



Research Guidance for Applicants

Delayed diagnosis in myeloma patients is the largest unmet need in the disease:

- 31% of myeloma patients are diagnosed by an emergency route, many with multiple co-morbidities.
- 34% of myeloma patients visit their GP at least three times before getting a diagnosis.
- The median time from first symptoms to diagnosis is 163 days.

We seek applications for research projects which will address this and plan to invest up to £250K into two innovative and clearly defined research projects which either:

- Address the factors that cause late diagnosis of myeloma.
- Progress our knowledge of the development of myeloma with a view to screening at-risk individuals.
- Have the potential to impact the way myeloma is diagnosed.

We welcome novel proposals which learn from other areas of cancer research and benefit from cross-disciplinary approaches.

Date call opens: Wed 21st July 2021

Deadline date: 3pm on Thurs 30th Sept 2021

Maximum Funding per project: £250,000

If you would like to discuss your idea or application, please email us at research@myeloma.org.uk

PART ONE

1. Project Title: Please list the full project title. If awarded, this will be used in all correspondence and listed on our website.

2. Investigators: The Principal Investigator (PI) must hold a permanent post at either a UK Higher Education Institute or the NHS. Please list all PI and Co-I titles, names and posts held. Please indicate how many hours per week (hpw) will be spent on the project for each PI / Co-I. If there are more than three investigators, please list these on a separate sheet and submit with your application.

3a. Administering Organisation: This should be the employing organisation of the PI, please provide the name and the central or business address. Any award made is to the Administering Organisation.

3b. Provide your contact details and postal address if it is different to that of the host organisation.

4. Start date and Duration: It is anticipated that awards will be announced in December 2021. Please give a realistic start date, factoring in ethical approval and staff recruitment; if there is a PhD student on the project, you should reflect your institutional start dates.

Give the duration in months, the maximum duration for this project is 42 months.

5a. Total Grant requested: Please give total in £s (GBP).

5b. As a Medical Research charity, we do not pay fEC but wish to capture this information.

Our AMRC membership means our awarded research projects are eligible for QR funding. We are an NIHR partner charity.

6. Ethical approvals: Please indicate if the project needs ethical approval and give an indicative date of approval (this should be factored into your start date).

If already in place, please give the NRES/IRAS study number or include a copy of the approval letter with the application. If you haven't yet applied, please share your planned submission date.

Any clinical trials or studies funded by Myeloma UK are eligible for inclusion on the NCRI Clinical Studies Group Portfolio. Please indicate this when completing your Ethical Approval submission.

7. Dependent on the nature of your project, you may need to engage one of more of the following:

7a. Has this application been reviewed for any [Excess Treatment Costs?](#)

If yes, please submit your Schedule of Events Cost Attribution Template (SoECAT) to Myeloma UK in addition to the LCRD AcoRD Specialist.

7b. Has this application had any input from the [Research Design Service?](#)

7c. Has this project involved discussion with a Clinical Trials Unit?

<https://www.ukcrc.org/research-infrastructure/clinical-trials-units/ukcrc-registered-ctus-website/>

If Yes, please list which Unit.

7d. Does this study involve recruiting patients to a trial or a study?

The UK Myeloma Research Alliance (National Cancer Research Institute, Myeloma Clinical Studies Sub-Group) can provide input for applications and advise on recruitment to the study, especially around any competing studies.

[UKMRA](#)

<https://www.ncri.org.uk/groups/haematological-group/subgroups/>

8. As a patient focussed charity, we encourage direct patient involvement in the development of research where practical. We will seek focussed patient review of all applications on relevance, accessibility of topic and potential benefit.

9. Animal work: Please state if any animal work is needed, the date of approval and the name of the Animal Licence holder for the project (this may be at an institutional level). Please state if the work is to be outsourced and where to (if known at application stage).

10. Other funding: Myeloma UK needs to know if the project is either supported or has been supported by another organisation. If you are under a confidentiality clause, please indicate yes and enter CONFIDENTIAL.

i. If the preliminary work (or very similar) has been previously externally funded, please supply the project details, including; Title, Funder and value of award.

ii. If the project is being submitted elsewhere, please indicate who to and the anticipated outcome date.

iii. If the project has been submitted to another funder in the last 12 months. Please indicate who it was submitted to and the outcome.

iv. If you already have partial external funding in place, please indicate this here and provide details of funding.

11. Exploitation: Please answer if the project may have potential Intellectual Property (IP).

List any IP which may be arising from the research (patents; questionnaires, copyrighted material etc.). Identify how your host organisation makes decisions and manages its IP registration (this may be signposting to the host organisation) and the name of the IP / Tech Transfer contact for your organisation.

12. External reviewers: Myeloma UK is a member of the AMRC and funds only high-quality research. External peer review is vital to this process. We request you identify up to two reviewers who may be suitable.

If there are any reviewers who you would consider unsuitable, please provide their names. We will take your comments on board regarding those who you would prefer not view the application; it would be very helpful if you can provide a reason why, we will treat this in confidence. You may leave this section blank if you have no preferences.

13. Investigator contact details: Give PI and Co-I contact details.

14. Collaborators: List any collaborators; please provide a project-specific supporting letter for each collaborator detailing what they contribute to the project.

15. Institutional Approval: To ensure good governance the application must be approved within the host institution by both the PI's Head of Department / Division / School / Dean as appropriate.

The form must also be signed by the Finance / Administrative officer on behalf of the organisation which will manage the award. Those signing must have the authority to sign on behalf of the organisation.

We accept electronic signatures or a forwarded email approval.

PART TWO

Lay summary: Our supporter community are very supportive of our research programme. The lay summary will also feature on our website alongside your project details (if awarded). Please write clearly for a non-scientific audience, and avoid acronyms and jargon.

The proposed study should be described in no more than five pages, with an additional page for references and any power calculations, if needed.

- Title of the Study
- Clinical Hypothesis (if different from Title)
- Academic Abstract
- Purpose of the Research
- Background/Rationale
- Direct or potential benefit to myeloma patients
- Plan of investigation, including: proposed methodology, timelines, milestones, plans for data analysis and management
- Statistical aspects where appropriate (including sample size calculation and how it was determined) and source of formal statistical input
- Justification for the support requested
- Plans for dissemination

PART THREE

Financial Support Requested

Myeloma UK is a member of the AMRC and will fund Directly Incurred costs (DIC). Our research awards are eligible for inclusion in QR submission. Applications for funding should be based on known, planned or estimated expenditure.

All figures should be in GBP (£ Sterling), please use your institutional rates for currency exchange and conversion.

Allowed and disallowed costs

The following list is not considered exhaustive. Myeloma UK may query and/or remove any costs that are deemed to be outside the funding remit. For any queries, please email us at research@myeloma.org.uk

Allowed costs include:

- Salary for those member(s) of staff carrying out the research and who will be employed on the grant (Please note that we will not cover salary costs for tenured posts).

- Stipend and tuition fees for non-clinical PhD at UKRI rates. <https://www.ukri.org/our-work/developing-people-and-skills/find-studentships-and-doctoral-training/get-a-studentship-to-fund-your-doctorate/>
- Consumables and materials directly attributable to the project.
- We will pay access charges for shared equipment / facilities under SRF / MRF rates which have cost per hour / unit. Please enter these under Consumables as identified items.
- Equipment essential to the project (quotes must be obtained for items over £10k and included with the application).
- Project-specific software licenses.
- Up to £3000 in dissemination costs per project. For any costs associated with project dissemination, including: publication charges, poster printing, media production.
- Travel related to the research proposal (for example participant expenses to travel to focus group meetings/interviews/assessments).
- Statistician advice / Consultancy costs included in “Other/Exceptional items”.

Disallowed costs include:

- PI or Co-I salary
- General lab equipment maintenance and running costs
- Staff recruitment costs
- General lab equipment including PCs for researchers, we expect a basic level of lab equipment to be available.
- Full economic costs, Directly Allocated and Indirect costs.
- General office expenses (photocopying, printing, postage etc.). An exception may be made for admin assistance and printing costs if the project is epidemiological/questionnaire based.
- Excess Treatment Costs.

PART FOUR

Curriculum Vitae: Please provide a CV for all Investigators. Maximum 2 pages per individual.

Collaborators letters: Please include any Collaborators letters associated with the project.

Submission of Application

Please submit **one** document including an application form, CVs and any appendices, letters etc. (in Word or PDF) to research@myeloma.org.uk by **3pm** on the deadline date; applications received after this deadline will not be accepted.

If you have not received an acknowledgement within three working days, please contact us on 0131 557 3332 and ask for the Research Team.