



**South African Medical Research
Council**

Funding Guide

2015-2016

Introduction

The South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) plays a key role in developing, facilitating and supporting high quality and relevant health research in South Africa. The SAMRC has a number of ongoing research and career support mechanisms and continues to enter into new partnerships with local and international partners to bring in additional funding to support key health research and product development priorities. In addition, the organization is implementing structures and mechanisms to streamline the application for, award of, and reporting on MRC funding and to improve coordination of its funding schemes. This Funding Guide provides an outline of the funding mechanisms available through the SAMRC for 2015/16 in order to allow researchers to maximize their opportunity to benefit from health research funding.

Key Contacts at the SAMRC

Grants Management Division (GMD):

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Self-initiated Research Grants & Conference Funding

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Research Capacity Development (RCD):

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Career awards and scholarships

Strategic Research Initiatives:

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Flagship projects and Clinical Cancer Research Centres

Strategic Health Innovation Partnerships (SHIP):

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SHIP product development grants

HIV/TB Office:

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TB/HIV Collaborating Centres

SAMRC Office of Malaria Research:

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Malaria Research Centres of Excellence

MRC Funding Mechanisms

The table and calendar below provide a guide to the planned requests for proposals for 2015/16. Since these mechanisms are reliant on obtaining external funding and, in some cases, external approvals, the dates provided below are an estimate only and the final dates may vary. The information is aimed at assisting researchers with planning for the development and submission of proposals that are most appropriate to their work.

Planned (and Completed) MRC RFAs 2015/16: RFA Details

Funding Mechanism	Priority Area(s)	Aimed at	Release Date	Closing Date
SAMRC / Newton Fund / GSK	Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) in Africa	South African investigators – preferably collaborating with UK based researchers	24 April 2015	28 June 2015
SAMRC-UK MRC Newton Fund	TB control implementation science research	Well-established South African principal investigators partnered with a lead applicant from a British organization	11 June 2015	4 September 2015
Self-initiated research grants	Range of health research areas as listed in the call	Early investigators and mid-career and established researchers	8 July 2015	23 September 2015
MRC Research Strengthening and Capacity Development Funding Opportunity for selected South African Universities	Research strengthening and capacity development	Researchers from Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University (SMU)	14 July 2015	24 August 2015
TB RePORT SA	TB biomedical, clinical and implementation research	SA and US clinical research units	20 July 2015	19 October 2015
SAMRC-Global Alliance for Chronic Disease	Prevention and management of chronic lung diseases through implementation research	South African principal investigators and co-applicants from participating GACD members		30 September 2015
SAMRC-Canadian Institutes of Health Research Healthy Life Trajectories Initiative	Non-Communicable Diseases – details to be confirmed	South African principal investigators and co-applicants from Canada	2015/16 - TBC	2015/16 - TBC
MRC Career Development Awards	Priority health areas in South Africa	Established post-docs at South African universities and science councils	2016 - TBC	2016 - TBC
MRC Clinician Researcher Programme	Priority health areas in South Africa	Individuals holding an MBChB wishing to study towards a PhD at a South African institution	July 2015	24 August 2015
SAMRC Research Internship Scholarship Programme	Priority health areas in South Africa	Individuals wishing to study towards an MSC or PhD at a South African institution	July 2015	24 August 2015
National Health Scholars Programme	Priority health areas identified by the NHRC	Individuals wishing to study towards a PhD at a South African institution	2015 - TBC	2015 - TBC
Conference funding	National and international conferences with medical/health research themes hosted in South Africa	SA universities, science councils or other non-profit organisations conducting health research	Open call until 20 December each year	20 December 2015

Planned (and Completed) MRC RFAs 2015/16: Calendar

2015/16											
April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March
SAMRC / Newton Fund / GSK NCDs in Africa											
		SAMRC-UK MRC Newton Fund – TB implementation									
			SIR Grants								
			Research Strengthening SMU								
			TB RePORT SA								
		SAMRC-Global Alliance for Chronic Disease									
			MRC Clinician Researcher Programme								
			SAMRC Research Internship Scholarship Programme								
Conference Support (apply 1 year in advance for local and 2 years in advance for international conferences)											