

UK-THAILAND CALL FOR PROPOSALS

MRC – NSTDA –TRF APPLICATION GUIDANCE

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1. Important application information

The Medical Research Council (MRC), the National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA) and the Thailand Research Fund (TRF) are pleased to invite applications for research proposals on Infectious Diseases and Non-Communicable Diseases, as part of the Newton Fund.

This initiative will provide funding for collaborative infectious and non-communicable disease focussed research projects. Researchers will be responsible for developing their own collaborations and, once a research proposal is developed, UK and Thai applicants must apply jointly for funding. For administrative purposes, all projects will have a Principal Investigator (PI) based at a UK Research Organisation (RO) and a PI based at a Thai RO. Partners must work together to complete one joint application to be written in English and submitted to the MRC via the MRC Joint electronic System (Je-S) System <https://je-s.rcuk.ac.uk/JeS2WebLoginSite/Login.aspx>

Research Grants under this call can be up to 3 years in duration and must start by **1 April 2018** and the end date of the proposed research should be no later than **31 March 2021**. Funding for projects awarded under this call for proposals is jointly provided by the Medical Research Council (MRC), the National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA) and the Thailand Research Fund (TRF)

The total funding available for this call is as follows:

NSTDA area:

- MRC - up to £1.5m (in support to the successful UK applicants)
- NSTDA – up to ~£670k (THB 30 million) in support to the successful Thai applicants

TRF area:

- MRC - up to £1.5m (in support to the successful UK applicants)
- TRF – up to ~£540k (THB 24 million) in support to the successful Thai applicants

It is expected that this funding will support approximately 4 joint projects per call (i.e. approximately 8 projects in total across the two calls), depending on the number and quality of proposals received.

MRC will provide funding for the UK-based applicants under standard arrangements and at 80% FEC. TRF and NSTDA will provide funding for the Thai applicants.

As the UK contribution will be provided by the MRC's Newton Fund allocation, the research proposed must meet Official Development Assistance (ODA) requirements and be specifically relevant to the Thai population. Funding will be awarded in a manner that fits with ODA guidelines. All applications under this call must therefore be compliant with these guidelines to be deemed eligible.

For further information on ODA please visit: <http://www.newtonfund.ac.uk/about/what-is-oda/>

Application and review process:

1. Joint Expression of Interest emailed to international@headoffice.mrc.ac.uk by **Monday 31 July 2017** (see Expression of Interest Template on call webpage)
2. Joint application from the UK and Thai researchers by 4pm BST on **Tuesday 19 September 2017**. All jointly prepared applications will be submitted to MRC via the Joint Electronic System (Je-S) by the UK PI on behalf of the collaborators.
3. Joint peer review process including UK and Thai academic reviews
4. Joint panel meetings of UK and Thai academic experts, **January 2018**.

2. Who can apply?

2.1 Types of Research Organisations (ROs)

The Thai PI MUST be based at one of the following:

- Higher Education Institutions/University
- Research Institutions
- Government Organisations

The information below applies to the UK applicants.

The UK PI MUST be based at one of the following:

- Higher Education Institutions
- Independent Research Organisations (eligible under RCUK rules)
- Government Funded Organisations (other than MRC funded Units and Institutes)
- MRC Units/Institutes
- University Units (former MRC Units)

Applications with industry engagement are welcomed, however, funding will not be provided to industrial partners by MRC, NSTDA or TRF.

The funders are not seeking to fund partners outside of the UK and Thailand through this initiative. Please contact international@headoffice.mrc.ac.uk if you are planning to involve a partner from a third country in your proposal.

See [MRC Guidance for applicants](#) for further details about eligible institutions. This call will follow standard MRC eligibility criteria.

2.2 People named on the grant

The Principal Investigators (PI's)

For awards under the MRC-TRF-NSTDA scheme there will be a UK PI and a Thai PI. The expectation is that the UK PI and associated costs for UK research would be funded by the MRC and the Thai PI and associated costs for research in Thailand would be funded by the relevant Thai funding agency (TRF or NSTDA).

The PI's are responsible for the intellectual leadership of the research project and for the overall management of the research. The PI's will be the funding agencies' main contact for the proposal. For administrative purposes when completing the Je-S form, you will only be able to input one PI; this will need to be the UK PI. The Thai PI will need to be listed as a co-Investigator (Co-I).

The award of a grant does not guarantee any further commitment to funding by the MRC, TRF or NSTDA.

MRC will consider proposals from any UK-based researcher who is based at an eligible Research Organisation and can demonstrate that they will direct the proposed research and be actively engaged in carrying it through.

Each PI in the UK and Thailand may submit only one research grant proposal for this research initiative. Co-Investigators can be on multiple applications.

See [MRC Guidance for applicants](#) for further details about UK PI eligibility.

Co-Investigators (Co-Is)

The PI's may be supported by a number of UK and Thai Co-I's named on the application. A Co-I assists the PI in the management and leadership of the research project.

All UK and Thai PI's and Co-I's must have verified Je-S Accounts and must be added to the Je-S form under co-investigator. Please see section 3.4, below, 'Creating a Je-S application' for information on how to add an organisation on Je-S.

While, it is essential that all Thai PI's and Co-I's are added to the Je-S form, Thai costs should not be represented on this form. A break down and justification of Thai costs should be included in the Justification of Resources template.

Other support

For information on other parties involved in research e.g. Project Partners, please see section 2.2.7 in the [MRC Guidance for applicants](#)

3. Application Process

3.1 Expression of Interest

Researchers planning to submit to this scheme are asked to submit an Expression of Interest including the names of the leading UK and Thai investigators and a preliminary project title and abstract to international@headoffice.mrc.ac.uk by **Monday 31 July 2017**.

The Expression of Interests received will assist the funders in preparing for peer review. This step will not involve an assessment of the proposal; applicants should not therefore expect to receive feedback from the funders. Once you have submitted the Expression of Interest, please proceed with the development of your application and do not wait for further contact from the funders.

The following information should be provided:

| | Name | Organisation | Email address and mobile phone number |
|--|------|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| Principal Investigator (UK) | | | |
| Principal Investigator (Thailand) | | | |
| List of all Co-Investigators (stating whether UK or Thailand based) | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Project Title | | | |
| Summary of proposed project (maximum 200 words). Please note this will be used when approaching potential reviewers) | | | |
| Describe how the proposed UK funded work is ODA compliant (approximately 150 words) | | | |

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Human/Animal Research</p> <p>Will the proposed research involve the use of humans or vertebrate animals/ other organisms covered by the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act?</p> <p>If yes, please provide details.</p> <p>If your research involves animals, please specify the species involved</p> | |
|---|--|

3.2 Full Application Summary

The deadline for full applications is 4pm BST on **Tuesday 19 September 2017** (<https://je-s.rcuk.ac.uk/>)

Applications must be submitted by the UK PI on behalf of the UK-Thai research partnership. The application must be JOINTLY prepared. Once received, MRC will share the applications with the relevant Thai partner; therefore no further documents need to be submitted to TRF and NSTDA. As this will be the single application document, it is vital that the joint application form provides full details of the work proposed for both the UK and Thai components.

The following documents must be included in the joint application:

- A completed Je-S form.
All UK and Thai investigators MUST be included. This form reflects the UK costs, so while the Thai investigators should be included, hours charged for Thai Investigators should be 0. A break down and justification of Thai costs should be included in the Justification of Resources template.
- A cover letter (optional)
- A jointly prepared Case for Support, including a one-page annex (if required) detailing the methodology and experimental design aspects (see additional guidance below)
- CV's and publication lists (uploaded individually) for each of the UK and Thai partners named as investigators on the grant
- Justification of resources for the total costs requested for the project (both UK and Thai costs should be fully justified) – template saved on webpage
- Data Management Plan – section 2.2.8 in the [MRC Guidance for applicants](#)
- Pathways to impact – section 2.2.5 in the [MRC Guidance for applicants](#)
- International costs pro-forma – a detailed budget form for the Thai costs uploaded as an attachment titled 'International costs pro-forma' (template on webpage). This document can be uploaded as attachment type "Non-UK component"
- Rodents overseas form (if required) – template saved on webpage

- Signed letters of support
 - From Thai Research Organisation demonstrating support for the proposed research project.
 - Where the Thai partner or another third party (ANY organisation other than the UK RO) is responsible for recruitment of people as research participants and/or providing human tissue
 - From any project partner where an in kind payment is being contributed.
 - From both PI's when animal research is proposed. Please see section 5.6 in this guidance "use of animals" for further information

All attachments should be completed in 11 point Arial typeface, with a minimum of 2cm margins. Applications will not be accepted where smaller or narrow typefaces have been used.

Page lengths (A4 size):

| Document | Maximum length (Maximum) |
|---|--|
| Covering Letter | 2 pages |
| A jointly prepared Case for Support | 8 pages (including illustrations & references) |
| CV | 2 pages per CV |
| Publications | 1 page per investigator |
| Justification of Resource/funding summary | 4 pages |
| Pathways to Impact | 2 Pages |
| Data Management Plan | 3 pages |
| Letters of support (dated and signed) | 2 pages |

Other documents for which page lengths are not relevant include:

- International Costs pro-forma (template on webpage)

Further guidance and details for all of the above content can be found in the [MRC Guidance for applicants](#)

3.3 The Case for Support

A jointly prepared Case for Support, written in English, must be uploaded as a PDF to the Je-S application. As is standard MRC guidelines, the case for support may be up to eight A4 pages in length, including 1 page of references, using Arial 11pt typeface with margins of 2cms on all sides.

In your case for support you should address each of the following headings:

- Title
- Importance of the research
- Approximately 150 words to highlight why this research is [Official Development Assistance](#) compliant – **this should also be highlighted in the impact summary of the proposal form.**
- Scientific potential and expected outcomes
- People and track record
- Research Environment
- Research plans and deliverables

- Consideration of ethical, governance and IP issues around the project
- Data preservation, exploitation and dissemination
- Expected output/Outcome/Impact (including expected publications and journals)

For further information regarding what should be included in the Case for Support, please see section 2.2.3 in the [MRC Guidance for applicants](#).

A one-page annex may be included in addition to the case for support page limit providing additional detail of the methodology and experimental design aspects of the proposal. This information must be provided as a clearly marked annex at the end of the main case for support entitled 'Methodology and experimental design annex'. Please note that you are not required to duplicate information presented elsewhere in the application.

The use of this annex is strongly advised where the proposal includes the use of animals and/or human participants, or where the methodology /experimental design proposed is practically novel. Please see section 2.2.3.4 in the [MRC Guidance for applicants](#)

Justification of Resources (please complete the template)

Please complete the template, it must be written in a minimum font size of Arial, 11 point, with margins of at least 2 cm, justifying that the resources requested are appropriate to undertake the research project.

You must complete one Justification of Resources (JOR) document justifying both the UK costs and Thai costs and attach it to your application under "Justification of Resources". The JOR must contain a breakdown and explanation of the costs requested for this funding scheme by each partner taking into account the requirements outlined under the 'Funding Available' section of this document.

The JOR should explain why the resources requested are appropriate for the research proposed, taking into account the nature and complexity of the research proposal. It should not be simply a list of the resources required.

In addition to the standard content for the Justification of Resources, applicants should include:

- The UK value of resources requested by the UK researchers
- A statement detailing the UK value of resources requested by the Thai partner

This is so that the value of the total funds requested for the research project, can be assessed.

The costs on both the UK and Thai side should be separate with a clear justification of each cost.

3.4 Creating a Je-S account

Please login to your Je-S account via <https://je-s.rcuk.ac.uk/JeS2WebLoginSite/Login.aspx>, using the username and password you have chosen (if you do not have a Je-S account, or have forgotten your password, please see the guidance provided further below).

- Select '**Documents**' from left hand menu list from your Je-S account home page
- Select '**New Document**' from within the Functions/create section of your documents page

Creating your Je-S application:

All PIs and CO-Is involved in a grant project will need to be registered on Je-S. Please read on for information about setting up a Je-S account.

The below '**Call/Type/Mode**' can only be selected when the call opening date has been reached (until the advertised closing date **Tuesday, 19 September 2017**).

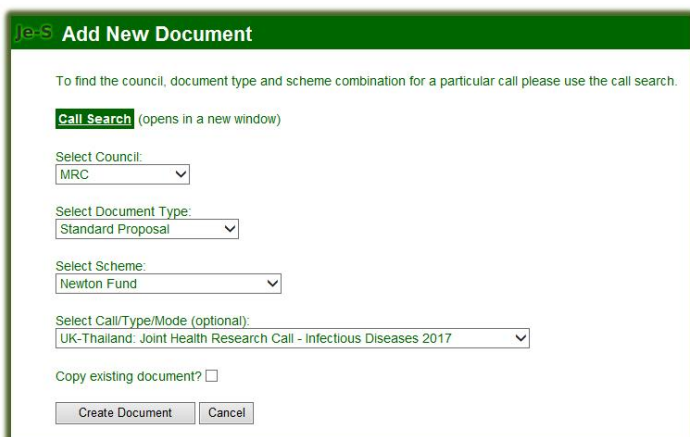
All MRC funding calls close at **4pm (16:00 GMT/BST)**, on the advertised closing date **Tuesday, 19 September 2017**.

- Select Council: **MRC**
- Select Document Type: **Standard Proposal**
- Select Scheme: **Research Grant**
- Select Call/Type/Mode (optional):
- Select '**Create Document**' option

New Je-S Users: In order to gain access to the Je-S System, [Create an Account](#).

Je-S users having problems successfully completing login to their Je-S account: [Retrieve User Name / Password](#).

Please telephone Je-S Helpdesk 01793 444164 should you require any assistance with the Je-S System



Project Details: Please allow a latest start date of 1 April 2018 (dates selected after this date should fail validation), which it does as per below:

Please telephone Je-S Helpdesk 01793 444164 should you require any assistance with the Je-S System

3.5 Budget

UK-based research costs will be funded at 80% of the Full Economic Cost. It is the responsibility of the Thai and UK PIs to ensure the conditions of their respective funder is understood.

Full Economic Costing (FEC)

Please see section 5. Resources – Full Economic Costing in the [MRC Guidance for applicants](#) for information on FEC.

All the UK and Thai PI(s)/Co-I(s) must be inputted onto the Je-S form. However, any costs for Thai PI(s)/Co-I(s) (unless agreed) must be inputted with hours and charged as £0. A break down and justification of Thai costs should be included in the Justification of Resources template.

(Please refer to section 3 in this guidance, ‘application process’, for more information)

Funding available

| | MRC funding* | Thai funding |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Research costs: | | |
| Staff – directly incurred post | Yes | Yes |
| Staff – directly allocated posts (PI and Co-I time) | Yes | Yes |

| | | |
|---|-----|-------------------------------------|
| Equipment below £10k | Yes | As in international costs pro-forma |
| Equipment above £10k | No | As in International costs pro-forma |
| Consumables | Yes | Yes |
| Research assistants | Yes | Yes |
| Studentships (degree programmes) | No | No |
| Travel and subsistence for exchange/mobility activities | Yes | Yes |
| Cost of workshops, meetings etc. | Yes | Yes |

*MRC funding will be provided to the UK HEI but in exceptional circumstances can be spent on activities in Thailand which are outside of the funding available from the Thai funders and when identified and justified in the proposal. **This must be agreed in advance of submission with the funders.**

Equipment:

Capital costs above £10,000 cannot be funded through this scheme.

Costs for “small equipment” under £10,000 (i.e. consumables) are accepted.

Spending obligations under the Newton Fund

As previously stated, funding must be awarded in a manner that fits with Official Development Assistance (ODA) guidelines. All applications under this call must therefore be compliant with these guidelines. ODA compliance will be assessed as an eligibility requirement and it is the responsibility of the PIs to communicate how the proposed research is ODA compliant.

For further information on ODA please visit [Official Development Assistance](#)

Due to the tight time scales of the Newton Fund, if you are successful you will need to adhere to strict spending requirements. For this call, the end date of the proposed research should be no later than **31st March 2021.**

4. Assessment Process and Criteria

Following submission, peer-review will be undertaken by the funding agencies. To be funded, proposals must be internationally competitive and at a standard equivalent to that normally expected to be supported by each funding organisation.

Key assessment criteria for the submissions will be:

- Significance and Impact of the research
- Scientific Rationale: novelty, importance and timeliness of the research
- Design and Feasibility of the Project Plan
- Partnership: including strength and clarity of collaborations and opportunities provided, quality of the project management structure proposed; the added value of the UK-Thailand collaboration
- Quality and suitability of the research environment and of the facilities
- Value for money for Thai and UK science
- Ethical considerations and governance arrangements.

In addition, applicants must describe how the proposed UK funded work is ODA compliant [approximately 150 words]. This section will be made publicly available. For further information on ODA, please visit: [Official Development Assistance](#)

Applications received and comments from all peer-reviewers will be assessed by the joint MRC – TRF - NSTDA Review Panel in January 2018. This panel will consist of academic experts from both UK and Thailand, where final decisions will be made.

For further information on the peer review process, please see section 2.5 in the [MRC Guidance for applicants](#)

5. Agreements

5.1 Collaboration Agreement

As the research projects will be carried out by multiple research organisations and project partners, the basis of collaboration between the organisations and project partners, including ownership of intellectual property (IP) generated during the project and rights to exploitation, and costs of IP management [this is not an eligible cost to MRC], is expected to be set out in a formal collaboration agreement between the research organisations involved. It is the responsibility of the research organisations to put such an agreement in place before the research begins. The terms of collaboration shall not conflict with MRC, NSTDA or TRF terms and conditions.

Arrangements for collaboration and/or exploitation must not prevent the future progression of academic research and the dissemination of research results in accordance with academic custom and practise and the requirements of the funding bodies. A temporary delay in publication is acceptable in order to allow commercial and collaborative arrangements to be established.

Details of key issues included in the Collaboration Agreement, for example management of IP, should be detailed in the 'consideration of ethical, governance and IP issues around the project' section of the Case for Support

5.2 Intellectual Property

Ownership of intellectual property (IP) generated during the project and rights to exploitation, as well as any costs regarding management of IP, are expected to be agreed between the collaborating research organisations before the research begins. Details of this agreement should be included in the Collaboration Agreement (as above).

Agreements must not conflict with MRC, NSTDA or TRF terms and conditions. Any agreements in place between a research organisation and their respective funding organisation must be adhered to, including the sharing of IP costs or benefits. Any IP sharing agreements in place between a research organisation and their national funding body would be expected to apply only to the IP share of that research organisation.

5.3 Material Transfer Agreements

Collection and exchange of material may occur between collaborating institutions, as necessary, in strict compliance with the legislation in effect in both countries.

5.4 Ethics

Any research involving humans/human tissue and/or animals must comply with legislation in both the UK and Thailand, and must also comply with relevant policies and guidance of MRC, NSTDA and TRF.

It is the absolute responsibility of the PIs and the ROs to ensure that appropriate ethical approval is granted and adhered to, and that no research requiring ethical approval is initiated until it has been granted.

The Ethical Information sub-sections in the Je-S proposal form should be completed to give details of any human participation, research using animals, genetic and biological risk, and ethical committee approvals required. Section 5 of the [MRC Guidance for applicants](#) has recently been updated to reflect amendments to this section of the Je-S form.

Applicants must be clear in their applications in which country the proposed research involving humans and/or animals will take place and must fully complete the Ethical Information section for research taking place in either country.

MRC Ethics guidance

Applicants must comply with all of the MRC's relevant policies and guidance regarding the use of humans/human tissue and/or animals in research.

Approval(s) for the research detailed in an MRC grant proposal must be granted by the appropriate bodies before the research commences. Institutions, applicants and grant holders have absolute responsibility for ensuring that the necessary approvals are granted for the research considered by MRC.

The PI/RO must be prepared to furnish the MRC with a copy of the ethical approval, and any correspondence with the committees, if requested by the Council. The PI must notify the MRC if a regulator or a research ethics committee requires amendments that substantially affect the research

question, methodology or costs to the extent that the project is no longer the same as that approved for funding by the MRC.

Thai Ethics guidance

To maintain the highest standard of research quality and integrity, Thai applicants must comply with Thailand's relevant policies regarding the human and animal ethical principles along with applicable legal and regulatory framework.

5.5 Humans/Human Tissue

MRC guidance

Applicants must comply with relevant MRC policies and guidance (section 5 of the [MRC Guidance for applicants](#))

In particular, applicants should be aware of the following guidance/requirements:

MRC current policy for research involving humans to take place overseas, <https://www.mrc.ac.uk/publications/browse/research-involving-human-participants-in-developing-societies/> is that for research to be undertaken internationally, both local and UK ethical approval is required.

For clinical studies involving human participants and/or patients in the UK or overseas, appropriate consent must be obtained.

Where the Thai partner or another third party (ANY organisation other than the UK RO) is responsible for recruitment of people as research participants and/or providing human tissue, details should be included in the case for support and a letter of support MUST be attached to the application. The letter of support should be titled Human participation and include confirmation of the following:

- That the international partner has agreed to recruit the participants/provide tissue
- That what is being supplied is suitable for the research being undertaken
- That the quantity of tissue (where relevant) being supplied is suitable, but not excessive for achieving meaningful results

The letter of support must be an integral part of the application (as an attachment) and must focus on the proposal it accompanies.

Thai guidance for human research

<https://www.nrct.go.th/Portals/0/data/2559/01/National Policy Guidelines for Human Research2015.pdf>

5.6 Use of Animals

Applicants must ensure that all of the proposed research, both that in the UK and in Thailand, will comply with the principles of the MRC common guidance on "Responsibility in the use of animals in bioscience research" <http://www.mrc.ac.uk/publications/browse/responsibility-in-the-use-of-animals-in-research/>

In particular, UK Institutions should be aware of the following aspect of the guidance relating to research or collaboration outside the UK:

“When collaborating with other laboratories, or where animal facilities are provided by third parties, researchers and the local ethics committee in the UK should satisfy themselves that welfare standards consistent with the principles of UK legislation (e.g. the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986), and set out in this guidance, are applied and maintained.

Where there are significant deviations, prior approval from the funding body should be sought and agreed. International research should also be compliant with all relevant national and local regulatory systems in the host country where the research is to be conducted.”

If your project involves the use of animals, please read our guidance and submit the following signed statement and if appropriate, form:

1. A signed statement (uploaded as a Letter of Support to the Je-S application) from both UK and overseas PIs that:
 - they will adhere to all relevant national and local regulatory systems in the UK and overseas
 - they will follow the guidelines laid out in the <https://www.nc3rs.org.uk/responsibility-use-animals-bioscience-research> document and ensure that work is carried out to UK standards
 - before initiation of the proposed research work, appropriate approvals from Institutional and/or central animal ethics committees will be obtained for experimental protocols to be adopted in their projects. Successful proposals may be expected to provide copies of these permissions before funding is released.
 - Details on where the animal research will take place (UK or overseas) and through which funder the resources are being sought.
2. If the research involves the use of rodents overseas, rather than in the UK, please also complete the “Additional questions on the use of rodent’s overseas form (Annex 1) and attach as a letter of support in Je-S.”

All applicants are required to comply with Section 4: ‘Proposals involving animal use’ of the [MRC Guidance for applicants](#). Applicants should detail in the letter any additional information which was not included in the proposal document but which is pertinent to the animal research proposed and which the funders should be aware of.

In addition, researchers should be reminded that sufficient information and justification regarding any animal research proposed, regardless of country, must be provided in the proposal order to allow full peer review to take place.

Thai guidance for animal uses

https://www.aalac.org/resources/Thai_Animals_for_Scientific_Purposes_Act_Thai_version.pdf

6. Terms and Conditions

RCUK <http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/funding/grantstcs/>

Newton Fund terms and conditions are provided below:

ODA compliance

The Newton Fund is part of the UK's Official Development Assistance (ODA). Its aim is to develop science and innovation partnerships that promote the economic development and welfare of developing countries. The investigators must ensure the research part of this grant remains compliant with ODA rules and regulations as set out under the Newton Fund programme. In the event that the research does not remain compliant with ODA rules and regulations Medical Research Council reserve the right to terminate the award. And recoup any funds as appropriate

Acknowledgements and reporting

Investigators must acknowledge the Newton Fund and the Medical Research Council in any publications, web pages or events associated with this grant.

Investigators must assist the Medical Research Council with any additional reporting requirements requested by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy or any other government department.

Starting Procedures

This grant must start by 1 April 2018. The start of the grant may NOT be delayed beyond this date.

Please note that due to the fixed start date, the normal three months start period rules outlined in the RCUK Terms and Conditions RGC4, does not apply to this project.

Ethical Requirements

It is the responsibility of the Principal Investigator and the Research Organisation to ensure that appropriate ethical approval is granted for this study and adhered to, and that no research requiring ethical approval is initiated until it has been granted.

MRC current policy for research involving humans, <https://www.mrc.ac.uk/publications/browse/research-involving-human-participants-in-developing-societies/> is that for research to be undertaken overseas, both local and UK ethical approval is required.

For clinical studies involving human participants and/or patients appropriate consent must be obtained.

For grants that include the use of animals, the guidance <http://www.mrc.ac.uk/publications/browse/responsibility-in-the-use-of-animals-in-research/> must be adhered to, and in particular: 'When collaborating with other laboratories, or where animal facilities are provided by third parties, researchers and the local ethics committee in the UK should satisfy themselves that welfare standards consistent with the principals of UK legislation (e.g. the ASPA) and set out in this guidance are applied and maintained.'

The Principal Investigator/Research Organisation must be prepared to furnish the Medical Research Council with a copy of the ethical approval, and any correspondence with the committees, if requested. The Principal Investigator must notify the Medical Research Council if a regulator or a research ethics committee requires amendments that substantially affect the research question, methodology or costs to the extent that the project is no longer the same as that approved for funding.

Government Support

This award is dependent on continuing Government commitment for this initiative and continuing match from (Partner funder). In the event that this support is withdrawn, the Medical Research Council reserve the right to terminate the award.

Requests for extensions to awards

Due to financial restraints of the Newton Fund Programme, grant extensions will only be considered under exceptional circumstances (in line with the Equality Act 2010) and will require the Medical Research Councils' agreement on a case-by-case basis. The Research Organisation remains responsible for compliance with the terms of the Equality Act 2010 including any subsequent amendments introduced while work is in progress; and for ensuring that the expectations set out in the Medical Research Councils' statement of expectations for equality and diversity are met.

Transfer of funds to UK and overseas organisations

It is important to highlight that the Research Organisation awarded the grant is responsible for the conduct and administration of the grant during the life time of the award (from award, during the grant and on completion). It is accountable for the effective use of public funds, and must therefore ensure that all grant monies are subject to proper financial management processes. It is the Research Organisation's responsibility to ensure that, where funds are transferred to other organisations in the UK and abroad, expenditure is subject to robust controls to ensure value for money and propriety and that all costs should be fully vouched and maintained for possible inspection and checks by, or on behalf of, the funding organisation.

This award has therefore been made on the basis that if any funds are transferred to another UK or overseas organisation then the Research Organisation must undertake due diligence checks to ensure that the funding will be appropriately used (as set out above). The Research Organisation may be asked to provide evidence that where funds have been transferred they have undertaken appropriate due diligence to ensure that any risks are recognised, understood and treated as necessary. The Research Organisation may be asked to provide additional information on how the due diligence checks were carried out.

Please refer to the Medical Research Council for any specific guidance.

Collaboration agreement

A Collaboration Agreement is required for this project. This must be in place within six months of the start of the project.

As the grant is associated with more than one research organisation the basis of collaboration between the organisations, including the allocation of resources throughout the project and ownership of intellectual property and rights to exploitation is required to be set out in the formal collaboration agreement. It is the responsibility of the lead Research Organisation to put such an agreement in place within six months of the start of the project. The terms of collaboration agreements must not conflict with the Medical Research Councils' terms and conditions.

For Non-Communicable Disease Theme: investigators must acknowledge MRC-TRF and the Newton Fund in any publication, web pages or events associated with this grant;
For Infectious Diseases Theme: investigators must acknowledge MRC-NSTDA and the Newton Fund in any publication, web pages or events associated with this grant.

Given the importance of expanding collaboration among researchers, principal investigators from the UK and Thailand must intermittently report and share the progress with each other and the Thai co-funders.

Annex 1

Additional questions on the use of rodents overseas

The expectations of the Research Councils for the use animals in research are set out in the document 'Responsibility in the Use of Animals in Bioscience Research'. Compliance with the principles in this document is a condition of receiving funding.

Please confirm the following: (*tick box – yes/no*)

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| 1. The enclosure sizes and space allocations meet or exceed those in Annex VII to Directive 2010/63/EU (Tables 1.1 to 1.5) | |
| 2. The rodents are provided with: a) substrate/bedding on a solid floor; b) a shelter and/or nesting material for refuge and to help regulate body temperature and light exposure; c) chew blocks or other gnawing material. | |
| 3. The rodents are housed socially. Exceptions to this must be justified below. | |
| 4. Appropriate, contemporary anaesthesia and/or analgesia is provided to minimise pain and distress. Any withholding of pain relief during painful procedures must be justified below. | |
| 5. Surgery is performed using aseptic technique, the least invasive surgical approaches, and appropriate perioperative care (pre-operative medications, hypothermic prevention, ophthalmic protection, nursing care where required). | |
| 6. Toe clipping and/or tail biopsy are not used for identification or genotyping purposes. | |
| 7. Where genotypes are known to be harmful, animals of that type are not produced unless required scientifically (e.g. if homozygous null is harmful and heterozygotes are desired, then heterozygous is crossed with wild type, not another heterozygous animal). | |
| 8. Where new GA strains are being generated, best knowledge will be applied to predict potential harmful outcomes and the animals will be monitored closely for emerging phenotypes. | |
| 9. The rodents are monitored with a frequency appropriate to keep pain and distress to a minimum, using appropriate, tailored welfare indicators and score sheets. | |
| 10. Humane endpoints have been established for each experiment with the potential to cause moderate or severe harm, after consultation with the veterinarian and animal care staff, and implementation of these is recorded during the experiment. (Note the humane endpoint criteria may be requested by the Research Councils). | |
| 11. The methods of humane killing are those recommended by the AVMA (2013) or permitted under Directive 2010/63/EU. | |

Where there are deviations from the above, please explain below: (*free text; one side of A4*)