**CSO/ASTHMA UK INNOVATION GRANTS 2018**

**INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE**

Asthma UK’s vision is to stop asthma attacks and cure asthma. To achieve this, we are investing in exceptional patient-centric science and brokering research and development collaborations to speed up research and the adoption of its findings against the most important asthma priorities.

Building on the 15 asthma research priorities identified through [European Asthma Research Innovation Partnership (EARIP)](https://www.asthma.org.uk/research/future/earip/) and the reports [Connected Asthma](https://www.asthma.org.uk/globalassets/get-involved/external-affairs-campaigns/publications/connected-asthma/connected-asthma---aug-2016.pdf) and [Smart Asthma](https://www.asthma.org.uk/globalassets/get-involved/external-affairs-campaigns/publications/smart-asthma/auk_smartasthma_feb2017.pdf), Asthma UK and the Chief Scientist Office (Scotland) (CSO) believe that digital technologies present promising new opportunities to address a number of the key unmet needs in asthma and that this could lead to significant impact for people with asthma.

**Asthma UK and the Chief Scientist Office (Scotland) are joint-funding an innovation grant of £60K (£30k each) for up to 18 months to explore novel applications of digital technology in asthma, which could significantly enhance the quality of health and care for people with asthma and addresses an area of unmet need that aligns with one or more EARIP priorities.**

The following EARIP priorities have been identified as areas where applications of digital technology may be particularly impactful but it may be equally impactful to the other EARIP priorities.

1. EARIP Priority 2: Assess the effectiveness of patient-professional communication to develop patient-professional partnerships, for example to optimise self-management and adherence.
2. EARIP Priority 7: Evaluate the implementation of supported self-management, the educational needs of patients and caregivers, and the challenges faced and training needs of professionals.

An overview of all the EARIP priorities can be found [here](https://www.asthma.org.uk/research/future/earip/).

**Key dates for the CSO/ASTHMA UK INNOVATION GRANTS 2018**

**Monday, 21 May 2018:** Project grant open for application

**5pm, Friday 29 June** **2018:** Deadline for applications

**July 2018 – August 2018**: External independent peer review of applications.

**August - September 2018:** Shortlisting and funding decision by CSO and Asthma UK.

**End of September 2018:** Applicants notified of the funding outcome. All post award administration and reporting will be led by Asthma UK.

**Projects must start within 6 months of the award letter being issued.**

**The deadline for receipt of applications is 5pm, 29 June 2018**

**Eligibility**

The grant must be used to directly support research carried out in Scotland. The Lead investigator must be a permanent salaried member of staff at a Scottish NHS Board or HEI. Co-applicants from outside Scotland are welcome and the collaborative team must demonstrate the relevant expertise, track record and infrastructure to deliver the project. Applicants may be from any sector however the collaborative team must demonstrate the relevant expertise, track record and infrastructure to deliver the project. The duration of the project must be no longer than 18 months period.

**Projects where the unmet need and EARIP priority being addressed is not clearly communicated will not be funded.**

**Assessment criteria**

The focus of this call is to fund a digital research project to address an area of unmet need that aligns with EARIP priorities. In order to maximise impact, the grant will be awarded to applicants that are able to demonstrate a clear use case for a novel application of digital technology in asthma that has the potential for adoption at scale. Applicants should articulate the pathway to impact of their proposed programme of research, including details of what the next phase of the project would entail should the results from this phase support further research.

The review process will allow rigorous and effective assessment of the quality, scientific merit, and likely impact of the work. Your application will be assessed against the following criteria:

* The relevance and overall potential for impact that will improve the lives of people with asthma, and additionally the onward pathway to impact / translation
* Project alignment with unmet needs and EARIP priorities
* The level of innovation in the project
* The quality, methodology, and feasibility of the research plan
* The strength and track record of the researchers, co-applicants and collaborators
* Whether the research has a clear pathway and health economic evidence to support commercialisation and scalability
* Value for money
* Plans to ensure people with asthma are at the centre of the work
* The strength of plans to communicate and disseminate the findings of the research

**Background and Further information**

* [EARIP (European Respiratory journal)](http://erj.ersjournals.com/content/49/5/1602295)
* [Lancet Commission on Asthma](http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(17)30879-6/fulltext)
* [AUK Research Strategy](https://www.asthma.org.uk/globalassets/research/research-strategy/asthma-uk-research-strategy-2016-to-2021-final.pdf)
* [Connected Asthma](https://www.asthma.org.uk/connectedasthma)
* [Smart Asthma](https://www.asthma.org.uk/smartasthma)

**Further questions**

If you have any questions about the application, please contact [Alan.McNair@gov.scot](mailto:Alan.McNair@gov.scot) at the CSO, who are handling the application process.

**CONFIDENTIALITY AND DATA PROTECTION**

Details included in your application will be shared with both the CSO and Asthma UK and used for the purposes of this grant round. Your application will be kept confidential by both CSO and Asthma UK and will not be shared with third parties other than for the purposes of assessing applications and awarding the grant.

For more information please see [Asthma UK’s Privacy Policy](https://www.asthma.org.uk/terms/privacy-policy/) and CSO Data Protection Regulations (below)

**CSO Data Protection Regulations**

CSO will use information provided on the application form in processing of the form, any grant awarded and subsequent payments, including management and review processes. This includes:

* operation of CSO’s grants processing and management information systems;
* the acquisition of UK and international referee comments on the application or preparation of material for use by a peer review committee;
* administration, investigation and review of grant applications.
* statistical analysis to inform the evaluation of the quality of the research undertaken and to study demographic trends.
* policy and strategy studies.

To meet CSO's public accountability and information dissemination obligations, details of funded grants will also be made publicly available on CSO's external website and other publicly available databases, and in reports and/or paper documents.

The following information contained in funded research proposals may routinely be made publicly available.

* name of the grantholder;
* details of investigators (title, forenames, initials, surname, research institution and department);
* name(s) of project partner organisations;
* project title;
* non-technical summaries of the proposal;
* value and duration of proposal;
* details of peer review bodies involved in the awarding decision.