



ROY CASTLE
LUNG CANCER
FOUNDATION



Grant Funding Information

Clinical Research Fellowship - Funding Information



Thank you for your interest in Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation (RCLCF) Clinical Research Fellowship (CRF) funding.

Please use the following document, in conjunction with the 'RCLCF clinical research fellowship Guidelines' for completing your application forms.

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I. Introduction

Each year around 48,500 people are diagnosed with lung cancer in the UK and 36,000 of those diagnosed will die within the first 12 months. Lung cancer is the UK's most common cause of cancer death accounting for around a fifth (21%) of all cancer deaths in females and males combined.

RCLCF is a UK-wide charity dedicated to the defeat of lung cancer. Historically, the charity has funded research, tobacco control initiatives and work in lung cancer patient information, support and advocacy. Ensuring equitable access for lung cancer patients to the best treatment and care, supported by clear and meaningful information, is of paramount importance.

RCLCF's mission is to beat lung cancer by funding innovative world-class research. Our aim, through research, is to make a significant impact on lung cancer, for the benefit of patients.

Scientific excellence and relevance to lung cancer are the key principles which guide RCLCF's research.

Key Research Objectives

1. RCLCF will help to build the talent pool in lung cancer research of the highest quality, in the UK and Ireland.
2. RCLCF seeks to encourage scientific innovation. RCLCF encourages scientific development and will fund innovative projects that others might not support.
3. RCLCF will continue to make every effort to engage in scientific and public dialogue and encourage scientists to communicate and collaborate with each other and ensure that the results are disseminated in an easy format to the general public.
4. RCLCF will make every effort to ensure that research translates into benefits for patients as quickly and effectively as possible.

This information will help you understand the kind of projects that RCLCF funds, the peer review process and grant management procedures. The terms and conditions of awarded grants are also included. Completion of an application means full acceptance of these terms and conditions.

The guidelines to completing the application form and the application literature itself can be downloaded from the 'Apply for a Grant' page on our website www.roycastle.org.

2. Clinical Research Fellowship Awards

2.1 General information

Awards are provided to academic research institutions, within the UK and Ireland.

This Clinical Research Fellowship (CRF) will be open to any aspect of lung cancer research. It will allow clinically qualified candidates to undertake clinical research, leading towards a PhD/MD, aimed at improving the clinical outcomes for people at risk of lung cancer and for patients with lung cancer.

One of the fellowships to be awarded will be made in memory of James Brokenshire MP.

These Fellowships are available to clinically qualified candidates in the UK and Ireland. They must be undertaken within a high-quality research environment under the direction of an established lung cancer researcher. Awards will be for up to three years and will cover salary, research expenses and essential equipment.

Candidates for the CRF may be working in any discipline or clinical specialty, but they should be able to clearly demonstrate that the project will lead to advances in the understanding or treatment of lung cancer, and have a clear potential for benefit to patients with or at risk of lung cancer.

The CRF will support a discrete piece of work which will lead to a PhD/MD or equivalent. Applicants should demonstrate their ownership of their project and their ambition to aspire to a clinical academic career. Applicants should be at an appropriate point in their clinical training to undertake a PhD/MD. Applicants at consultant grade will not be considered.

Grants will be made in support of the CRF research project including salaries, minor equipment and consumables costs. RCLCF will not directly employ staff.

All CRF awards made by RCLCF will:

- Have a UK/Ireland focus to the research
- Agree to a monitoring framework including interim reports
- Results / outcomes available within the time frame of the project funding.
- Acknowledge RCLCF on all publications
- Be obliged to present results at RCLCF research events
- Engage with RCLCF on communication of the research project and its findings

RCLCF will only undertake the funding of research that has been peer reviewed, through its Grants Committee process.

The Grants Committee and External Reviewers will assess each application in the following areas:

- The Candidate – The potential of the candidate to become a competitive researcher

- The Research Project - Potential impact; Innovative research question; Quality of methods; Achievability in the timeline.
- The Supervisor and Research Environment – The quality of the environment in which the award is to be held, and the support provided by the host institution to help develop the candidate's career in research.

Applications for funding should be based on actual expenditure and all figures should be entered in GBP (£ Sterling). Invoices will be paid in GBP (£ Sterling).

Funding will be for Year 1 + Year 2 + Year 3 funding (ie, a maximum of 36 months). Projects will only be funded in lung cancer research.

2.2 Applications which fall out of RCLCF's Funding Remit

2.2.1 Animal research

RCLCF has undertaken never to fund any research projects using live animals.

2.2.2 Equipment grants

The Grants Committee will not consider applications for equipment only. Under exceptional circumstances funding for large pieces of equipment may be considered within a project grant application where there is overwhelming evidence that RCLCF funding was required, the project could not proceed without it being in place, and that the equipment would be solely used for lung cancer research. Full justification for the equipment request is required and must be included in the research proposal.

2.2.3 Applications from outside the UK or Ireland

RCLCF will not consider applications from outside the UK or Ireland. However, they would consider an application involving a non-UK collaboration provided that the main grant holder and researcher was UK based and the research will be carried out in a UK/Irish institution.

2.2.4 Applications from a commercial entity

RCLCF will not consider an application from a commercial entity.

2.2.5 Applications for consumables costs only

The Grants Committee will not consider applications for grants which request funding for consumables only.

2.2.6 Funding will **not** be granted for the following:

- Research is not lung cancer specific
- Research has already been completed in this area
- Has little or no potential impact on lung cancer patients, their families.
- The proposal project does not have the ability to change opinion or practice
- Is not felt to be innovative / creative
- Does not represent 'Value for Money'

- Proposals which consist solely of evaluations of existing health services
- The stated impacts/outcomes do not occur within the period of the project funding
- Research which cannot be translated into generic environments

3. Application Procedure

If you would like to apply for a RCLCF CRF grant, please download the application literature from the 'Apply for a Grant' pages of RCLCF's website at www.roycastle.org

Submitting your application form:

Please email a copy of the CRF application forms in MS Word and pdf format along with all supporting documents to grants@roycastle.org. Should your documents exceed 10MB please send via Dropbox.

When emailing your application, the subject of your email should read: Year/CRF and the applicant's name, for example; 2023/CRF/Jones.

All application forms and supporting documents should be saved with a file name in the same format, for example; 2023/CRF/Jones letter of collaboration

One signed original copy of all documents should also be sent to the RCLCF office:

Jackie Tebbs
Head of Clinical & Research Projects
Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation
Cotton Exchange Building
Old Hall Street
Liverpool L3 9LQ

Please note that only applications submitted using the most up to date RCLCF application literature will be considered for review.

4. Deadlines for 2023

The 2023 CRF submission will close at **4.00pm on Sunday 29th October 2023**. No applications will be considered after the deadline.

5. Peer Review Process

Your application will be considered by our Grants Committee and External Reviewers. We expect that these reviewers treat your application as confidential.

Upon review, selected candidates will be invited for Interview. Further to Interview, recommendation on successful Fellowships will be made to the Board of Trustees of RCLCF, who make the final decision as to whether or not the charity should fund the CRFs

recommended. Please note that the charity will not enter into any discussion regarding this process and that the decision taken by the Board of Trustees is final.

You will be informed whether your application has been successful by a formal letter along with Terms and Conditions of Award and Start Date Declaration form.

On request, unsuccessful applicants may receive anonymised feedback.

6. Terms and Conditions of Award

6.1 Payment of CRF Grant

Grants will be paid quarterly in arrears, on the receipt of an invoice from the Finance Officer. RCLCF is not liable as employer of any persons to whom support may have been given. Payment of invoices will not begin until a signed start date form has been received.

Grant amounts agreed will not be increased or extended other than in exceptional circumstances and where funds are available. Applications should include in the application form expected cost of salary rises over the period of the grant.

6.2 Project Management

6.2.1 General

RCLCF must receive advance written notification of any changes. Any changes to the Supervisor or any other changes to be made to the project itself must be approved by RCLCF.

Full financial and performance monitoring of CRF grants will be undertaken by RCLCF.

Fellows are expected to be actively engaged in their project and will remain responsible for conduct throughout.

RCLCF requires to be given in writing the names, qualifications, career plans and tenure of all individuals working on the project.

Failure to comply with any of the above may risk withdrawal of the grant from RCLCF and may require the submission of a new application.

6.2.2 Reports and Publications

RCLCF will request a report on the progress of your grant at the end of each year. Failure to submit such a report will jeopardise the continuation of support by RCLCF.

Final reports on all CRFs are also required and the final invoice will not be paid until this is received.

The CRF grant holder must notify RCLCF, in advance of publication, of the acceptance of their abstract or paper for publication or presentation so that we can prepare a press release when appropriate. Acknowledgement of the support of RCLCF is required in all

publications relating to the research including abstracts submitted to scientific meetings. If you wish to use our logo on any publications or presentations please contact the RCLCF office for more information.

RCLCF maintains a library of all publications resulting from research funded by them. Electronic copies of abstracts and all published papers (acknowledging the support of RCLCF) must be sent to grants@roycastle.org

6.2.3 Contact with the Media

It is important for the charity to raise its profile where appropriate; RCLCF supports and encourages the Fellow to promote their RCLCF funded work with the media but strictly in consultation with the charity's Communications department.

RCLCF Communications department will contact the CRF grant holder when appropriate to help respond to relevant media enquiries and PR initiatives about the charity's work.

RCLCF's communication department will draft a press release regarding the CRF award, to national and local media. Further press releases regarding the award will be issued, as appropriate. Any media work undertaken by RCLCF, regarding the award, will be carried out with the full involvement of the CRF grant holder.

6.2.4 Charity visits

RCLCF will invite CRF grant holders and researchers to attend a variety of charity meetings and receptions in order to present RCLCF funded work. All travel expenses will be paid.

RCLCF will undertake to visit grant holders during the course of the grant, to which the charity may invite the local MP, RCLCF staff, trustees, Grants Committee, fundraisers, spokespeople and supporters.

6.2.5 Intellectual Property

RCLCF's aim is to exploit the outcome of its research so that the understanding of lung cancer is maximised. Neither the host institute of RCLCF (nor its agents) shall be under an obligation to protect intellectual property and materials where, in the parties reasonable opinion, there is insufficient commercial justification to do so.

The host institute shall allow RCLCF (or its agent) to visit, meet and discuss with RCLCF grantees the results of their research and any potential for protection of such Intellectual Property Rights and for the commercial exploitation of their research. If, in the opinion of RCLCF (or its agent), any results of RCLCF -funded research are protect able or have a potential for commercial exploitation then RCLCF (or its agent) will inform the host institute.

The appropriate authority in the host institute and /or the grant holder is required to consider and inform RCLCF (or its agent) of any results produced from or arising during the course of RCLCF -funded research and any rights in those results, including any patents, design rights, copyright and other industrial and intellectual property rights, whether registrable or not and all scientifically useful or commercially exploitable material, know-how and data relating to any invention arising from RCLCF-funded research ("Intellectual

Property Rights”) which might be suitable for commercial exploitation. Publication or any other form of public presentation of the results should not occur until after that consideration and all necessary steps to protect any Intellectual Property Rights have been taken. However, there should be no unnecessary delay before publication.

The host institute may elect to take all necessary steps to protect any Intellectual Property Rights, as may from time to time be identified by the host institute and /or RCLCF (or its agent) and notified by each of them to the other. If the host institute decides not to protect any Intellectual Property Rights, RCLCF (either itself or through its agent) may elect, but is not obliged, to take the necessary steps required to protect those Intellectual Property Rights. In this case, the host institute shall co-operate fully with RCLCF (or its agent) and ensure that their employees, contractors and agents do the same and will, upon RCLCF’s (or its agent’s) request, assign to RCLCF (or its agent), at no cost (but without prejudice to paragraph 5), their respective whole right, title and interest in and to the results of any Intellectual Property Rights relating to those results.

All revenues generated through the commercial exploitation of the Intellectual Property Rights arising from research funded by RCLCF, shall following reimbursement of costs directly incurred in protecting the intellectual Property Rights and in carrying out the exploitation be divided equally between the host institute on the one hand and RCLCF (or its agent) on the other regardless of which undertook the commercial exploitation. In the event that parties other than those funded by RCLCF contribute to the generation of Intellectual Property Rights, the parties shall meet to agree who should assume responsibility for such action and a revenue share which reflects the relative contributions of all parties. Successful applicants must therefore advise RCLCF of all other financial assistance to their projects.

The host institute shall be solely responsible for rewarding the inventors and department in which the researchers are situated out of its share of the revenue net of the aforementioned costs.

The prior written agreement of RCLCF (or its agent) is required for any commercial exploitation of the research results and any Intellectual Property Rights, before the host institute or any individuals involved in RCLCF -funded research enter into any agreement, accept any appointment or take any action, which involves agreeing with a third party to any restrictions on publication, or the early disclosure, of the results of their research.

RCLCF (or its agent) reserves the right to refuse such agreement or to grant agreement subject to such terms and conditions as RCLCF (or its agent) may decide.

RCLCF retains the right to call for an assignment to RCLCF of all Funded Intellectual Property. Such right is likely only to be exercised in exceptional circumstances. After such an assignment has been completed RCLCF and the host institution shall negotiate in good faith to agree the terms of a revenue share agreement in respect of net income received by RCLCF arising from the commercial exploitation of such Funded Intellectual Property.

The host institution shall retain copies of all agreements (including collaboration agreements, material transfer agreements and confidential disclosure agreements) proposed and/or

completed relating to Funded Intellectual Property. The host institution shall provide RCLCF with copies of such agreements as RCLCF may request from time to time.

For the avoidance of doubt, RCLCF reserves the right to vary its policy from time to time regarding ownership and exploitation of the Intellectual Property Rights and to change these Conditions accordingly.

6.2.6 Scientific Fraud/Integrity

In the event of fraud occurring, RCLCF wishes to make it clear that it is the responsibility of the employing authority to investigate this. If a case of scientific fraud is suspected in the course of the research, then RCLCF should be notified and kept informed of further developments. At the initial stages of the enquiry RCLCF would not normally suspend the grant. However, if adequate steps are not taken to proceed with the investigation, RCLCF will suspend the grant. If fraud is proven RCLCF will terminate the grant immediately.

6.2.7 Experimental Animals

RCLCF has undertaken never to fund any research projects using live animals.

6.2.8 Patient Involvement in Research

We require that patients be treated according to the World Medical Association Declaration of Helsinki and the Guidelines for Good Clinical Practice.

Completion of an application means full acceptance of the above terms and conditions.