

Improving health through research

An invitation for philanthropic support

The demand for the unique expertise provided by our Fellowship outweighs what can be achieved with current resources. The Academy is now at a turning point, and we are seeking funds to transform our capacity to convene the brightest medical researchers from multiple disciplines to address the pressing challenges and opportunities of our time.

The philanthropic support of Fellows and major donors is vital to sustaining our work to champion medical science, promote translation and nurture the next generation of researchers.

We welcome new members to our Helix Group of donors who give £250 or more a year to the Academy's work. Donors are publicly thanked and recognised on a new commemorative board in the Fellows Room at 41 Portland Place.

I hope you will consider helping the Academy to build on the powerful platform we have created to promote medical science and its translation into benefits for society.

Sir John Tooke

President, The Academy of Medical Sciences



Our ageing population, rising incidence of diabetes and obesity, the burden of mental ill health, emerging infections, and increasing healthcare costs are some of the greatest challenges facing society.

The knowledge and talent to tackle these issues lies within the Fellowship of the Academy of Medical Sciences - over 1000 of the UK's best medical researchers working across science and healthcare.

 Follow us: [@acmedsci](https://twitter.com/acmedsci)

The Academy of Medical Sciences
41 Portland Place
London W1B 1QH
www.acmedsci.ac.uk

Registered Charity No. 1070618
Registered Company No. 3520281



The Academy of Medical Sciences, 41 Portland Place, London

The Academy's goal is to ensure that research is used as rapidly and effectively as possible to improve health.

To meet the increasing demand for our expertise, **we are seeking to raise £5 million** to facilitate a step change in our activities to:

1. Translate new science into health and wealth benefits;
2. Support the next generation of medical researchers.

Established in 1998 as a sister to the Royal Society, Royal Academy of Engineering and British Academy, the Academy of Medical Sciences has quickly become the UK's foremost body providing independent and expert advice on medical science and healthcare innovation, as well as support and development for the next generation of medical scientists. Our Fellows are elected for their outstanding contribution to research and are drawn from basic biology, clinical science, public health and beyond. **The Fellows represent a unique resource, collectively volunteering over 2000 days a year to the Academy's work.**

1. Translating new science into health and wealth benefits

We convene expert Fellows from across scientific and clinical disciplines to provide timely, expert and evidence-based advice to solve major health challenges. We work with policy makers in Government and elsewhere on issues such as obesity, ageing, mental health and addiction. Our expert Fellowship gives us the authority to identify routes to advance research and improve health, and catalyse new collaborations or investments - even reforming legislation and regulation where necessary. Working at the highest levels within Government, charities, universities and industry, we help to shape a research environment in which investments are optimised, and opportunities to accelerate research and improve health are harnessed. **No other UK organisation is able to draw upon the same breadth or level of expertise.**

The Academy has an important international role as a collaborator with overseas academies in the USA, Europe, Asia and Africa, facilitating independent dialogue about issues such as emerging infections, scientific capacity building in developing nations, counterfeit medicines or the health implications of climate change. We are an active participant in global networks, such as the Inter Academy Medical Panel, advising the United Nations, World Health Organization and G20.

Without further support, our ability to act independently and to initiate work where we see an important and timely objective will be severely curtailed.

Sir John Tooke
President, The Academy of Medical Sciences

The Academy's work to **influence policy to improve health and wealth in the UK and beyond** is characterised by wide consultation with researchers, patients and policy makers, comprehensive analysis of the evidence and robust peer review.

The costs of policy work vary according to the outputs and duration of the process, which can range from a single roundtable meeting to a major working group study. A 6 month policy project costs in the order of £50,000, rising to £250,000 for an in depth 18 month study with associated dissemination, evaluation and follow up.

Our future programme includes workstreams on:

- **Tackling public health challenges** – putting science at the heart of public health policy making.
- Potential new projects on **global pandemics and emerging infections, air quality and health, antimicrobial resistance and early life programming.**
- **Regulation and governance of health research** – including clinical trials, use of patient data and human tissue and research involving human stem cells and embryos.
- **Linking medical science and international development** – promoting interfaces between technology and health in resource-poor settings.
- **Biomedical career pathways** – initiating a major review of different biomedical careers, providing information to researchers and funders about options, resources and requirements.

All of these areas – and others that will emerge – require the inter-disciplinary, authoritative and expert approach that only the Academy of Medical Sciences can bring.



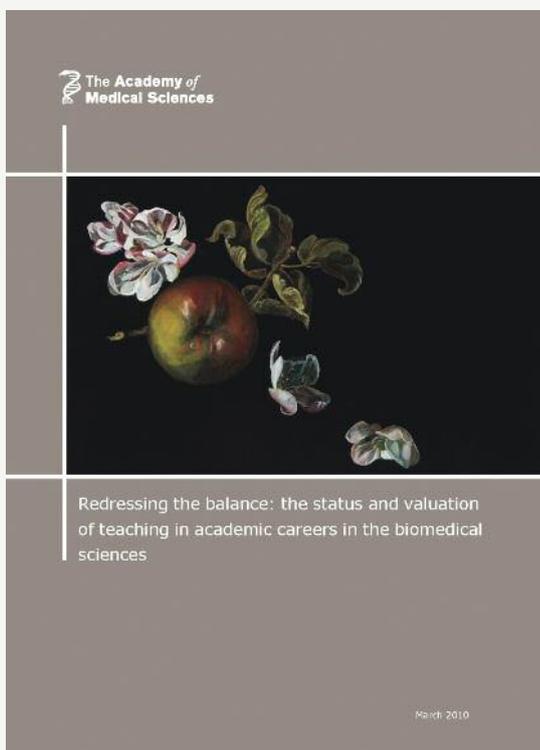
How Academy policy projects have made a difference

- **'A new pathway for the regulation and governance of health research'** led to initiatives to streamline UK legislation, regulation and governance which will reduce the approval time for clinical trials and patient studies, improve research productivity and accelerate new treatments for patients.
- **'Realising the potential of stratified medicines'**. Stratified approaches have the potential to advance progress in the diagnosis and management of virtually all diseases. This seminal Academy report represents a significant step towards UK leadership in this vital area, with key recommendations already being taken forward.
- **'Inter-species embryos'** was vital in persuading UK Parliament to allow this important field of human stem cell research to proceed within a carefully regulated environment.
- **'Animals containing human material', 'Rejuvenating ageing research', 'Brain science, addiction and drugs', 'Personal data for public good'** and **'The use of non-human primates in research'** have influenced UK, European and international policy making, and demonstrated our ability to tackle challenging and controversial issues, to initiate wider social debate and to involve the views of patients and the public to shape advice.



2. Supporting the next generation of medical researchers

If we are to generate advances in our understanding and treatment of disease we must attract the brightest minds to careers in medical science. The Academy plays a direct role in nurturing the next generation of medical researchers through our grants schemes for early career scientists, and also through mentoring, skills development, networking and policy work on academic careers. Fellows are integral to all of our activities, acting as mentors, champions, and speakers at our events, as well as serving as reviewers and panel members for our grants schemes.



- Our innovative grants schemes complement the support provided by larger research funders. Our **Starter Grants for Clinical Lecturers Scheme** provides funding to early career researchers, allowing them to gather preliminary data to support applications for larger grants. With initial Wellcome Trust investment, we have leveraged funding from British Heart Foundation, Arthritis Research UK, Medical Research Council, Royal College of Physicians and Prostate Cancer UK. 92% of awardees who have so far completed the term of their grant have continued in research.
- Our **Clinician Scientist Fellowship Scheme**, in partnership with The Health Foundation, targets disciplines where there is an identified shortage of research expertise, including anaesthesia, paediatrics, pathology, psychiatry, radiology and surgery. 22 Fellowships have been awarded through this scheme, leading to 297 significant publications and 37 research prizes.
- Our acclaimed **one-to-one Mentoring Scheme** links Fellows with early career researchers – around 350 pairs have now been established. Evaluations have shown the benefits of this personalised and bespoke support, particularly for trainees who are combining a clinical and research career. Our one-to-one mentoring is augmented by a busy schedule of regional workshops and events that allow hundreds of junior researchers to network with Fellows and senior colleagues, acquire skills in presentation, leadership, grant writing and interview techniques, and to share information on funding and research opportunities.
- We want to see the next generation of medical scientists navigate a clear career path. Through our **careers policy** work we respond to changes and challenges in training and career structures and identify key issues on the horizon where we can shape policy and make a difference to researchers across the spectrum of clinical and biomedical careers.





Dr Matt Daniels
Starter Grant Holder

There is considerable demand from large numbers of early career medical researchers to access the support, mentoring and expertise we provide.

Piloting new schemes as described below can cost in the region of £100,000 - £200,000. Our plans include future programmes to:

- **Network researchers across boundaries** – bringing together early career basic scientists, clinical researchers, and those working in industry and healthcare to drive translational research.
- **Develop innovative funding schemes** – by seed-funding new schemes to address gaps in research funding and catalyse investment from partners.
- **Maintain a diverse workforce** – particularly addressing the low number of women in senior clinical academic posts.
- **Share our experience** – encouraging organisations in the UK and beyond to develop their own mentoring schemes.
- **Foster independence** – building on our work to support all biomedical scientists in the challenging transition to research independence through mentoring and skills training.

The Starter Grant has been a tremendous enabler for me, it comes as a badge of approval from big funding bodies, and it's held in high regard by senior academic clinicians.

Dr Matt Daniels,
Wellcome Trust Intermediate Clinical Fellow,
Division of Cardiovascular Medicine,
University of Oxford

Support the Academy's future

The Academy's growth and impact since 1998 have been impressive, but there is still much to be done. Our Fellows stand ready to contribute their time and expertise, but we need additional funds to make the step change in our operations to transform our policy influence and engagement with early career researchers.

The Academy is now at a turning point and we are aiming to raise £5 million to transform our capacity.

The Academy invites you to make a donation to help us meet the demand for our unique expertise, maintain our authority and independence, and fulfil our unique role in improving health and prosperity.

There are many ways to give to the Academy, including a one-off donation, regular gift or legacy. A popular option is to join our esteemed Helix Group and give £250 or more a year to the Academy's work. Donors are recognised on a new commemorative board in the Fellows Room at 41 Portland Place, at our Annual Meeting, in the Annual Report and Directory and at events to thank supporters and benefactors.

To discuss making a donation to The Academy of Medical Sciences please contact Sarah Porter our Fundraising Manager:

sarah.porter@acmedsci.ac.uk
020 3176 2155

 **The Academy of
Medical Sciences**

