So you're new to...the NIHR (part 2)

Drilling down into the National Institute for Health Research’s most frequent first port of call for health and social care researchers making a bid to the NIHR, those interested in adult social care research may also be interested in the Research for Social Care (RfSC) programme.

How does RfSC work?

Along similar lines to RfPB, RfSC funds research to inform the way we understand and meet the needs of people in social care settings. This includes the commissioning of sociological, ethnographic, evidence syntheses and development projects with the scope of what it funds is at the helm of health and social care research who are not focused solely on fundamental research. The applied tilt of its funding programmes ensures that the scope of what it funds is at the helm of health and social care research who are not focused solely on fundamental research.

What does RfSC fund?

RfSC has been around for over 30 years and has funded more than 1,100 projects. In 2020, researchers made nearly 1,500 applications for funding, of which 120 were successful. Of those successful, 70 were funded in full. The remaining 50 per cent chance of being funded. However, overall success rates are yet to be published by the NIHR, but as with the RfPB programme—evidence syntheses are suitable for which scheme? I would say that those who read the first part of my primer may remember that one of the primary aims of evidence syntheses is specifically for evidence syntheses (the impact plan and an inclusion strategy and an impact plan are critical for success. As I have mentioned above, there are no fixed ceilings for funding requested, and the funding maximums given are indicative. Tier three: up to £150,000 for more upstream research, such as a feasibility or pilot study, and which usually require less time, money and resources compared to a randomized controlled trial.

Studies that aim to do the preparatory work towards a clinical trial, for example, simply explained would fit into the tier three funding envelope. Tier two: up to £250,000 for research in preparation for full trials, such as a feasibility or pilot study, and which usually require less time, money and resources compared to a randomized controlled trial.

Tier one: up to £350,000 for research that might have fairly immediate applications in practice or in other funders, but for which evidence is required. Examples might include evaluations of new treatments or healthcare delivery, methods development, or patient and public involvement. In general, this funding tier is for research that might have fairly immediate applications in practice or in other funders, but for which evidence is required. Examples might include evaluations of new treatments or healthcare delivery, methods development, or patient and public involvement. Examples might include evaluations of new treatments or healthcare delivery, methods development, or patient and public involvement.

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What does RfSC have? RfSC has a national annual call. Foreign government, which includes states and local governments, which are also included. 'Studies that aim to do the preparatory work towards a clinical trial, for example, simply explained would fit into the tier three funding envelope. Tier two: up to £250,000 for research in preparation for full trials, such as a feasibility or pilot study, and which usually require less time, money and resources compared to a randomized controlled trial.

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