Response to COVID-19
Volunteers

COVID-19 Cambridge-based volunteers
Help us tackle COVID-19 through research collaborations, by donating equipment or funding research.
Clinical trials

COVID-19 trials
Funding

External funding calls:

UKRI COVID19 grants

LifeArc COVID19 funding for Clinical Trials

NIHR's response to COVID-19
The Evelyn Trust, a grant-making charity supporting medical research and health and wellbeing projects in Cambridgeshire, has announced a limited call to fund research based on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus to combat the Coronavirus pandemic.

The Evelyn Trust is seeking to fund a project to the value of £200 – 300k, predominantly for consumables, assays including genomics and transcriptomics, and analytical tools. The Evelyn Trust is only likely to fund a project if it anticipates that it will have an impact on the fight to contain the pandemic, be of benefit in assisting those infected with recovery, improve understanding of how to contain the virus, or provide a deeper understanding of how to manage the hospital environment.

The Evelyn Trust is aware that many laboratories and research facilities within the University of Cambridge and other research institutions in the Cambridge area are closed because of the pandemic. Any submitted projects must be capable of commencing immediately, and have available to them all the support, supplies, third party services, analysis and equipment that will be necessary to complete the work. They must also be capable of delivering some if not all of their expected outcomes and benefit within the next six months.

It is apparent that substantial funds are being expended by pharmaceutical and diagnostic companies, and by many other research funders in the United Kingdom and overseas. Any projects that are adjuncts to these well-funded efforts are unlikely to gain support.

Applications must be submitted on Evelyn Trust Medical Research Outline Application Forms, available on the Evelyn Trust website (https://evelyntrust.com/medical-grants/how-apply), together with a synopsis of up to 4 pages covering the planned investigative work and explanation of the resources needed. Proposals should be submitted by email to office@evelyntrust.com by Friday 10 April, 2020 12.00pm
Launch of Internal funding call: COVID19 rapid response grants DEADLINE 14th April 2020

This will be circulated to all Departments, Schools and those on the internal calls list shortly.

The University’s institutional grants for translational research and impact acceleration have come together to launch this cross-disciplinary funding scheme. Funding is available for translational research projects across all disciplines which have credible potential impact in tackling the COVID19 pandemic. We expect to fund projects to start immediately or in a very short timescale. Funded projects will be expected to achieve successful outcomes in a short space of time and to be completed within one year.

University academic staff from any discipline may apply, however projects must be able to be carried out without access to currently closed University buildings and laboratories. We anticipate funding projects such as, but not limited to: clinical trials, data modelling, development of software tools.

Further details are provided on the Guidance Document which includes full guidance for applicants and the application form. Please go to the website to download the guidance.

Any questions should be sent to research.strategy@admin.cam.ac.uk.

Completed applications should be sent to research.strategy@admin.cam.ac.uk by 12 noon on 14th April.

Please note that external COVID19 funding schemes are also available from UKRI, LifeArc and Evelyn Trust – see below for details.
Experts
Urgent call for modellers to support epidemic modelling

The Royal Society is coordinating a call for Rapid Assistance in Modelling the Pandemic (RAMP).

This urgent call to action is addressed to the scientific modelling community, and is a scheme to allow those with modelling skills (including data science) to contribute to current UK efforts in modelling the COVID-19 pandemic.

A willingness to work on specified tasks, and to deadlines, is needed. However, no previous experience in epidemic modelling, as such, is required of RAMP participants.

Full details of the scheme, with an online form to volunteer on behalf of your research group can be found here:

https://epcced.github.io/ramp/

If this link delivers an error message, please try pasting it directly into your browser or alternatively try:

http://www.damtp.cam.ac.uk/research/softmatter/research

Please draw this scheme to the attention of colleagues who may be interested.

The online survey form should be filled out as soon as practicable and, if at all possible, by 5pm on Thursday 2 April. The survey form will cease to operate completely a day or two after that.

Note that RAMP does not address molecular modelling of the virus itself or of new antivirals, vaccines, etc. These avenues are already the subject of various efforts and initiatives internationally, such as http://www.hecbiosim.ac.uk/covid-19
COVID 19 Outbreak Expert Database – please join

Over the past few weeks, Parliament has seen a surge in need for access to research expertise as it engages with the COVID-19 outbreak.
In this rapidly evolving situation, Parliament needs quick access to researchers who can provide expert insights relating to both Coronavirus and its impacts.
Parliament and Parliamentarians use these insights to help carry out their function effectively; that is to say, to represent the people, scrutinise the Government, debate important and pressing issues and pass legislation.

To speed up the process of Parliament accessing relevant research expertise, Parliament’s Knowledge Exchange Unit (KEU) are creating a COVID-19 Outbreak Expert Database. If you feel you have any expertise relating to the COVID-19 outbreak or its impacts, the KEU would be very grateful if you would sign up to the database. Signing up does not commit you to contributing in anyway, it’s simply so that Parliament has your details to hand and can contact you very rapidly; if they contact you and you aren’t able to respond, they will fully understand.

A link to the sign-up form is found here.