorie diet. Alzheimer's Research UK said a healthy lifestyle was known to help protect against dementia. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-16984624>

Funding Opportunities (Projects and Programmes)

1. [Cancer Research UK](#)

[Population Research Committee Programme Grant](#)

No set value. Funding decisions are made on the basis of scientific merit. Funding is normally provided for up to 60 months.

The amount of funding available is unspecified

Closing date: 22 June 2012

Duration: > 3 years

<http://www.rdfunding.org.uk/queries/ListGrantDetails.asp?GrantID=13976>

2. [Heart Research UK](#)

[Novel and Emerging Technologies Grant](#)

The Novel and Emerging Technologies (NET) Grant will fund one project up to a maximum of £200,000.

Amount of funding available: > £100K

Closing date: 01 May 2012

Duration: unspecified

<http://www.rdfunding.org.uk/queries/ListGrantDetails.asp?GrantID=8946>

3. [Arthritis Research UK](#)

[Project Grants](#)

To provide for the salary of postdoctoral researchers and/or technical assistance, running costs and the purchase of small items of essential equipment. In addition, Arthritis Research UK will enhance the salaries of all non-clinical postdoctoral research staff employed on project grants. Project Grants may provide funding of up to £300,000.

Amount of funding available: > £100K

Closing date: 30 May 2012

Duration: 1 year - 3 years

<http://www.rdfunding.org.uk/queries/ListGrantDetails.asp?GrantID=28>

4. [Diabetes UK](#)

[Project Grants](#)

There is no limit to research expenses that may be requested, however all requests must be fully justified.

Applicants applying for £500,000 or more must contact the office in the first instance and should normally hold substantial funding from Diabetes UK. Applicants applying for £15,000 or less should follow the Guidelines for Small Grant Applications.

Amount of funding available: > £100K

Closing date: 01 June 2012

Duration: > 3 years

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<http://www.rdfunding.org.uk/queries/ListGrantDetails.asp?GrantID=553>

5. [Alzheimer's Society](#)
[Project Grants](#)

The amount of funding available is unspecified.

Closing date: 29 June 2012

Duration: 1 year - 3 years

<http://www.rdfunding.org.uk/queries/ListGrantDetails.asp?GrantID=1637>

Funding Opportunities (Fellowships)

1. [Motor Neurone Disease Association](#)

[Clinician Scientist Fellowships: MRC/MND Association Lady Edith Wolfson Fellowships](#)

This award is a post-doctoral Fellowship providing up to four years support for laboratory-based studies.

There is also a patient-oriented version of the scheme that provides up to five years support, which is intended for research requiring up to 40% of the Fellow's time to be spent in clinical work.

The amount of funding available is unspecified

Closing date: 26 April 2012

Duration: > 3 years

<http://www.rdfunding.org.uk/queries/ListGrantDetails.asp?GrantID=12866>

2. [MRC - Medical Research Council](#)

[Clinician Scientist Fellowship](#)

The fellowships provide personal salary costs, together with research support staff, research consumables expenses, travel costs and capital equipment appropriate for the research project under full economic costs. The award also provides the opportunity for fellows to undertake research training outside the UK, for which overseas living costs are available. The fellowship provides four years' support.

The amount of funding available is unspecified

Closing date: 26 April 2012

Duration: > 3 years

<http://www.rdfunding.org.uk/queries/ListGrantDetails.asp?GrantID=1627>

3. [National Institute for Health Research Trainees Coordinating Centre \(NIHR TCC\)](#)

[Integrated Academic Training - Clinical Lectureships](#)

The amount of funding available is unspecified

Closing date: 31 March 2012

Duration: > 3 years

<http://www.rdfunding.org.uk/queries/ListGrantDetails.asp?GrantID=11811>

4. [Diabetes UK](#)

[Entry Level Fellowship](#)

Requests should not exceed £10,000. Salary for the applicant may be requested. This will be paid at registrar level or on equivalent university scales.

Amount of funding available: £5K - £10K

Closing date: 31 October 2012

Duration: 6 months - 1 year

<http://www.rdfunding.org.uk/queries/ListGrantDetails.asp?GrantID=12478>

5. [Arthritis Research UK](#)

[Foundation Fellowships](#)

These fellowships will normally provide a full-time salary over 3 years (plus an additional fixed salary supplement of £3,000 pa for non-clinical fellows) with reasonable running costs and small items of equipment. Please note that all Arthritis Research UK grants provide an automatic additional allowance for conference travel which does not need to be applied for in the grant application.

The amount of funding available is unspecified

Closing date: 09 May 2012

Duration: 1 year - 3 years

<http://www.rdfunding.org.uk/queries/ListGrantDetails.asp?GrantID=11909>

Funding Opportunities (Studentships)

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1. [British Heart Foundation MBPhD Studentships](#)
Awards may include: Student stipend at current BHF rates; Tuition fees at standard home student rate (set by the research institution); Research consumables, directly attributable to the project, usually less than £10,000 per year.
Amount of funding available: £50K - £100K
Closing date: Apply Anytime
Duration: 1 year - 3 years
<http://www.rdfunding.org.uk/queries/ListGrantDetails.asp?GrantID=8090>
2. [NERC - \(Natural Environment Research Council\) Masters Studentships](#)
£8,077. Students based in London will also receive London weighting of £2,000
Amount of funding available: £5K - £10K
Closing date: Apply Anytime
Duration: 6 months - 1 year
<http://www.rdfunding.org.uk/queries/ListGrantDetails.asp?GrantID=11199>
3. [Guarantors of Brain Brain Neurology Entry and Exit Scholarship](#)
Funding consists of full time salary (including superannuation, etc.) on the Specialty Registrar scale according to age and experience, from £10K - £50K.
Amount of funding available: £10K - £50K
Closing date: Apply Anytime
Duration: 6 months - 1 year
<http://www.rdfunding.org.uk/queries/ListGrantDetails.asp?GrantID=5558>
4. [Hospital Infection Society Major Research Grant](#)
Up to £33,000 per annum for 1-3 years.
Amount of funding available: £50K - £100K
Closing date: 31 July 2012
Duration: 1 year - 3 years
<http://www.rdfunding.org.uk/queries/ListGrantDetails.asp?GrantID=167>
5. [National Eye Research Centre Postgraduate Studentships](#)
Grants for PhD Studentships are for a three-year period and up to £60,000.
Amount of funding available: £10K - £50K
Closing date: 15 January 2013
Duration: 1 year - 3 years
<http://www.rdfunding.org.uk/queries/ListGrantDetails.asp?GrantID=220>

Health Websites/Gateways/portals

Sadly Intute is no longer updating its list of new health websites, so for the time being we will be using HON (Health on the Net) Code. HON review new sites to determine if they meet the HON code and then evaluates them on a regular basis to ensure that they continue to.

http://www.hon.ch/HONcode/Pro/LatestActivity/recentSites_reeval_United_Kingdom.html

http://www.hon.ch/HONcode/Patients/LatestActivity/recentSites_USA.html

1. [Cancer pain management e-learning](#)
This site provides an interactive tutorial on cancer pain management for healthcare professionals and students. It is evidence based and provided for free as an educational resource.
www.cancerpain.org.uk/
2. [Healthcare Bulletin](#)
This site provides high quality peer-reviewed journals and targeted medical education on all aspects of clinical

medicine and public health.
www.healthcare-bulletin.com/

3. [AidsInfo](#)
AIDSinfo is a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) project that offers the latest federally approved information on HIV/AIDS clinical research, treatment and prevention.
www.aidsinfo.nih.gov/
4. [RecoveryHelper](#)
RecoveryHelper.org provides online resources to help people recovery from drug and alcohol addiction, featuring news, directory and other resources.
www.recoveryhelper.org/
5. [Mood Garden](#)
Mood Garden provides message forum and chat for people with mood disorders. It provides information, support and fun activities to create a healthy community.
www.moodgarden.org

And finally...the Metro reports...

"Penguin couple married in bizarre ceremony ahead of Valentine's Day."

Read more: <http://www.metro.co.uk/weird/890179-penguin-couple-married-in-bizarre-ceremony-ahead-of-valentines-day#ixzz1mOJ2Gfox>

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The NIHR Research Design Service for Yorkshire & the Humber

The National Institute of Health Research (NIHR) Research Design Service for Yorkshire & the Humber (RDS YH) supports researchers to develop and design high quality research proposals for submission to the NIHR and other national, peer-reviewed funding competitions for applied health or social care research. This support is provided free of charge.

If you need [support or specialist advice](#) to turn your ideas into research proposals, or to further develop your existing proposals, then please explore our site to see what we can offer.

Face-to-face advice is available for local researchers, supported by telephone and email. Just complete the online 'Request for Advice and Support' form on the [Advice and Support](#) page of our website and we will be in touch to arrange an appointment.

[Request for RDS Advice and Support - Bespoke Advice](#)

Please contact us if you would like more information at rds-yh@sheffield.ac.uk or telephone our general enquires number on 0114 222 0828 - we look forward to hearing from you.

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