

Year in review 2016

Welcome

The Academy of Medical Sciences is an independent organisation that represents the spectrum of medical science – from basic research through clinical application to healthcare delivery. As one of the UK's five National Academies, we promote advances in medical research and help to ensure they are converted into healthcare benefits to society.

Our mission is to achieve better healthcare through the application of research to the practice of medicine. We achieve this by:

- **Providing expert, evidence-based information and advice to policymakers.**
- **Supporting the development of a first class medical science workforce.**
- **Championing the UK's medical research strengths in academia, in the NHS and in the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries.**

Our elected Fellows are central to our success. It is their unique diversity of talent, collective experience and professionalism that enables the Academy to address complex issues of science and healthcare with expertise and authority. In this way, the Fellowship is a national, public resource of independent and expert advice on medical science and healthcare.

Our mission is delivered under the Academy's six priority programmes, as set out in our 2012-2016 Strategic Plan:

1. Promoting excellence
2. Influencing policy to improve health and wealth
3. Nurturing the next generation of medical researchers
4. Linking academia, industry and the NHS
5. Seizing international opportunities
6. Encouraging dialogue about medical science

2015/16 in summary

48

new Fellows elected

32

countries engaged

64

events in 18 locations across the UK

1,078

mentions in the media

34

key policy outputs

£8.1m

income

105

research grants awarded totalling £4.4m

£7.9m

expenditure

100

mentoring pairs set up

Achievements in the year

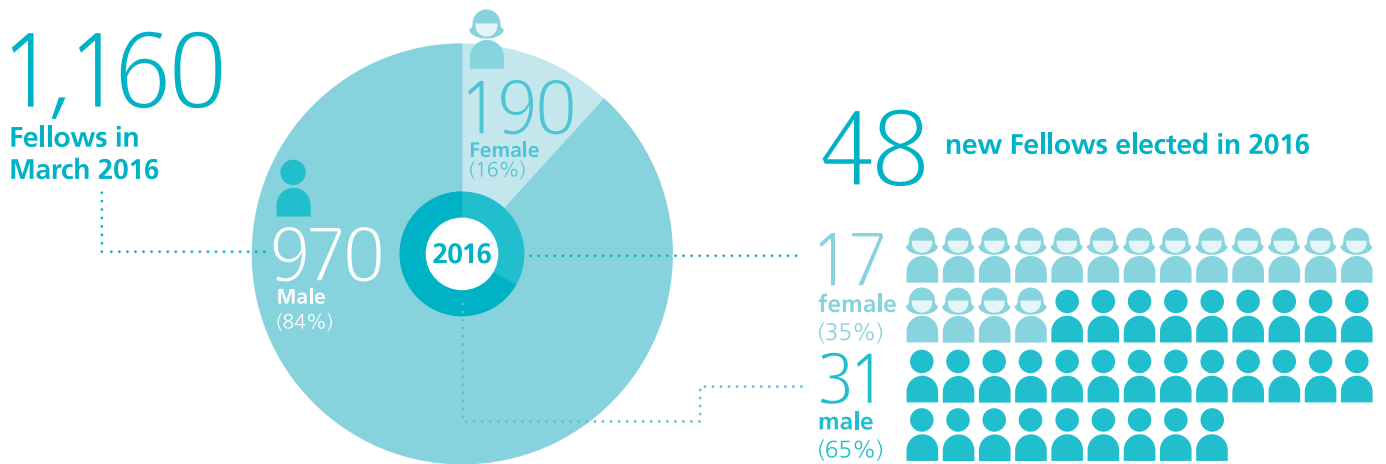
Promoting excellence

Our vision: To create an environment where excellence in medical science flourishes and is recognised.

- In April 2015 we admitted 48 new Fellows to the Academy Fellowship from research areas including anaesthesia, age-related diseases, drug discovery and animal biology. Their election brought the total number of Fellows to 1160.
- September 2015 saw the introduction of 'E-Lect', a new online system to support the Fellowship election process. The software was developed and generously shared by the Royal Society and has greatly improved the process of reviewing more than 350 candidates and coordinating over 500 peer reviews.
- In November 2015 we invited women Fellows to come together to discuss the question 'What can Fellows do to support women in the biomedical workforce?' The report of the meeting has prompted the introduction of new projects and procedures to promote gender diversity, along with the appointment of two Academy Council members to monitor diversity across all of our work.
- Our 10 Regional Champions have continued to deliver positive impacts for the Academy's regional agenda. In 2015/16 the Champions organised events to share the latest breakthroughs in medical science and connect Fellows in Edinburgh, Leeds, Southampton, Manchester, Birmingham, Cambridge, Exeter and Oxford.

Future plans

- We will work with the funders of our named lectures to develop innovative ways to communicate the latest breakthroughs in science.
- Our sectional committees will map the disciplines and expertise in the Fellowship to ensure we continue to represent the full breadth of excellence in medical science.
- We will explore ways to celebrate the life and work of our Fellows and grant awardees in order to share different approaches to achieving a positive work life balance.



Achievements in the year

Influencing policy to improve health and wealth

Our vision: To be the UK's leading source of independent advice about supporting and harnessing biomedical research and innovation for the benefit of society.

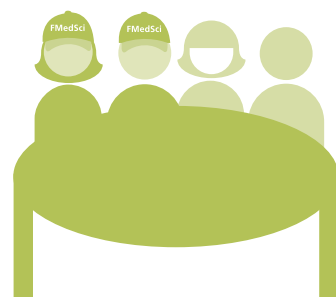
- Our working group on 'Health of the Public 2040' and our major new workstream on 'How can we all best use evidence?' have been the primary focus of activity this year. These projects have engaged more than 200 stakeholders - informing the working groups' thinking and shaping the recommendations and conclusions of the reports to be published next year.
- Following our successful international symposium on the challenges and opportunities for improving the reproducibility and reliability of biomedical research, the meeting sponsors - Wellcome Trust, MRC, BBSRC and the Academy - are implementing changes in their own organisations and working alongside others to facilitate action on the part of national and international partners.
- In a wider landscape of shrinking Government budgets, an inflation-linked settlement for UK science and

research spending was welcomed by the community when announced in November 2015. This successful outcome followed briefings, meetings and publications by the Academy – both alone and in association with the other National Academies - to highlight the role public investment plays in supporting a world-leading UK science and research base.

Future plans

- We will publish the report of our 'Health of the Public 2040' working group.
- We will publish the outputs from our 'How can we all best use evidence project', including the public dialogue report, workshop reports and final oversight group report.
- We will report on the impact of our workshop on improving the reproducibility and reliability of biomedical research.

3 major workstreams



25 Fellows
29 Non-Fellows
on major working groups



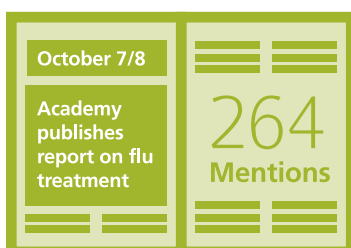
5 statements

19 consultation responses

10 meeting reports



policy in the news



Achievements in the year

Nurturing the next generation of medical researchers

Our vision: To develop innovative support schemes for researchers, network researchers across disciplinary and sectoral boundaries and foster research independence.

- Springboard, a new funding and support scheme for biomedical researchers in their first independent post, was launched in September 2015 with the generous support of the Wellcome Trust. The scheme addresses a long-held ambition of the Academy to support non-clinical researchers at this crucial stage of their career.
- Also in September we began SUSTAIN, a year-long pilot programme designed to support women researchers as they establish their independent research careers. 20 participants have so far benefited from tailored training, peer coaching and mentoring from Academy Fellows.
- Our report, *'Improving recognition of team science contributions in biomedical research careers'*, was published in February 2016 following a year-long exploration of the issues. The report recommended how individual researchers' contributions can be recognised to ensure career progression, along with changes to funding, researcher behaviour, training and the career development of skills specialists.

Future plans

- We will open the Springboard scheme to newly independent researchers in the medical humanities and health-related social sciences, targeted at research projects related to our 'Health of the Public 2040' report. We will award a second round of funding of Springboard for biomedical researchers.
- Following substantial demand we will launch a second year of SUSTAIN, and ensure evaluation of the first year of the programme.
- We will hold a conference for INSPIRE leads and student representatives at Medical and Veterinary Schools in October 2016 to share outcomes from their projects to encourage medical, dental and veterinary students to undertake research.

105 grant awardees

48 female 57 male



£4.4m awarded in grants

21

Fellows on grant selection panels



100 mentoring pairs set up in 2015

52 female 48 male



500+ partnerships developed to date

Achievements in the year

Linking academia, industry and the NHS

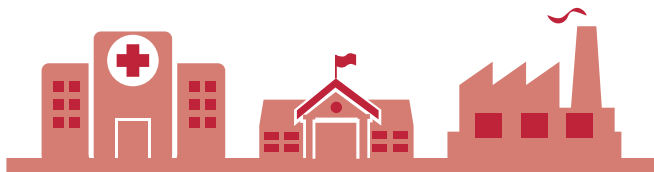
Our vision: To facilitate a strong and equitable partnership between academia, industry and the NHS, along with effective engagement with regulators, for the translation of research into health and wealth benefits.

- Our FORUM event on 'Real world evidence' led to new collaborative relationships between participants, informed the Government's review on accelerating access to medicine, and facilitated understanding between industry and UK/US/EU regulators about the potential of such evidence and barriers to its use.
- Our roundtable with NHS England on the role of personalised medicine in the treatment of diabetes has informed NHS England's first Personalised Medicine Strategy and the development of care pathways for patients with certain types of diabetes.
- Ongoing work to follow up a recommendation in the Academy's 2011 report on the regulation and governance of health research has resulted in the implementation in 2015/16 of single 'HRA approval' for research in the NHS, thus reducing the duplication of checks in each participating Trust that has formerly delayed research.

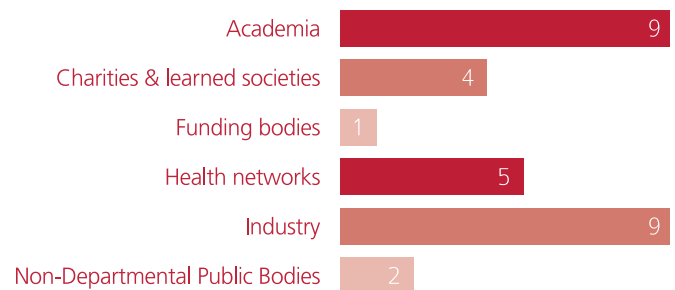
Future plans

- We will hold FORUM workshops on topics including ageing, stratified medicine and geographical clusters.
- Following on from our report on conflicts of interest in medical research, we will explore whether guidelines are needed to support industry-academia partnerships.
- We will review the impact of our 2011 working group report on the regulation and governance of health research at a symposium in November 2016.

30 FORUM member organisations



membership breakdown



FORUM members

AD Cave Solutions	King's Health Partners	Royal Society of Chemistry
Amgen	Legal & General	UCL Partners
Arthritis Research UK	Medical Research Council	UK Pharmacogenetics and Stratified Medicine Network
Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry	Merck Sharp & Dohme	University College London, Medical School
Astex Pharmaceuticals	National Institute for Health and Care Excellence	University of Dundee, Medical School
AstraZeneca	NHS England	University of Edinburgh, Medical School
Birmingham Medical School	Northern Health Science Alliance	University of Glasgow, Medical School
Bristol Medical School	Patient Information Forum	University of Newcastle
British Heart Foundation	Pfizer	University of Oxford, Medical School
British Pharmacological Society	Public Health England	
GlaxoSmithKline	Queen Mary, University of London	

Achievements in the year

Seizing international opportunities

Our vision: To ensure that the UK takes a leadership role in tackling global health challenges, informs the development of EU regulation, and enables excellent biomedical researchers to move and collaborate across national boundaries.

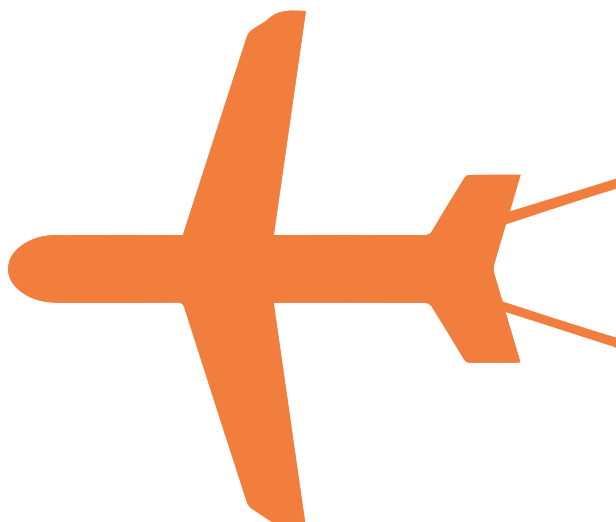
- We have facilitated international research links for 43 researchers through our Newton International and Advanced Fellowships and our Daniel Turnberg Travel Fellowships. Our Newton Fellowships strengthened links between the UK and India, China, Mexico, Brazil and South Africa. A review of our one-month Daniel Turnberg Travel Fellowships conducted in summer 2015 demonstrated that they occupy a unique niche in the funding landscape for biomedical researchers in the Middle East and are highly valued by all stakeholders.
- In April 2015 we hosted the Executive Committee (EC) of the InterAcademy Medical Panel (IAMP). Our *'Introduction to social media'* session for the Committee supported our work of capacity building with our sister Academies. A dinner for the EC, the UK Chief Medical Officer, UK Chief Scientific Advisor and other stakeholders provided an important opportunity to discuss global health priorities.
- In December 2015 an agreement was reached on the EU Data Protection legislation. Despite earlier amendments that would have prevented or hindered the use of health data for research, the final draft appropriately balanced the value of research with adequate protection for individuals. This followed four years of Academy engagement - meetings and briefings - with decision makers in the EU and the UK, in partnership with the Wellcome Trust and others.

Future plans

- We will launch a new international working group project on multiple morbidities.
- We will bring together previous Daniel Turnberg Middle-East Travel Fellowship holders at an alumni event in Cyprus to maximise the impact of these awards.
- Funded by the new public Global Challenges Fund we will work with partners (primarily Academies) in ODA countries to convene policy workshops to develop evidence-based policy in relation to priorities in global health.



32 countries Academy is currently engaged with



£763,620
spent on international research grants

Achievements in the year

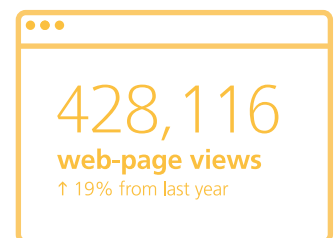
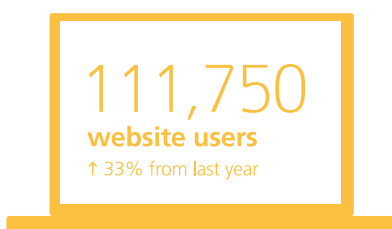
Encouraging dialogue about medical science

Our vision: To shape our policy advice with the views of the public and patients, and to support researchers to share their knowledge and expertise with non-scientific audiences.

- In summer 2015 the Academy received funding from the Wellcome Trust to run a programme of public film screenings and discussion workshops across the UK to feed public views into our project on the 'Health of the public 2040'. An independent evaluation of the project concluded that participants were confident that their involvement would influence future health policy.
- At the start of 2016 the Academy commissioned Ipsos MORI to undertake a programme of public dialogue to underpin our policy project 'How can we all best use evidence to judge the potential benefits and harms of medicines?'. The programme will bring members of the public, patients and healthcare professionals together to explore the issues at events in London, Glasgow and Leeds.
- We have continued our work to support our women Fellows and grant awardees to play their part to increase the number of women experts in the media. 23 early career researchers and 16 Fellows participated in our bespoke media training sessions bringing the total women trained to date to 64. Participants have given interviews on the BBC Radio 4 Today programme, BBC 5Live and BBC Woman's Hour, as well as appearing in print and online news articles.

Future plans

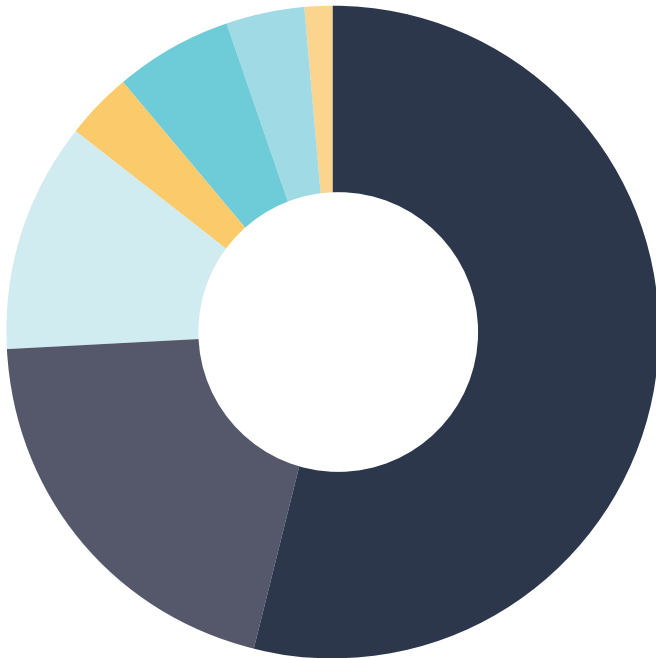
- We will deliver a programme of events that engage the public, patients and health professionals in dialogue and ensure their views shape the final recommendations of our 'best evidence' work stream.
- We will increase the Academy's presence in the media ensuring we represent the voice of medical science in high profile media debates.
- We will build on the success of our women Fellows' media training, finding ways to reduce costs that will enable more women, as well as men, to be trained.



Financial review 2015/16

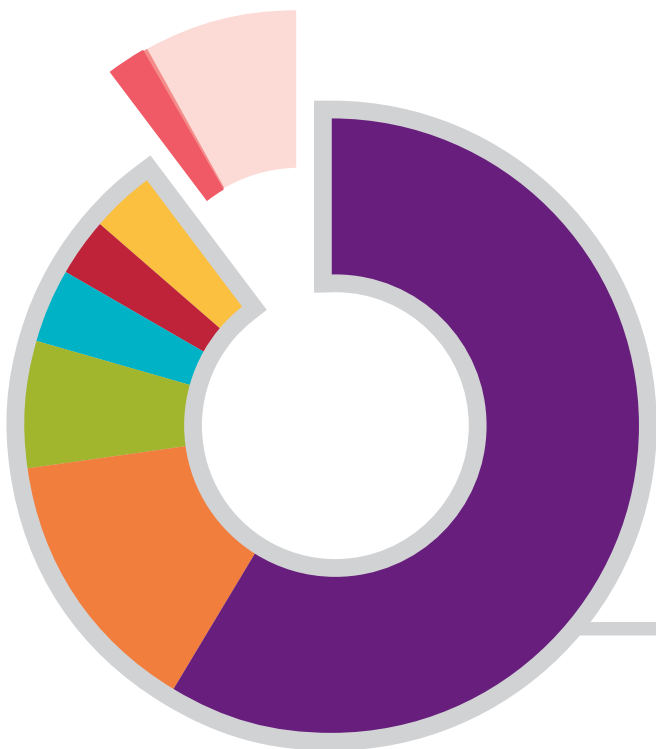
All figures are in thousands (£'000)

Income – 8,110



Income	£'000
Grant funding	4,390
Programmatic funding	1,643
Trading activities	909
Donations	281
Core grant	471
Fellows	308
Investment income	108
Total	8,110

Expenditure – 7,906



Expenditure	£'000
Nurturing the next generation	4,647
Seizing International opportunities	1,113
Influencing policy	532
Promoting excellence	306
Linking academia, industry & NHS	235
Encouraging dialogue	280
Fundraising	136
Property management	23
Trading activities	634
Total	7,906

Spending on charitable activities

Supporters 2015/2016

The Academy is extremely grateful to our Fellowship whose time, knowledge and resources are central to our success. The excellence and diversity of talent amongst our Fellows ensures that the Academy is able to deal with complex health issues, which extend beyond the traditional boundaries of medicine.

We are also very grateful to our generous donors who provide vital support to enable the Academy to be the major voice of academic medicine and biomedical research in the UK.

Major donors

Arthritis Research UK
Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry
BBSRC
Board of Academic Medicine (Scotland)
British Heart Foundation
British Society for Immunology
Department for Business Innovation and Skills
Department of Health for England
Foulkes Foundation
GlaxoSmithKline (GSK)
Kohn Foundation
Laurie Landeau Foundation

Medical Research Council
Naji Foundation
National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)
National Institute for Social Care and Health Research (Wales)
Newton Fund
NHS Education for Scotland
Prostate Cancer UK
The Daniel Turnberg Memorial Fund
The Health Foundation
The Jean Shanks Foundation
The Lancet
The Lord Leonard and Lady Estelle Wolfson

Foundation
The Raymond and Beverly Sackler Foundation
The Royal College of Physicians
The Royal Society
Wellcome Trust
Welton Foundation

We also thank the generous supporters of the Daniel Turnberg Memorial Fund, which supports the Academy's UK-Middle East Travel Fellowship Scheme.

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