

## **Nurse and Allied Health Professional Research Strategy**

The BSH are dedicated to 'increasing the engagement of non-medical healthcare professionals in heart failure research and promoting research led by non-medical healthcare professionals' in line with their overall research strategy.

'to promote and encourage involvement in heart failure research in the UK (incorporating a modern agenda considerate of current affairs and incipient issues) and develop a network of heart failure investigators'.

The BSH Research Committee (BSH RC) will create a network of motivated researchers who specialise in heart failure, and nurse and allied health professional (AHP) research is a fundamental component of this aim. The BSH RC will have a 3-tiered research structure

1. **Applied research and Clinical trials:** Support the design and conduct of research studies and clinical trials that will help patients with or at high risk of heart failure
2. **Fellowships:** Awarded to individuals of any profession with research ideas aligning with BSH research strategy. The awards will provide the awardee with funds that cover the salary and associated administrative costs of a research fellow.
3. **Support for early years career researchers:** to provide a support and advice service to clinical researchers embarking on a research trajectory where heart failure is the focus.

**Applied research and Clinical trials:** Support will be provided to nurses and AHPs with research questions or ideas in heart failure. Request for support can be made through completion of a request for research support form (Appendix 1), submitted through the BSH website [www.bsh.org.uk/research](http://www.bsh.org.uk/research) or [administrator@bsh.org.uk](mailto:administrator@bsh.org.uk)

**Fellowships:** Any graduate (UK resident) is eligible to apply for the award with no limitation as to healthcare profession, although the applicant and their supervisor must be BSH members. The award will cover the salary and associated administrative costs of a research fellow for two years, awarded directly from BSH to the recognised institute of higher education hosting the researcher. The proposed research programme should be related to heart failure broadly, with an emphasis on clinical relevance.

Other funding is available through the BHF CRC Research Development fund. Nurse and AHPs have the opportunity to bid for funds to support the development of clinical research in cardiovascular disease and improve the impact and value of the work of researchers. The fund provides grants up to £10k. Projects aligned with the BSH research strategy require endorsement from the BSH [administrator@bsh.org.uk](mailto:administrator@bsh.org.uk)

### **Support for early years career researcher**

The BSH RC are keen to engage individuals interested in heart failure research at whatever stage of your career with the aim of providing research support to help you develop your research potential by providing the following:

1. Guidance on research ideas. This may include; discussing potential projects or ideas, defining ideas and determining research question, discussing wider issues related to research topic or defining objectives.
2. Finding support. Signposting to collaborators, networks and mentors.
3. PPI support. BSH patient advisory group, may be able to provide the patients' perspective to research ideas/questions.
4. Disseminating research outcomes through BSH social media, networks, members portal, posters, presentations and PPI networks

Early career research support can be requested through completion of a request for research support form (Appendix 1), submitted through the BSH website [www.bsh.org.uk/research](http://www.bsh.org.uk/research) or [administrator@bsh.org.uk](mailto:administrator@bsh.org.uk)

Unfortunately, the BSH RC are not currently able to provide application review or support for research funding streams.

### **Mentorship**

The BSH has access to a multi-disciplinary group of mentors, working in or leading heart failure research in the UK. The mentorship network will provide support for early-career research development, help build research confidence and overcome challenges aiming to provide junior investigators with successful research mentors outside their home institutions who have similar research interests.

All early-career researchers should consider finding a mentor to support their development; either informally through meeting people at networking opportunities, or formally through mentoring programmes.

Successful mentoring requires commitment to this process by both mentors and mentees. Mentors should provide guidance to mentees to promote academic achievement in their chosen field.

Mentorship can be requested through completion of a request for mentorship form (Appendix 2), submitted through the BSH website [www.bsh.org.uk/research](http://www.bsh.org.uk/research) or [administrator@bsh.org.uk](mailto:administrator@bsh.org.uk)

**Appendix 1: Request for research support**

Name	
Organisation	
Email	
Topic area (max 3 keywords)	
Project/Idea title	
Summary (max 200 words). Please outline your research idea including design, aims, objectives and methods	
Support requested (max 100 words). Please list the support needed e.g. advise on funding support, project feasibility, to find clinicians and centres to participate in your project or to find patients or service users with experience in their field etc	

**Appendix 2: Request for mentorship**

Name					
Organisation					
Email					
Research interests (max 3 keywords)					
Career stage Please mark with an X or complete the 'other' option	Undergraduate	Graduate	Post doc	Independent	Other
Summary (max 100 words). Please list/outline the areas where you would like to receive mentorship e.g. development of ideas, building networks and signposting, finding research support, research career development etc					