

NIHR Manchester BRC Core Pump Priming Call (CPPC)

Mental Health of Teens and Young Adults Living with Long Term Chronic Conditions

Introduction

Manchester Biomedical Research Centre is committed to delivering pioneering, impactful translational research across our diverse, **all age** populations with a key focus on directly benefiting human health outcomes. Children's research is a core strategic priority, and we are looking to support, facilitate and grow further projects and collaborations.

Aim

This new funding opportunity is to support research focused on understanding and improving the mental health and well-being of teens and young adults living with long-term chronic health conditions (LTCHCs). This call aims to address the unique mental health challenges faced by this population and to develop interventions, strategies, and resources to enhance their psychological well-being and quality of life. Applications are expected to demonstrate **cross discipline** collaboration which requires **more than one disease area to be included**. There is a total of **£50,000** available. This may be used to support a few smaller projects or a larger project. This will be dependant on the quality of the applications received.

Applications are invited for research that explores, but is not limited to, the following areas:

- **Psychosocial Impact of Long-Term Health Conditions:** Investigating how living with chronic illness (e.g., diabetes, asthma, autoimmune diseases, etc.) impacts mental health, including anxiety, depression, stress, and coping mechanisms.
- **Intersectionality of Health Conditions and Mental Health:** Examining how different demographic factors (age, gender, socio-economic status, ethnicity) intersect with long-term health conditions to affect mental health outcomes.
- **Access to Mental Health Support:** Assessing barriers to mental health services and exploring innovative ways to improve access, engagement, and delivery of mental health care for young people with LTCHCs.
- **Transitioning from Paediatric to Adult Care :** Studying the mental health impact of transitioning between health systems and the challenges this presents for young people with chronic illnesses.
- **Prevention and Early Intervention:** Exploring strategies to identify mental health issues early and implement preventative or early intervention programs tailored to teens and young adults.
- **Digital and Technological Interventions:** Investigating the role of digital health tools, apps, and online support networks in improving mental health for this population.

Applicant Eligibility:

This funding call is open to researchers with expertise in mental health, long-term health conditions in young people, youth and adolescent health experts, and related areas. Applications from early career researchers, are encouraged as are applications from nursing, allied health professional, psychologist, pharmacist, and healthcare scientist staff groups, along with other healthcare professionals. We actively encourage and promote applications which demonstrate meaningful collaboration with any Higher Education Institute (HEI) within the Greater Manchester area.

The lead applicant must hold an appropriate contract with a BRC partner organisation and/or with a Higher Education Institute (HEI) within the Greater Manchester area. This contract must exceed the duration of the proposed project.

You do not need to have prior links with the BRC however **lead applicants are expected to have approached the associated BRC themes, prior to submission, to help foster collaboration.** We can facilitate this using the enquiry details below.

Our partner organisations are:

Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust • The Christie NHS Foundation Trust • Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust • Northern Care Alliance NHS Foundation Trust • Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust • Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust • University of Manchester

As a BRC, we endorse and champion [Team Research](#) principles. Collaborative, multi-disciplinary, diverse and inclusive teams are expected to be evidenced in applications. As part of NIHR funding guidelines we are expected to collect monitoring data on our applicants to help inform us on whether underrepresented groups are being reached. This data is voluntary and will be pseudo anonymised and stored in line with our GDPR procedures. This data will not be used to assess the application. This data will be made available to NIHR on request.

Award Assessment

- Applications are subject to a review by an appointed scientific review panel.
- Awards are made based on **scientific merit, relevance** to our focus areas, **feasibility**, and **impact** on patient health outcomes.
- Public Patient Involvement and Engagement (PPIE) activity is expected to be demonstrated in the application and must be costed for. Please refer to attached guidance for differences between PPIE and Qualitative research. PPIE can be supported through [Vocal](#). For more information and support contact Issy McGregor, issy.macgregor@mft.nhs.uk
- Lay summaries will be assessed by our young person's PPIE group along with parents and caregivers. See attached guidance from Voice Up' on Top Tips for writing to this audience.

- As part of the review process, **themes will be contacted**, to confirm they are aware of the project.

Funding Call Timeline

Project duration - 12 months	
Funding Call Open	18th November 2024
Open Teams meeting	10th December 2024 13.00-1400 This online meeting will include an introduction to the funding call, PPIE introduction and provide an opportunity for Q&A's. Please register your interest in attending using the contact details below.
Deadline for Vocal PPIE support	17th January 2025
Funding Call Closes	14th February 2025
Panel Review	18th March 2025
Award Letters Issued	W/B 31 March 2025
Project Start Date	01 April 2025
Project End Date	31st March 2026

CPPC will fund direct costs:

- Directly incurred staff costs, in line with the call guidance
- Materials and consumables – these should be project specific and not general costs
- Equipment/facilities access
- Equipment purchases (capped at £5,000 per item and must be justified against the duration of the project)
- Workshops
- Other engagement, knowledge exchange, training and culture change activities can also be supported.

CPPC award will NOT fund:

- Animal Work
- Bridging Funds (staff between posts)
- Projects with no clear translational agenda (basic science projects) or applied outcomes
- Phase III Clinical Research activity
- Indirect or estate costs
- Costs relating to intellectual property
- Equipment costs of more than £5000 per item.

Please review the CPPC Terms and Conditions document before applying. Contact your University Research Support office and NHS Trust R&I, prior to submission, as appropriate (i.e., if including University/Trust staff costs, cost codes etc). Funding will be awarded in 1 payment and must be spent by 31st March 2026. Any underspend must be returned.

For further enquiries please contact Lynsey Priest, BRC Strategic Project Manager:

lynsey.priest@mft.nhs.uk