

WESSEX MEDICAL TRUST

RESEARCH STRATEGY

Wessex Medical Trust was established to fund medical and health-related research in the Wessex Region. This covers Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, Dorset, South Wiltshire and the Channel Islands. The majority of the research work is undertaken in the University of Southampton or at the University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust.

- All grant recipients must be members of the University of Southampton and not a current Trustee of Wessex Medical Trust.
- Our research priorities reflect those of the University of Southampton. Currently, these include cancer sciences, respiratory diseases, musculo-skeletal conditions and neurosciences.
- All grant applications must be certified (by the Associate Dean for Research of the relevant Faculty) to be appropriate to the relevant research strategy
- We specialise in supporting early career researchers, typically by:
 - Funding PhD studentships which benefit both the student and the supervisor's research programme
 - Providing start-up grants of up to £20,000 each from our Innovation Fund to early career researchers. Previous recipients of such grants are disqualified from applying again
- We also run appeals from time to time to support specific projects: recent examples include grants to investigate Child Brain Injury and Cervical Cancer
- All our grants are awarded after open competitive tender within our constituency (ie the University of Southampton). Before award, all proposed grants are submitted to our three external assessors for approval and grants of over £50,000 are additionally required to secure at least two positive peer reviews from independent experts.