

15/05 - Workplace health and wellbeing

What are the effective* interventions in the workplace for improving health and wellbeing, and preventing illness or injury?

Overall work is good for health and wellbeing, providing economic resource, social identity, role and status. Health benefits of work may depend on the nature, quality, and social context of work. As well as providing health benefits, some physical and psychosocial aspects of work can be harmful.

The NIHR Public Health Research Programme wishes to commission primary research on the effectiveness* of interventions in the workplace for improving health and wellbeing, and preventing illness or injury. Work-place based approaches may include organisation-wide approaches, changes to the built environment, or interventions relating to the ethos or management of organisations in improving health and wellbeing.

The following issues are of interest:

- The effect of interventions on different groups of employees and on health inequalities
- Specific populations, for example by age, gender or ethnicity
- The application of interventions in different contexts, occupations, working patterns, and workplace settings
- Consideration of benefits for the employer and wider economy

Proposals should incorporate a mechanism for public involvement

Researchers should take account of current research funded by the NIHR and others funders, including the Extending Working Lives research priority, which is part of the Lifelong Health and Wellbeing cross-council research programme, managed by the MRC.

*'Effectiveness' in this context relates not only to the size of the effect, but it also takes into account any harmful or negative side effects, including inequitable outcomes. Research should include a health economic evaluation where relevant.

Remit of Call:

All proposals submitted under this call must fall within the remit of the Public Health Research programme. Please go to www.nets.nihr.ac.uk/programmes/phr/remit for details.

General Notes:

The PHR programme evaluates public health interventions, providing new knowledge on the benefits, costs, acceptability and wider impacts of non-NHS interventions intended to improve the health of the public and reduce inequalities in health. The scope of the programme is multi-disciplinary and broad, covering a range of interventions that improve public health delivered in a non-NHS setting.

Notes to Applicants

The NIHR Public Health Research programme is funded by the NIHR, with contributions from the CSO in Scotland, NISCHR in Wales, and HSC R&D, Public Health Agency, Northern Ireland. Researchers in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland are eligible to apply for funding under this programme.

Applicants are recommended to seek advice from suitable methodological support services, at an appropriate stage in the development of their research idea and application. It is

advisable to make contact at an early a stage as possible to allow sufficient time for discussion and a considered response.

The NIHR Research Design Service

(<http://www.nihr.ac.uk/research/Pages/ResearchDesignService.aspx>) can advise on appropriate NIHR programme choice, and developing and designing high quality research grant applications.

Clinical Trials Units are regarded as an important component of many trial applications however, they are not essential for all types of studies to the PHR programme. The CTUs can advise and participate throughout the process from initial idea development through to project delivery and reporting. NIHR CTU Support Funding

(http://www.netscc.ac.uk/supporting_research/CTUs) provides information on units receiving funding from the NIHR to collaborate on research applications to NIHR programmes and funded projects. In addition, the UKCRC CTU Network (<http://www.ukcrc-ctu.org.uk>) provides a searchable information resource on all registered units in the UK, and lists key interest areas and contact information.

Transparency agenda

In line with the government's transparency agenda, any contract resulting from this tender may be published in its entirety to the general public. Further information on the transparency agenda is at:

<http://transparency.number10.gov.uk/>

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/policy_and_standards_framework_transparency.asp <http://www.contractsfinder.businesslink.gov.uk/>