Unlocking Public Health Challenges of our time:
Update from Wellcome

Cambridge 14th November 2017

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## Science team

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Specialization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mary De Silva</td>
<td>Team member</td>
<td>Mental health, maternal &amp; child health</td>
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<td>Branwen Hennig</td>
<td>Team member</td>
<td>Infectious and non-communicable diseases, vaccines</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sophie Hawkesworth</td>
<td>Team member</td>
<td>Nutrition, non-communicable diseases</td>
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<tr>
<td>Erica Pufall</td>
<td>Team member</td>
<td>Quantitative epidemiology, infectious diseases, sexual health</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rachel Miles</td>
<td>Team member</td>
<td>Departmental Coordinator</td>
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## Grants Management Team

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Specialization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Katherine McCurrie</td>
<td>Team Manager</td>
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<td>Bibi Oni</td>
<td>Senior Grants Adviser</td>
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<td>Rebecca Grayson</td>
<td>Grants Adviser</td>
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<td>Tristana Perez</td>
<td>Grants Adviser</td>
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<tr>
<td>Freddie Seelig</td>
<td>Grants Adviser</td>
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How we organise our funding

‘Primary fund’
• Funding is response-mode and competitive
• Last year we received requests totalling ~£8 billion
• We spent approx. £900 million in 2016-17
• We fund (mainly): UK/Ireland and LMICs
• Response-mode will continue at similar levels to current

‘Reserve fund’
• Strategic Initiatives to deliver very specific outputs and outcomes
• Largely NOT open response-mode
What we fund (primary fund)

People
• Fellowships at all levels, Investigator Award, Seed Award

Teams
• Collaborative Award
• Joint funding initiatives: Global Health Trials, Health Systems Research, UKPRP

Places
• Wellcome Centres, Centres for Global Health Research
• Africa & Asia Programmes, DELTAS (via AESA), India Alliance
• Biomedical resources and technology development, Longitudinal Population Studies Awards
Other relevant funding - ‘beyond science’

Public engagement  PEgramts@wellcome.ac.uk

• Funding for anyone with a great idea for a discrete project to engage the public in conversations about health-related science and research, e.g.
  • enable the public to explore health-related science and research in ways that are relevant to them
  • take an inventive approach, expand on existing work or offer a new perspective on a subject

Innovations  innovations@wellcome.ac.uk

• Investments to help researchers develop treatments, products, cures by:
  • Building impact from current portfolio
  • Supporting a broader community and careers
  • Working in partnership with flagships
New Wellcome Science Strategy

Four broad aims:

• Creating knowledge
• Strengthening research capability
• Promoting an environment in which research can flourish
• Using knowledge effectively

https://wellcome.ac.uk/news/introducing-our-new-science-strategy
Using knowledge effectively

To make sure Wellcome funded knowledge is

- is accessible and useable
- used to develop and test interventions to improve health
- used to influence methodological and technological practice and advances
- used to influence policy and practice
Population Health @ Wellcome

Current focus areas

• Understanding the determinants and distribution of disease in a population
  • E.g. Diversified portfolio, launched Longitudinal Population Studies Strategy

• Developing and evaluating clinical and population-based interventions to improve health by both preventing and treating disease
  • E.g. Joint partnership schemes including UKPRP

• Strengthening health systems

• Using knowledge more effectively to influence policy and practice to improve health
UK Prevention Research Partnership

Vision: “Generate actionable, sustainable and cost-effective ways of preventing NCDs to improve health and reduce health inequalities”

• New joint-funded partnership:
  • Wellcome, MRC, ESRC, EPSRC, BHF, DoH, Health Foundation, CRUK, NERC

• Launched October 2017

• See MRC for more information: https://www.mrc.ac.uk/funding/browse/ukprp/uk-prevention-research-partnership-ukprp-consortium-and-network-awards/

Lead @ Wellcome: Sophie Hawkesworth
UKPRP scheme details

- £50 million commitment for next 7y
- Focus on
  - building multi-disciplinary research groupings
  - engaging research users
  - ‘upstream’ complex systems
- Two grant types:
  - Consortia Awards: £4-7 million over 5y
  - Network Awards: £100k p.a. for up to 4y
- Preliminary application deadline Jan’18
LPS Strategy

- Funding mechanism to support and fund longitudinal population studies, including cohorts, panel surveys and biobanks.
- To provide longer-term sustainable funding to existing studies and fund new studies
- Launched call October’17
- Report available online: https://wellcome.ac.uk/what-we-do/our-work/longitudinal-population-studies

Lead: Erica Pufall
LPS grant types

1. Core support for LPS
   • Up to £5 million for 5 years
     • Can include research questions but balance is on core costs
     • See report for aims and decision criteria

2. Enabling structures for LPS
   • Not normally expected to be over £1.5 million for up to 5 years
     • Ways to improve analysis of complex data
     • Regulatory or organisational changes that support data sharing
     • Research that explores how multiple datasets can be linked efficiently
     • Developing and championing new methods for data interoperability, accessibility and analysis
     • Creating LPS networks
LPS funding call

Timeline (one call per year)

• Preliminary applications deadline mid-Jan 2018
• Full application deadline early April 2018
• Funding committee decision mid-July 2018

Contact us

• Strongly encouraged to contact Wellcome before applying
• You MUST contact us if:
  • New LPS
  • Funding from multiple sources
  • More than £5 m for core support grant
  • More than £1.5 m for enabling structures grant
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Strategic initiatives

- Driven by Wellcome with external input
- The first six are:

- Potential new areas:
  - Youth mental health
  - Diagnostics

https://wellcome.ac.uk/what-we-do
Four ways we are taking action

- A world prepared for epidemics
- Innovation in vaccine development
- Evidence for decision-making
- Increased vaccine expertise
Questions?

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