

# NIHR Fellowship Funding Opportunities

**NIHR Trainees Coordinating Centre**

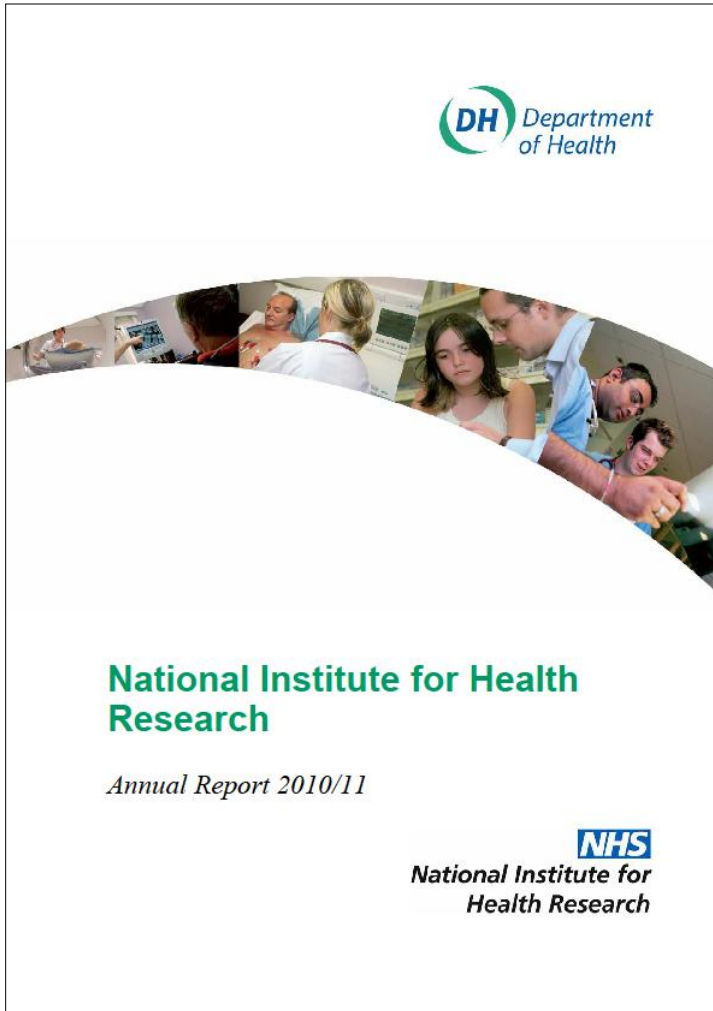
**Dr James Fenton**



# National Institute of Health Research

**NHS**

*National Institute for  
Health Research*

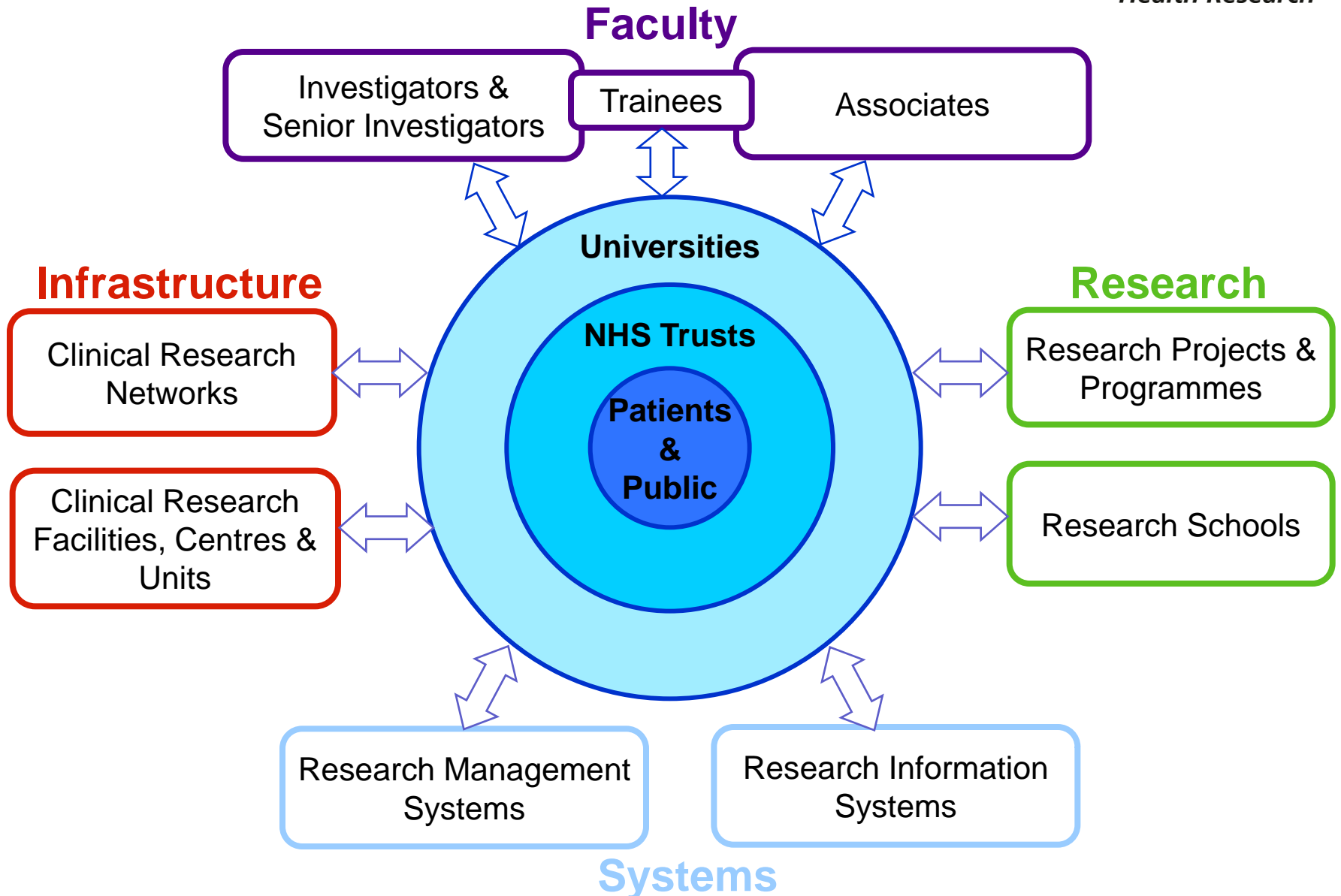


Established 2006 as a vehicle for implementing Government's strategy for applied health research. Almost £1b spend each year.

## Strategic Aim

To improve the **health and wealth** of the nation through research.

# The NIHR Health Research System



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## Faculty



# The NIHR Health Research System



*“...outstanding individuals...”*

# NIHRTCC Research Career Pathways

Level of Award

Methodologists  
Research  
Methods  
Programme

Healthcare  
Scientists  
Healthcare  
Science  
Programme

All Professions  
NIHR Fellowships,  
Professorships, Other Awards

Nurses, Midwives,  
Allied Health  
Professionals  
Clinical Academic  
Training

Doctors and Dentists  
NIHR Integrated  
Academic Training  
Programme

Chair

Senior/Pre-  
Chair

Post Doctoral  
(early to senior)

Doctoral

Pre Doctoral

Undergraduate

NIHR Research Professorship

NIHR/HEE  
Senior  
Clinical  
Lecturership

NIHR Senior  
Research  
Fellowship

NIHR/HEE  
Senior Clinical  
Lecturership

NIHR Knowledge Mobilisation Research Fellowship

NIHR Clinical Trials Fellowship

NIHR Career  
Development  
Fellowship

NIHR Transitional  
Research  
Fellowship

NIHR/HEE  
Clinical  
Lecturership

NIHR  
Clinician  
Scientist  
Award

NIHR/HEE  
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NIHR  
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Doctoral  
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NIHR  
Clinical  
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NIHR/HEE  
HealthCare  
Science  
Doctoral  
Fellowship

NIHR  
Doctoral Research  
Fellowship

NIHR/HEE  
Clinical  
Doctoral  
Research  
Fellowship

NIHR Masters  
Studentship in  
Health Economics  
or Medical  
Statistics

NIHR Research  
Methods  
Fellowship and  
Internship

NIHR/HEE  
Masters in  
Clinical  
Research

NIHR  
In-Practice Fellowship

NIHR Academic  
Clinical Fellowship

# NIHR Remit

- People and patient based applied health research
- Research capacity to improve health/healthcare
- Patients, samples or data from patients, people who are not patients, populations, health technology assessment, health services research and medical education
- Clearly demonstrate the potential to have an impact on the needs of patients and the public within 5 years of its completion
- No basic research or work involving animals and/or animal tissue

# NIHR Remit - continued

- If the work involves biomarkers:
  - research that tests whether application of new knowledge can improve treatment or patient outcomes, and has obvious potential benefit within 5 years, is within remit; This might include application of known biomarkers, or other prognostic factors, to refine and test novel therapeutic strategies.
  - research that aims only to elucidate mechanisms underpinning disease, or identify risk factors for disease or prognosis (including search for biomarkers) is out of remit.
- NIHR is also prepared to support research into medical education.



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## Welcome to the National Institute for Health Research Trainees Coordinating Centre (NIHRTCC)

The National Institute for Health Research Trainees Coordinating Centre (NIHR TCC) makes training awards to researchers whose work focuses on people and patient-based applied health research. The [National Institute for Health Research \(NIHR\)](#) funds this research training in order to build a leading NHS Research Faculty, develop research careers, research leaders and collaborators. This research capacity development is managed by the NIHR Trainees Coordinating Centre (NIHRTCC) and funded by the Department of Health.

The research must be relevant to the NHS, focused on the current and future needs of patients and the public and expected to have an impact within 5 years of its completion. The NIHR does not fund basic research or work involving animals and/or animal tissue.

There are a large range of awards available: at different levels, to suit different work arrangements, types of NHS staff and career paths. The menu box on the left gives details of our programmes.



- Home
- About Us
- Information for Existing Award Holders
- NIHRTCC Award Data
- NIHR Media Competition
- NIHR Fellowship Programme
- NIHR Integrated Academic Training Programme
- NIHR Research Professorships
- NIHR Research Methods Programme
- Clinical Academic Training Programme for Nurses, Midwives and Allied Health Professionals
- NIHR CSO Healthcare Science Research

### news and events

- News! Clinical Trials Fellowships launched on 9/4/2013  
2013-04-09
- NIHR Clinical Lecturers  
2013-03-04
- NIHR Primary Care Interventions - Themed Call  
2013-02-18
- Launch of IPF Round 7  
2013-02-18
- Clinical Doctoral Research Fellowship Scheme Round 4 has launched!  
2013-02-06
- NIHR Media Competition - Call to vote your favourites!  
2012-11-21

# NIHR Fellowships

**Doctoral Research Fellowship-** To undertake a PhD. Need some previous research experience and outputs. Evidence of a commitment to a research career.

**Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship-** To increase independence. PhD or MD (or submitted) < 3 years WTE postdoctoral research experience. Good research outputs. Clear commitment to a research career.

**Career Development Fellowship-** Later postdoctoral award to gain full independence. < 7 years WTE postdoctoral research experience. Significant research outputs and development of research skills in others.

**Senior Research Fellowship -** 5 year award aiming towards Chair. Outstanding record of publications and research capacity development

**Transitional Research Fellowship-** 18-24 months. Supports transitions e.g. basic to clinical, clinical to translational, or a return to research following a career break. Postdoctoral level award. <5 years postdoctoral research experience.

## What does the Fellowship provide?

- Can be based at University or NHS Trust
- Salary (at 100% NHS, 80% HEI)
- Full Tuition fees (for PhD)
- Research costs (at 100% NHS, 80% HEI. HEI also receive specialist support, and indirect costs e.g. estates, research facilities at 80%).
- Full Training and development
- DRF, PDF, CDF 3 years Full time (part-time options of 75% or 60%)
- 5 years for SRF, 18-24 months for TRF
- CDF and SRF levels, can apply for Research Assistant post

**Annual competition for all levels**

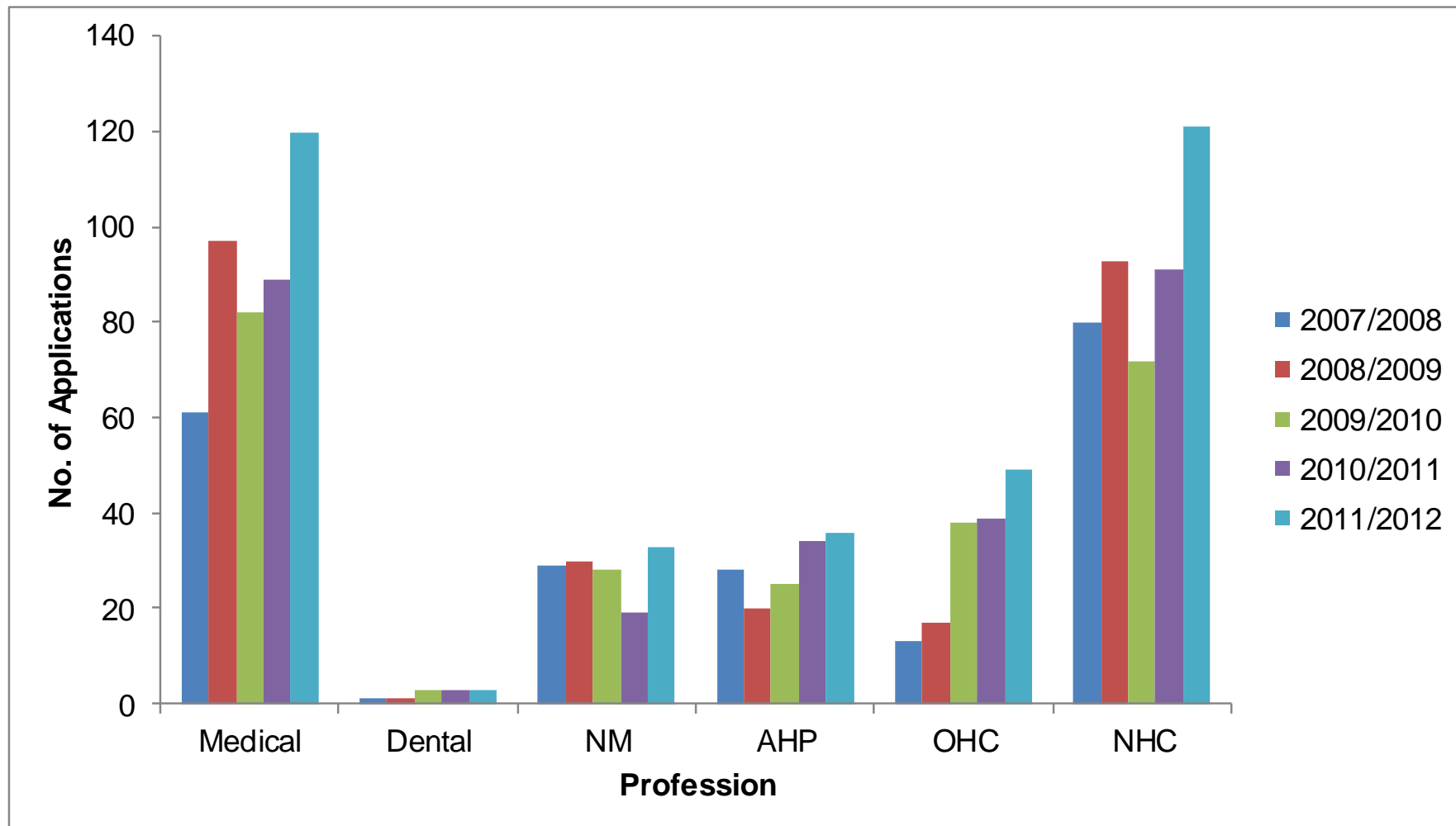
Launch - Autumn

Closing date - January

# NIHR Fellowship Awards

	Doctoral Research	Post Doctoral	Career Development	Senior	Transitional	Total
Round 1 (Awarded 2008)	109 applied <b>12</b> awarded	57 <b>7</b>	26 <b>7</b>	18 <b>3</b>		<b>29</b>
Round 2 (Awarded 2009)	152 <b>29</b>	54 <b>7</b>	36 <b>8</b>	16 <b>1</b>		<b>45</b>
Round 3 (Awarded 2010)	158 <b>33</b>	59 <b>7</b>	35 <b>4</b>	10 <b>1</b>		<b>45</b>
Round 4 (Awarded 2011)	155 <b>28</b>	82 <b>16</b>	58 <b>11</b>	19 <b>2</b>		<b>57</b>
Round 5 (Awarded 2012)	217 <b>34</b>	105 <b>16</b>	41 <b>6</b>	19 <b>2</b>		<b>58</b>
Round 6 (Awarded 2013)	185 <b>29</b>	86 <b>14</b>	44 <b>5</b>	19 <b>3</b>	3 <b>1</b>	<b>52</b>

# NIHR Fellowships – application numbers



# New Online Application System

To Apply follow the link to access application forms and supporting documentation: <https://tcci.nihr.ac.uk>

The screenshot shows a Firefox browser window with the URL <https://tcci.nihr.ac.uk/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f>. The page content includes:

- Trainees Coordinating Centre** header on the left.
- NHS National Institute for Health Research** logo on the right.
- TCCi Research Management System** title in a purple banner, with a **CC Grant Tracker** icon.
- Welcome to the Trainees Coordinating Centre Research Management System** section.
- Existing users** section with a login form containing fields for **Email** and **Password**, a **Remember me** checkbox, and a **Login** button. A **Forgotten Password?** link is also present.
- New users** section with registration instructions and a **Register** button, along with a **System Help** link.

The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the time as 13:22 on 06/01/2013.



# Assessment Criteria

- Person
  - Trajectory
  - Career outputs
- Project (programme of research)
  - Scientific quality
  - Appropriate scale and scope
- Training and Development
  - Meets needs of candidate and project
- Place (host environment, supervisor, mentor)
  - RAE rating
  - Track record in relevant field
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**VALUE FOR MONEY!**

# The Application

## Preparation

- Consider all options
- Discuss with the office
- Develop the proposal well ahead of submission
- Talk to the NIHR Research Design Service

## Take Advice from:

- Supervisor
- Collaborators
- Mentor
- Methodologist (s)
- Finance Lead

# The Interview

## Practice

- Mock interviews are usually the worst

## Presentation

- Not too many slides
- Do **not** go over time

## Behaviour

- It is OK to be nervous
- Confident but not over confident
- Don't get defensive
- Admit what you don't know and be happy to take advice
- Relax and be yourself



# The Interview

## The project

- Know it inside and out
- Has anything altered since submission?
- Know the methods and identify the expertise
- Think through alternatives

## Training and Development

- Identify your training needs
- How will the training support your project and future career intentions?

## The future you

- Be clear where you want to be
- What does this fellowship mean to your career?

# Common Weaknesses

- 1) Remit: Failure to show that research addresses important areas for the NHS and will produce results that are likely to generate significant and quantifiable benefit for NHS patients and/or the public within 5 years of the funding period.
- 2) Clarity & Details: Research questions not clear; don't show the relevance of the aims and objectives; not enough detail and depth.
- 3) Overambitious: Research programme not suitable for a PostDoc; not achievable within time frame.
- 3) Applicant: Person not quite experienced enough for level they are applying (research outputs, independence, etc.); not **your** project
- 5) Training: Programme too generic and not suited/specific to the applicant's needs and project; too centred around host organisation.
- 6) Value for Money: Budget unrealistic and/or failure to justify requested resources.



***National Institute for  
Health Research***

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<http://www.nihrtcc.nhs.uk>  
@OfficialNIHR

