

# Funding for innovations to improve health care

The Health Foundation has £1.5 million available for teams to test and develop innovative ideas and approaches to improve health care delivery in the UK.



## Innovating for *Improvement*

The Health Foundation's new Innovating for Improvement programme has £1.5 million available for up to 20 project teams to develop innovative ideas and approaches to improve health care and put them into practice.

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As part of our new Innovating for Improvement programme, we are looking for projects that aim to improve health care delivery and/or the way people manage their own health care.

We want to support clinical teams to develop their innovative ideas and approaches, put them into practice and gather evidence about how their innovation improves quality.

Teams need to demonstrate a clearly identified and convincing problem that they want to address. Any potential improvements should be simple to put into practice and generalisable beyond the chosen health care setting.

Projects must demonstrate that their idea fits with one of the following four descriptions of innovation:

- **Level 1:** Innovations with no previous history in any context – they are genuinely new or novel.
- **Level 2:** Innovations transferred into health care from another sector.
- **Level 3:** Innovations transferred into the UK health care sector from overseas.

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- **Level 4:** Innovations transferred or adapted from one health care setting to another.

On a scale of level 1 to 4 we regard level 1 as being most innovative. We will give preference to the most innovative applications, during the selection process.

Applications can come from any health or health and social care provider organisation in the UK where health care services are delivered free at the point of delivery.

### How to apply

If you are interested in applying you must read the *Call for applications*, *Frequently asked questions* and supporting information about the programme at: [www.health.org.uk/innovatingimprovement](http://www.health.org.uk/innovatingimprovement)

Deadline for applications is 12 noon, 5 August 2014.\*

If you have any queries, email: [Innovating.enquiries@health.org.uk](mailto:Innovating.enquiries@health.org.uk)

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**\*Innovating for Improvement will open again for applications in early 2015. Register via our website for email alerts about new programmes open for application at: [www.health.org.uk](http://www.health.org.uk)**

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## Innovating for Improvement at a glance

- We are looking to support up to 20 projects to test and develop innovative approaches and ideas to improve health care delivery and/or the way people manage their own health care.
- Each team will receive up to £75,000 of funding to support the implementation and evaluation of the project.
- Applications must be able to provide robust evidence to demonstrate that their approach/intervention is genuinely innovative and fits with one of the Health Foundation's four innovation descriptions.
- Applications should demonstrate a clearly identified problem that their projects want to address.
- Project teams will need to have strong senior clinical leadership and should include people who work in the operational environment(s) where the innovation will be tested.
- Applications should come from teams who are experienced in change and project management, measurement and evaluation.
- Applications need to include a clear and detailed measurement framework including a strategy for project evaluation. Measurement of impact will be critical to understanding the success of each innovation.
- Applications can come from any health or health and social care provider organisation in the UK where health care services are delivered free at the point of delivery.
- The funding for each project within this programme will run for up to 15 months, including a recommended three month set-up phase beginning in May 2015.
- It is essential that you check the criteria carefully in the *Call for applications* document on our website, as projects that do not meet our criteria will not be considered.
- There is a two stage application process for Innovating for Improvement. **Applicants must read the *Call for applications* and *Frequently asked questions* in full before completing an outline application form.** These are available at: [www.health.org.uk/innovatingimprovement](http://www.health.org.uk/innovatingimprovement)
- Examples of previous innovation projects we have funded and a video with tips for applying can be found at: [www.health.org.uk/innovatingimprovement](http://www.health.org.uk/innovatingimprovement)

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**The deadline for the first stage of applications is 12 noon, 5 August 2014.<sup>†</sup>**

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<sup>†</sup>The Health Foundation reserves the right to close ahead of this deadline date if the programme is oversubscribed.

## About us

The Health Foundation is an independent charity working to improve the quality of health care in the UK.

We are here to support people working in health care practice and policy to make lasting improvements to health services.

We carry out research and in-depth policy analysis, run improvement programmes to put ideas into practice in the NHS, support and develop leaders and share evidence to encourage wider change.

We want the UK to have a health care system of the highest possible quality – safe, effective, person-centred, timely, efficient and equitable.

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