**NIHR Great Ormond Street Hospital Biomedical Research Centre**

**Catalyst fellowship for clinical and non-clinical trainees**

**Closing date for current round of proposals: 1st March 2018**

**1. Introduction**

On 1st April 2017, the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Great Ormond Street Hospital Biomedical Research Centre (GOSH BRC) entered its third term of funding. The NIHR GOSH BRC was one of twenty BRCs funded by the NIHR through a competitively awarded grant of over £37m over five years.  An important new aspect of this term of the NIHR GOSH BRC is the establishment of the BRC Junior Faculty. The main aim of the Junior Faculty is to support the career development of talented child health researchers to build the required capacity of paediatric academics.

BRC Catalyst Fellowships are designed to facilitate trainees making the next step in their research career and hence retain talented researches in child health research. It is intended that half of the fellowships will be awarded to non-clinical trainees and half to clinical trainees.

Fellowships include salary costs for up to 18-months. The successful applicant will need to start the fellowship within 12 months of it being awarded allowing for flexibility to provide the optimal timing for external fellowship funding deadlines. An external funding opportunity needs to have been identified at the start of the Catalyst Fellowship and it is expected that an application for this prepared and submitted during the fellowship period. If a fellowship holder would secure external funding before completion of the Catalyst fellowship the remaining funding will be returned to the BRC.

It is anticipated that applications will be invited twice a year with up to a maximum of two clinical and up to a maximum of two non-clinical fellowships being awarded in each round depending on the merit of the submitted applications. This process will continue until all available funding for these fellowships has been awarded.

**2. Eligibility criteria**

**2.1 Eligibility criteria for catalyst fellowships for non-clinical trainees:**

Completion of PhD (or equivalent) or thesis submitted with viva examination planned within 4 weeks of the Catalyst Fellowship application deadline.

No restriction on time post completion of PhD i.e. post docs applying for a fellowship or those who are completing a fellowship and are now going to apply for the next funding opportunity are both eligible.

The proposed project must be aligned with one of the [4 NIHR GOSH BRC Research Themes](http://www.gosh.nhs.uk/research-and-innovation/nihr-great-ormond-street-brc/about-us/our-research-themes/2017-2022-great-ormond-street-brc-research-themes) and hosted by a laboratory in University College London Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health or Great Ormond Street Hospital. The applicant should obtain a letter of sponsorship from the PI or group in ICH/GOSH confirming that they are willing to host the candidate for the duration of the fellowship and beyond.

The applicant has identified a suitable funding opportunity to make the next step in their career and will prepare and submit an application for external funding during the Catalyst Fellowship period.

The subsequent fellowship or funding opportunity that the applicant will be preparing must be hosted by a laboratory at University College London Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health or Great Ormond Street Hospital.

The applicant has identified a suitable supervisor who will provide support to both the project itself as well as the career development opportunity the project will lead to.

* 1. **Eligibility criteria for catalyst fellowships for clinical trainees:**

Completion of PhD (or equivalent) or thesis submitted with viva examination planned within 4 weeks of the Catalyst Fellowship application deadline.

No restriction on time post completion of PhD. The fellowship is aimed at providing post-doctoral protected research time during clinical training to allow for the preparation of a competitive fellowship application.

The proposed project must be aligned with one of the [4 NIHR GOSH BRC Research Themes](http://www.gosh.nhs.uk/research-and-innovation/nihr-great-ormond-street-brc/about-us/our-research-themes/2017-2022-great-ormond-street-brc-research-themes) and hosted by a laboratory in University College London Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health or Great Ormond Street Hospital. The applicant should obtain a letter of sponsorship from the PI or group in ICH/GOSH confirming that they are willing to host the candidate for the duration of the fellowship and beyond.

An OOPR for the period of the Catalyst Fellowship has been agreed in principle by the relevant Deanery at the time of submission of the application. Please note the flexibility in start date of the Catalyst Fellowship once awarded of up to 12 months.

The applicant has identified a suitable funding opportunity to make the next step in their career and will prepare and submit an application for external funding during the Catalyst Fellowship period.

The subsequent fellowship or funding opportunity that the applicant will be preparing must be hosted by a laboratory at University College London Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health or Great Ormond Street Hospital.

The applicant has identified a suitable supervisor who will provide support to both the project itself as well as the career development opportunity the project will lead to.

**3. Selection criteria**

Likelihood the proposed Catalyst Fellowship will result in the applicant making the next step in his/her research career and secure further external fellowship funding

Innovative aspects of the proposed project

Demonstrated support of appropriate supervisory team

Track record of the applicant (including publications, presentations, grant funding, leadership) as appropriate for career level of applicant

Outline of vision of by the applicant of research direction and career path. For clinical trainees this includes planned strategy to combine academic and clinical training

**Completed application form (with e-signatures) as well as an up to date CV needs to be submitted by e-mail to** [**BRC@gosh.nhs.uk**](mailto:BRC@gosh.nhs.uk) **by Thursday 1st March 2018.**

**APPLICATION FOR NIHR GOSH BRC CATALYST FELLOWSHIP**

Please complete all sections of this application form in typescript no smaller than 11 point

**1. Applicant:**

Name:

Current position:

E-mail address:

**2. Supervisor(s):**

Name:

Section:

E-mail address:

Please expand to add additional supervisors if applicable

**3. Project Title:**

**4. Lay summary of the project (up to 300 words)**

**5. Project proposal (up to 1,500 words including references):**

Please include (1) the objectives of the research proposal, (2) project background and rationale, (3) detailed plan of investigation including a timeline and (4) description of relevance of the proposed project to the interface between basic and clinical science and the objectives of the NIHR GOSH BRC.

**6.** **Does the project require an application for Ethics Permission? Yes/No**

If yes please describe how you will ensure that ethics approval will be in place at the time of the planned fellowship start date.

**7. Please summarise your research career to date and outline your planned career path.** Please indicate how this BRC catalyst fellowship will support your career development. Here state specifically which external funding scheme you will apply for during the Catalyst Fellowship.

**8. Please explain your choice of hosting department and supervisor(s) and planned arrangements for supervision.**

**Signature of applicant ..............................................................date:..................................**

**Signature of supervisor ...........................................................date:..................................**

**Please send the completed application form as well as an up to date CV (with e-signature) by email to** [**BRC@gosh.nhs.uk**](mailto:BRC@gosh.nhs.uk) **by Thursday 1st March 2018.**