Dear Colleague

The Wellcome Trust Wolfson NICRF has allocated funds to support collaborative research projects involving Queen’s University and the NICRF.

We would therefore invite applications to access this funding (maximum of £10K available for each project). The funding can be used for any research-related costs e.g. staff, equipment, consumables. We are particularly keen to fund new PIs, and/or Pilot Studies. The ambition is that supporting new PIs / Pilot Studies will result in the development of full project applications for significant external funding, which includes the NICRF. It is anticipated that projects will commence with 6 months of notification of award.

Please note that, if successful, all subsequent funding spent within a 12-month period.

If you wish to apply, please complete the accompanying outline application and return to NICRF@belfasttrust.hscni.net by no later than **Friday 28th April 2017**.

Applications received will be assessed by an independent panel on the following criteria:

1. Scientific merit
2. Relevance to NICRF Strategic Aim
3. New PIs to the NICRF
4. Relevance to Queen’s University Research Strategy
5. Potential for proposal to develop into larger project/research themes that will attract activity to NICRF.
6. Value for money

Applications from Early Career Researchers are welcomed**. Contract Research Staff (CRS) should be employed by the University for the duration of the grant and may cost their salaries into the application. A permanent member of academic / research staff at Queen’s University must be included as an applicant if the PI is a CRS.**

For further information or help to develop your proposal or queries in relation to NICRF costs please contact NICRF@belfasttrust.hscni.net

Yours sincerely

**Professor Judy Bradley**

**(NICRF Director)**

**NICRF Seed Funding**

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| **LEAD APPLICANT**(Name and Address) | **RESEARCH DIRECTORATE** | **CONTACT NUMBER and EMAIL** |
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| **Co-Applicants** |
| **NAME** | **CONTACT DETAILS** | **ROLE IN PROJECT** |
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| **TITLE OF INVESTIGATION:** |

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| 1. **LAY SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT (250 WORDS)**
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| 1. **BACKGROUND TO PROJECT (200 WORDS):**
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| 1. **PROJECT OBJECTIVES, including deliverables within 12 months (200 WORDS):**
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| 1. **PLAN OF INVESTIGATION (TO INCLUDE A GANNT CHART SUMMARISING TIMELINE) (400 WORDS MAXIMUM):**
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| 1. **POTENTIAL BENEFIT FOR NICRF (Brief Description, 200 words maximum):**

***Details of how application meets the following criteria (NB, not all criteria need to be*** ***met)***1. ***Scientific merit***
2. ***Relevance to NICRF Strategic Aim***
3. ***New PIs to the NICRF***
4. ***Relevance to Queen’s Research Strategy***
5. ***Potential for proposal to develop into larger project/research themes that will attract activity to NICRF.***
6. ***Value for money***
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**Please provide a COMPLETE budget breakdown for your project along with clear justification.** (Please refer to the NICRF website for full details of available equipment and costings: <http://www.qub.ac.uk/research-centres/TheWellcomeTrust-WolfsonNorthernIrelandClinicalResearchFacility/ForResearchers/> ).

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| **BREAKDOWN OF TOTAL COSTS/JUSTIFICATION** | **AMOUNT**  |
| **Equipment**  |  |
| **Consumables** (i.e. Labs, pharmacy etc) |  |
| **NICRF Room hire**  |  |
| **Staffing costs** (e.g. Research Associate time/NICRF Staff time)(Banding and contribution point and hours to include) |  |
| **Poster/Dissemination costs** |  |
| **Other (please detail)** |  |

**If assistance with NICRF costings required please contact** NICRF@belfasttrust.hscni.net

**Signed by Lead Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Signed by NICRF Director: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**