

News story: Tackling disease with healthcare innovations: apply for funding

Businesses can apply for a share of up to £12 million to develop or test innovative ways of diagnosing, preventing and treating disease.

There is up to £12 million to support projects that are developing or testing out new healthcare products, technologies or processes.

This funding is available through the Biomedical Catalyst, a partnership between Innovate UK and the [Medical Research Council](#) that supports innovative opportunities in the life sciences.

Quicker, more effective healthcare

Projects in the Biomedical Catalyst could:

- help to prevent or manage chronic conditions
- lead to better detection or diagnosis of disease
- that treat disease or offer potential cures

In this funding round there are 2 competitions.

Late-stage projects

Up to £8 million is available for late-stage projects that test a well-developed concept and demonstrate its suitability in a relevant environment.

A late-stage project can include:

- initial human proof-of-concept studies
- demonstration of clinical utility and effectiveness
- demonstration of safety and efficacy. This includes phase I and II clinical trials
- developing production mechanisms
- prototyping
- market testing
- intellectual property protection

Competition information

- the competition is open, and the deadline for applications is 7 February 2018
- projects must be led by a small or medium-sized enterprise (SME), working alone or with other SMEs or research organisations
- we expect projects to range in size from £200,000 to £4 million and to

last between 1 and 3 years

- businesses could attract up to 70% of their project costs

Primer awards

A further £4 million is available in primer awards. This is for projects that carry out technical evaluations through to proofs of concept in a model system.

A primer project could include:

- experimental evaluation done at laboratory scale
- initial demonstration using in vitro and in vivo models. It does not include human clinical trials such as safety or efficacy
- exploring potential production mechanisms
- early-stage prototyping
- product development planning
- intellectual property protection

Competition information

- the competition is open, and the deadline for applications is 7 February 2018
- projects must be led by an SME, working alone or with other SMEs or research organisations
- we expect projects to range in size from £200,000 to £1.5 million and to last between 1 and 2 years
- businesses could attract up to 70% of their project costs