



National Institute for Health Research

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30 December 2016

Dear Professor Norton,

Programme Grants for Applied Research: RP-PG-0216-20001

Application Title: Living well with inflammatory bowel disease: optimising management of systems of fatigue, abdominal pain and faecal urgency/incontinence via tailored online self-mangement: the IBD-BOOST programme

Thank you for your application to the Programme Grants for Applied Research funding scheme. Your proposal has been reviewed by the Programme Grants for Applied Research Main Selection Panel, and I am now in a position to provide you with formal notification of the outcome of this assessment process.

As indicated in the Stage 2 application guidance, the selection criteria were as follows:

- The strength of the research team, including the relevant expertise and track-record of the applicants in conducting high-quality applied health research
- The relevance of the proposed research to the priorities and needs of the NHS
- The likelihood of significant benefit to the NHS and patients within three to five years of the end of the funding period
- The quality of the research planned
- The value for money provided by the proposal

Three expert sub-panels were convened to assist the Programme Grants for Applied Research Main Selection Panel. All sub-panels reviewed the Stage 2 applications against the above criteria. Their decision-making was also influenced by comments provided by peer reviewers and applicants' responses to these. Any unduly harsh remarks, bias or misunderstanding in these comments will have been taken into consideration by the sub-panels.

The sub-panels' recommendations were then reviewed by the Main Selection Panel, which made final funding recommendations across all topic areas. These funding recommendations were then considered, and approved, by the Director of Research and Development at the Department of Health.

I am pleased to be able to inform you that it is our intention to award you a Programme Grant. The sub-panel did, however, identify a number of concerns which would need to be satisfactorily addressed before funding could be awarded. The specific feedback of the sub-panel is being prepared and will be forwarded to you together with feedback about application finances and intellectual property.

In the first instance, please confirm your intention to take up this offer of funding by writing to programme.grants@nihr.ac.uk no later than **6 January 2017**.

We must ask you to refrain from publicising this funding recommendation until negotiations have been completed and a contract has been signed.

The call for proposals for the 23rd funding round will be open 1 February 2017, details of which are currently available on our website (<http://www.nihr.ac.uk/funding-and-support/funding-for-research-studies/how-to-apply/research-programmes/programme-grants-for-applied-research/pgfar-current-and-future-calls.htm>).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R.S. Flora". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

Rajinder Flora
Assistant Director
Programme Grants for Applied Research Programme