



Engineering and
Physical Sciences
Research Council



NIHR | National Institute for
Health and Care Research

Technologies to enable independence for people living with dementia- Webinar

5th July 2024

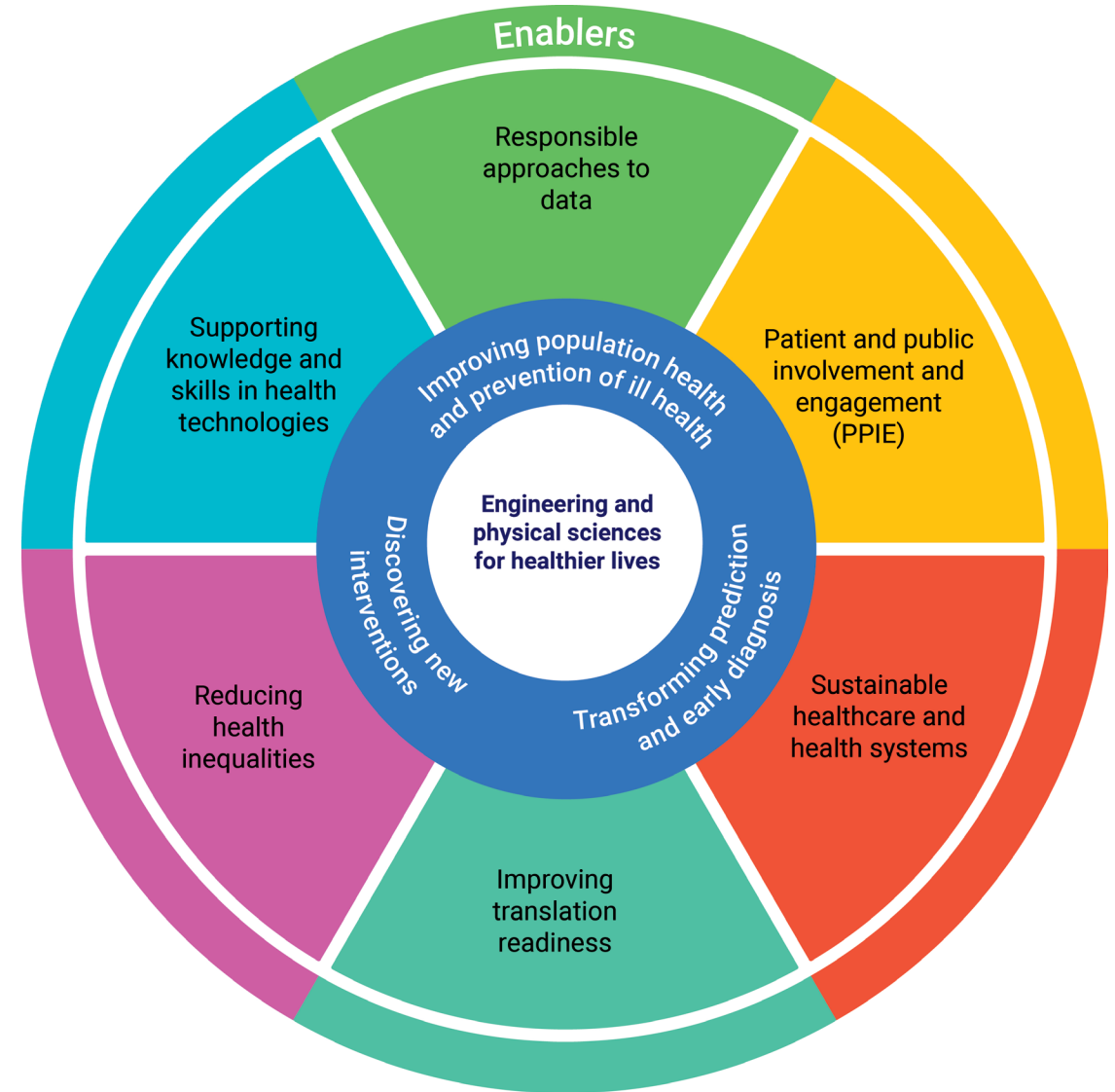
Webinar Plan

- **Introductions**
- Overview & Context- Alzheimer's Society
- Funding Opportunity Summary
- Perspectives - Running a NetworkPlus
- Q&A

Alzheimer's Society Presentation

Healthcare Technologies in EPSRC

| Improving Population Health & Prevention | Transforming Early Prediction & Diagnosis | Discovering & accelerating the development of new interventions |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population Models Predictive approaches to a healthy society Engineering Healthier Environments | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tools to advance earlier diagnosis & detection of disease Novel techniques for patient specific diagnosis Detecting infections and antimicrobial resistance Supporting people to manage their own health | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resilient manufacturing Therapies for chronic conditions Engineering and materials research with therapeutic properties Innovative Technologies for physical intervention |



NIHR's mission is to improve the health and wealth of the nation through research.



NIHR dementia research activities



Supporting and enabling dementia research

Ensure that England has the research infrastructure to support innovation in all areas of dementia research so we can support and deliver the highest quality, efficient and innovative research.

Participation in dementia research

Increase the number and diversity of people participating in dementia research to deliver research which is relevant across different populations across the country, help speed the delivery of research and encourage further investment in dementia research.

Delivering research which meets the needs of the health and care system

Deliver research which meets the needs and aspirations of people living with dementia and their carers, together with the current and future needs of the health, social care and related systems.

NIHR Three Schools' Dementia Research Programme



Government announces nearly £50m of new funding for dementia research



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Joint Workshop June 2023

- To identify opportunities for engineering and physical sciences research in dementia
- Need to support people living with dementia to remain independent in the home (including residential care) for longer:
 - Alzheimer's Society survey revealed 85% of people said they would want to stay at home for as long as possible if diagnosed with dementia
 - Care for people with dementia is equally as important as diagnosis and treatment
 - Systems and tools developed by research to support people to live well should be designed to address people's needs, not be over-complicated and should not shift the burden onto carers or the person using the technology
 - Technologies and solutions should be implemented to enable people with dementia to live independently in a way which does not make them feel abandoned
- Patient and public involvement and engagement (PPIE) should be embedded
- Funders should provide opportunities for communities to come together, including via funding calls and cross-funder opportunities
- <https://www.ukri.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/EP SRC-300424-Funding-OpportunitiesEnableIndependencePeopleLivingDementia-WorkshopReport.pdf>

Technologies to enable independence for people living with dementia

- Funding to develop a network plus focused on the development and use of novel tools and technologies to enable people to live independently with dementia.
- We are looking to build capacity and bring together new interdisciplinary communities across engineering and physical sciences and health and care to tackle challenges in dementia research.

Priorities

We are particularly interested in networks in the following areas:

Technologies to support independence at home

Investigating the feasibility, implementation and use of existing technologies and tools

Tools and technology to facilitate and work synergistically with health and care professionals

Technology that helps create a system that evolves with people's needs

Supporting people to live well beyond the home and in their communities

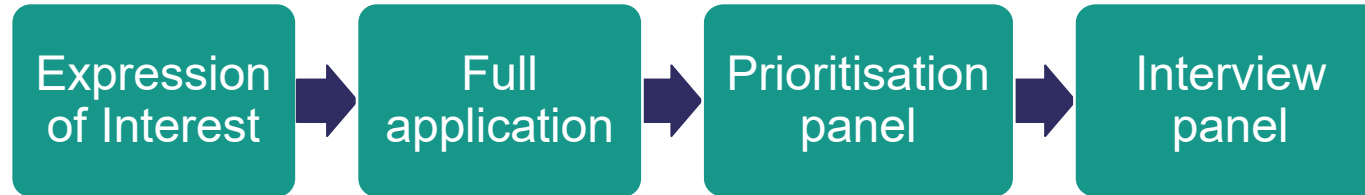
Applicants will need to consider the following:

- Building interdisciplinary collaborations and fostering multidisciplinary working
- Considering the needs of a diverse range of different groups and communities
- Putting the needs of patients at the centre of networks
- Explore and identify the pathways and barriers to implementation of tools and technologies in the health and social care system
- A substantial proportion of the research within your application should focus on the advancement and development of novel engineering and the physical sciences

Funding and Process

- The full economic cost (FEC) of your project can be up to £2 million. **EPSRC will fund 80% of the FEC.**
 - Total fund £6 million
 - Projects can be up to 3 years in length
 - Minimum cost of project £500,000
- Expression of Interest – deadline 11 July 4:00pm
 - To help EPSRC identify reviewers and plan for demand
 - This stage is not assessed. Information provided in the expression of interest can change prior to submission of the outline proposal.
- Full application - closing date 10 September 4:00pm
 - Prioritisation panel
 - Interview panel

Process and timeline



| Key dates | Stage |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 11 July 2024 4:00pm UK time | Expression of Interest closes |
| 10 September 2024 4:00pm UK time | Full proposal stage closes |
| October 2024 | Prioritisation panel |
| December 2024 | Interview panel |

Eligibility

Standard EPSRC eligibility rules apply. Research grants are open to:

- UK higher education institutions
- Research council institutes
- UK Research and Innovation (UKRI)-approved independent research organisations
- Eligible public sector research establishments
- NHS bodies with research capacity

Assessment Criteria

- vision and approach
- capability of the applicant and the project team to deliver the project
- resources requested to do the project
- ethical and responsible research and innovation considerations of the project
- added value of the NetworkPlus
- programme leadership and management

Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement (PPIE)

- All projects should consider health equity in their network and embed equitable, diverse, and inclusive patient and public involvement and engagement (PPIE).
- We are looking for clear evidence of genuine co-creation, co-delivery, and embedded engagement with patients, people with lived experience, and health professionals from the outset of the network and throughout the research and innovation process.
- We are looking for engagement with people from different and diverse backgrounds, including those from deprived, under-served, or underrepresented populations.

What makes a good application?



Scope - make it clear how you are addressing the funding opportunity



How will your research benefit end users? ...Make the 'so what' clear



Multidisciplinary



How has the application been shaped by key stakeholders



Look at the assessment criteria!



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Collaborations



- Funded Networks will be expected to establish and maintain appropriate links with relevant NIHR, Alzheimer's Society and UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) investments in dementia and related areas e.g. ESRC/NIHR/Alzheimer's Society Dementia Network Plus Call (soon to be announced)
- We want to increase collaborative working across disciplines and connect the research landscape.
- This will include working with existing activities across funding portfolios in dementia to create shared opportunities.

NetworkPlus Presentation

Q&A

Wrap up and next steps

- We will share a recording of the webinar
- Thank you!
- Contacts: healthcare@epsrc.ukri.org



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Thank you