



BDRF and Intuitive Surgical – Robotic Assisted Colorectal Research Grant Regulations 2019

Description

Bowel Disease Research Foundation in conjunction with Intuitive Surgical are offering research grants for projects into robotic assisted colorectal surgery.

Overview

The Grants will be for research in robotic assisted surgery with Intuitive's products. BDRF have appointed the ACPGBI Research and Audit Committee to select the winning Grant applications based entirely on scientific merit.

The Grant Recipient may use the Grant only for the approved research project.

The Grant will not be used for:

- a) Direct or indirect promotion of Intuitive's products or services
- b) Support of off-label use of any product
- e) Research into robotic procedures not addressing Intuitive's products unless explicitly stated in the research protocol approved by Intuitive.
- f) Payment of Institutional overheads

Research

Applications are invited for projects up to **£45,000** - A Grant may be awarded as partial funding for a project but the researcher must provide confirmation that the residual project funding has been secured.

Topic for Research

BDRF invites applications across the field of colorectal research that utilises robotic surgery encompassing the Intuitive product range. We would accept a comparison study on Intuitive and other products but always including Intuitive products.

Closing Date for Applications: Midday - Monday 6th May 2019

Decisions on grants approval will be made by: July 2019



Policy statement

The Research and Audit Committee of ACPGBI and the Bowel Disease Research Foundation are committed to providing equality of opportunity and fairness in distribution of research support from the Foundation.

Policy

1. Applications will be externally reviewed. They will be considered by conference call, after circulation by email to all members of ACPGBI's Research and Audit Committee, who will score the applications. Additional external peer review will be sought where appropriate. The Committee will make funding recommendations to the BDRF Trustees.
2. BDRF's Trustees will then award grants at their summer meeting. The allocation or otherwise of all available monies will be at the discretion of Trustees depending on the number and scores of the applications. The Trustees reserve the right not to fund any applications for funding if none of sufficient quality is received.
3. Correspondence with or appeals against the Trustees' decision by unsuccessful applicants will not be permitted. BDRF is not able to give feedback about the review process, on why applicants have been unsuccessful nor give guidance for future applications.

Regulation & Compliance for project grants

1. A total of £45,000 will be available for successful applicants. It is anticipated that the project will last no more than 1 year. An extension of 6 months will be considered if appropriate.
2. At least one of the applicants must be an ordinary or affiliate member of the Association of Coloproctology of Great Britain and Ireland.
3. The research application must comply with the following rules for eligibility and arrive in the BDRF's office electronically before the closing date for submission to be eligible for funding.
4. Projects may be considered unsuitable for funding at the discretion of the Research & Audit committee. Demonstration of patient and public involvement in study development and design is considered highly desirable.
5. Research funds awarded must be paid to the institution for whom the applicant works or a charitable fund thereof. In the event of the recipient's moving location, the award will not ordinarily follow the recipient. Funds will only be released on submission of an invoice. The full amount will not be paid up front.

This grant cannot be used for payment for institutional overheads. Exemption from institutional overheads should be sought in advance of application submission.



6. Successful applicants must submit a written update of their work to the BDRF after 6 months from the agreed start date of the project. A final report is due within 3 months of completion of the project. All reports should include a lay summary and an update of the budget with confirmation of expenditure to date. Failure to comply with the reporting requirements may result in a suspension of the grant funding.
7. Bowel Disease Research Foundation reserve the right to reclaim monies not spent in pursuit of the funded project more than 12 months after the award was made.
8. Further applications for funding will not be considered until all previously funded work by an applicant has been fully reported on.
9. The BDRF Office Coordinator will be in touch on a quarterly basis with the project lead to confirm progress to date. Any delays to the project must be notified to the BDRF Office as and when identified.
10. The Foundation may ask the applicant to make an oral presentation of their work at a seminar or Association meeting.
11. Only one project will be funded per applicant in each funding round. A lead applicant may be a co-applicant on other applications.
12. The BDRF will assign a Trustee Monitor to any funded application to ensure progression of the project, adherence to these regulations and oversight of the award.
13. BDRF and Intuitive Surgical must be acknowledged in all publications, reports and presentations arising out of work supported by these grants and evidence of this practice should be supplied with every annual and final report. Failure to acknowledge funding may lead to grant withdrawal.
14. BDRF reserve the right to feature successful application forms on their websites, in order to provide a template for future applicants to follow.



Bowel Disease Research Foundation



Format for applications

All Applications must be made on the official application form

Maximum length 4 sides of A4 in 12 pt. typeface + one-sided CV per applicant. Please submit applications electronically as a single Word document using the Application Form.

Please send applications to:	For further enquiries please contact:
<p>Glen Saffery, BDRF's Coordinator, at gsaffery@bdrf.org.uk by the closing date</p>	<p>Glen Saffery at gsaffery@bdrf.org.uk, Tel: 020 7869 6946. As required, Glen will consult with Miss Asha Senapati - Chairman BDRF, and Mr Austin Acheson - Chairman Research and Audit Committee of ACPGBI</p>