



*National Institute for
Health Research*

Health Services and Delivery Research (HS&DR) Programme

Applying for research funding



The Health Services and Delivery Research (HS&DR) Programme

The Health Services and Delivery Research (HS&DR) Programme funds research to produce rigorous and relevant evidence on the quality, access and organisation of health services.

This includes evaluations of how the NHS might improve delivery of services.

The audience for this research is the public, service users, clinicians and managers. The programme will enhance the strategic focus on research that matters to the NHS including research on implementation and a range of knowledge mobilisation initiatives.



The programme has two workstreams: the Health Services Research (HSR) workstream and the Healthcare Delivery Research (HDR) workstream.

The **HSR workstream** is mainly researcher-led and focuses on research into the quality, appropriateness, effectiveness, equity and patient experience of health services.

The **HDR workstream** is mainly commissioned and focuses on evaluating models of service delivery and interventions which have the potential to improve service effectiveness, efficiency and productivity.

The HS&DR Programme aims to support a range of types of research including evidence synthesis and primary research. This includes large scale studies of national importance.

Application and assessment process

The HS&DR Programme is Needs-led, Science-added and Value for money.

Needs-led because we assess what questions are important to the NHS, and in what priority they should be answered.

Science-added because we ask whether the proposal meets the scientific quality we insist on, and we support the delivery of quality research through our monitoring process.

Value for money because assessment of need and scientific support maximises the relevance and benefits achievable within the funds available.

Under the researcher-led workstream the HS&DR Programme accepts applications for research proposals that fall within the programme remit.

Under the commissioned workstream the programme issues calls for proposals relating to a particular research question or with a particular theme.

Details for all current funding calls and closing dates are available on the HS&DR website:

www.netscc.ac.uk/hsdr



In assessing proposals the HS&DR boards and panels will ask:

- Will the study lead to significant improvements in health or health services?
- Do the outcomes matter to patients, families, NHS managers and decision-makers?
- Is the proposal methodologically and scientifically sound?
- Does the group have the skills and experience to complete the project?
- Is the research good value for money?

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