



Research Funding Opportunities 2021/2022: First into Research Fellowships (Pharmacy)

RCBC (Research Building Capacity Collaboration) Wales (<http://www.rcbcwales.org.uk>) is pleased to announce funding for First into Research (FiR) Fellowships in Pharmacy funded via **Pharmacy Research UK** and **Health Education and Improvement Wales (Pharmacy)**, to commence **1ST APRIL 2022**. Applications are invited from eligible registered health professionals for RCBC Wales fellowships awarded to the RCBC Wales collaborating Universities (institutions are listed below).

Applicants must hold registration within the UK as a Pharmacist (and must be registered with the GPhC upon commencement of study).

First into Research Fellowships are funded for 1 day a week for 12 months. The Fellowships are targeted at newcomers to research or those wishing to develop confidence in research, to work on projects seeking answers to questions relevant to Pharmacy. Projects must be achievable in the timescale and may cover a wide spectrum of activity ranging from institutional strategies to more discrete individual research.

The FiR Fellowship funds are intended to contribute to the day release of the Fellow from their place of work. Fellows will be supervised by experienced researchers and may have access to research methods training with their host university. It is a requirement of the award that all Fellows will become members of the Community of Scholars (CoS) and attend CoS study days. Fellows will be required to present their research at the conclusion of their award at a Community of Scholars event.

All applications should have a commitment to the themes and priorities of Health and Care Research Wales and the Institution to which they apply in supporting and developing excellent research which has a positive impact on the health, wellbeing and prosperity of the people in Wales. These can include studies into any aspect of pharmacy practice, including those which have a focus on:

- new and emerging professional roles
- integrated care
- the principles of prudent healthcare, i.e.:
 - patients and professionals as equal partners through co-production
 - care for those with the greatest health need first
 - do only what is needed and do no harm
 - reduce inappropriate variation through evidence-based approaches.

Pharmacy Research UK's research strategy sets out some key areas of research that are of particular interest to the organisation. Further details can be found at <http://pharmacyresearchuk.org/our-research/research-strategy/>.

Eligibility criteria

- Applicants must hold registration within the UK as a Pharmacist (i.e. they must be registered with the GPhC upon commencement of study).
- Candidates normally require a first degree or equivalent from a University or Institution recognised by the 6 Higher Education Institutions involved in RCBC Wales.
- Successful applicants must be resident in Wales for the duration of the award.
- Please note that RCBCWales is not an employing body and all Fellows must be in employment in Wales in order to take up a Fellowship.

Recruitment for the First into Research Fellowships will be managed by the University of South Wales with input from all collaborating universities. Fellowships will be located within established research groups within the collaborating Schools/Departments listed below. All Fellows will be assigned at least one supervisor, the principal mentor being located within one of the RCBCWales partnership Schools/Departments.

Application Process		Deadline/ Key dates
Step 1	Contact the Operational Lead at your first-choice university to discuss your potential application and to identify a supervisor	Immediate and before submitting your eligibility check form
Step 2	Eligibility check forms are to be completed and returned to marina.mcdonald@southwales.ac.uk	26th NOVEMBER 2021
Step 3	To assist in refining their ideas, eligible applicants are invited to participate in a webinar with experts in research design, qualitative and quantitative methods, patient involvement, ethics, and health policy and service improvement. They will also consider maximising impact and managing their project	The webinar will be held on 30th NOVEMBER 2021
Step 4	Eligible applicants will be invited to submit a full proposal application form	7th JANUARY 2022
Step 5	After shortlisting full proposal applications, selection will be conducted via interviews	Interviews will be held w/c 7th FEBRUARY 2022
Step 6	Fellowships will commence	1st APRIL 2022

We aim that applicants will be notified within 10 working days of receipt of the eligibility check form whether they meet eligibility criteria.

The relevant application forms and further guidance (including funding details) are available at www.rcbcwales.org.uk

For information about the specific opportunities, please contact the relevant institutions directly (contact details listed below). General enquiries may be addressed to Marina McDonald, RCBCWales, University of South Wales. Email: marina.mcdonald@southwales.ac.uk

Collaborating Institutions and Contacts:

University of South Wales
Faculty of Life Sciences and Education
Operational Lead: Dr Gina Dolan
Email: gina.dolan@southwales.ac.uk

Bangor University
School of Healthcare Sciences
Operational Lead: Dr Lorelei Jones
Email: lorelei.jones@bangor.ac.uk

Cardiff Metropolitan University
School of Health Sciences
Operational Lead: Dr Robert Mayr
Email: rmayr@cardiffmet.ac.uk

Cardiff University
School of Healthcare Studies
Operational Lead: Prof Danny Kelly
Email: KellyDM@cardiff.ac.uk
Or Dr Paul Gill
Email: GillP3@cardiff.ac.uk

Wrexham Glyndwr University
Social Science and Education Division
Operational Lead: Dr Joanne Pike
Email: j.pike@glyndwr.ac.uk

Swansea University
School of Health Science
Operational Lead: Prof Jaynie Rance
Email: j.y.rance@swansea.ac.uk