

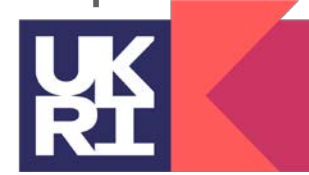
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# Health Systems Research Initiative: Call 7

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# Health Systems Research Initiative Call 7

AIM: To generate world-class and cutting-edge research that addresses key questions on strengthening and improving health systems in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs)

- Annual calls, now in 7<sup>th</sup> year (call 8 will be launched in October 2020)
- Call 7 has a budget of £4.7m from the Department for International Development, the Medical Research Council and Wellcome
- The call is run in partnership with the Economic and Social Research Council and welcomes interdisciplinary proposals from across the public health, social and biomedical sciences
- UK and LMIC investigators can apply
- Two types of proposal:
  - Research Grants** which are larger stand-alone research projects exploring big new ideas
  - Foundation Grants** which are smaller and shorter exploratory or pilot studies

# Research Grants

- Usually 3-5 years duration
- 2 stage review process
- No budget restrictions, approx. £4m available
- Proposals are expected to address a clearly defined challenge faced by health systems, either within a system or in considering external influences on a system.

# Foundation Grants

- Up to 2 years duration
- 1 stage review process
- Up to £200k, approx.. £0.7m available
- Proposals can be either:
  1. exploratory in nature, or
  2. to conduct pilot work to build the necessary knowledge and methodological base to support a future larger research proposal.

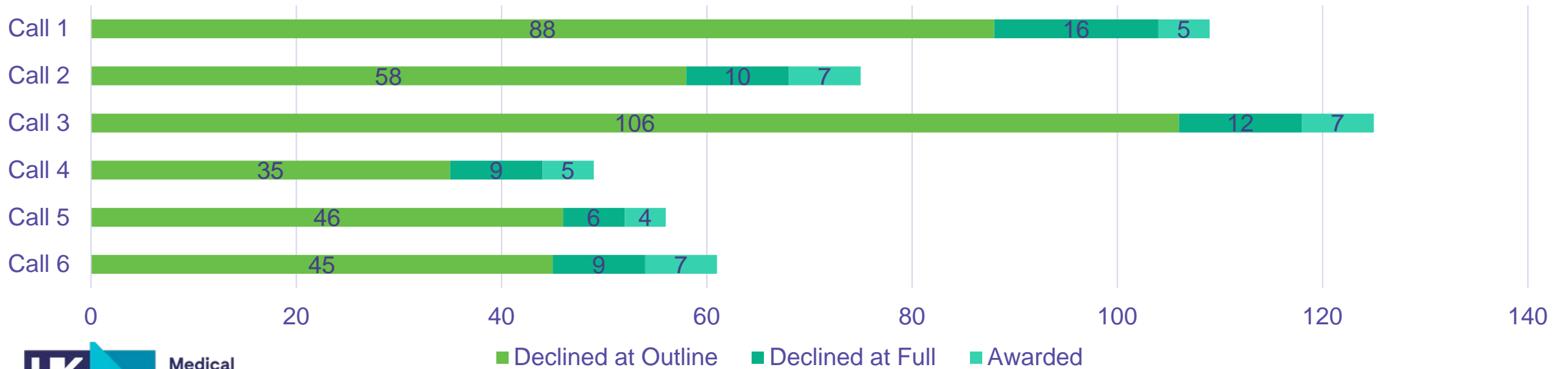
# Timeline

	Research Grants	Foundation Grants
October 2019	Outline stage opened	
November 2019		
December 2019		
January 2020	Outline stage deadline 21 <sup>st</sup> Jan	
February 2020		Call opens 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb
March 2020	Shortlisting	
April 2020	Full stage opens	
May 2020		Call deadline 28 <sup>th</sup> May
June 2020	Full stage deadline 18 <sup>th</sup> June	
July 2020		
August 2020		
September 2020		
October 2020	Committee meeting	Committee meeting
November 2020	Funding decisions	Funding decisions

# Success Rates

# Research Grants

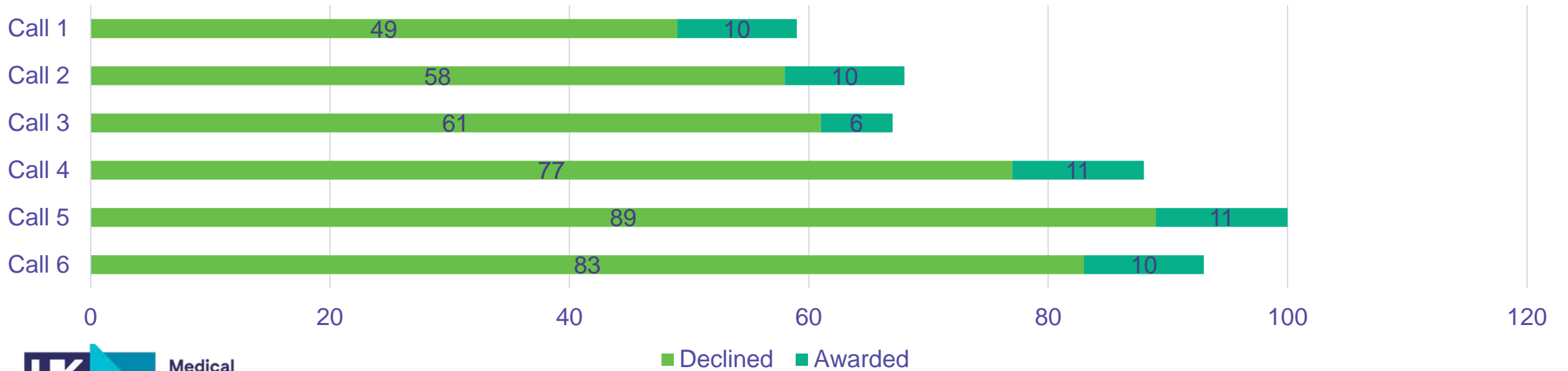
	Total Applications	Declined at Outline	Declined at Full	Awarded	% success rate
Call 1	109	88	16	5	5%
Call 2	75	58	10	7	9%
Call 3	125	106	12	7	6%
Call 4	49	35	9	5	10%
Call 5	56	46	6	4	7%
Call 6	61	45	9	7	11%
<b>Total</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>7%</b>



# Success Rates

# Foundation Grants

	Total Applications	Declined	Awarded	% success rate
Call 1	59	49	10	17%
Call 2	68	58	10	15%
Call 3	67	61	6	9%
Call 4	88	77	11	13%
Call 5	100	89	11	11%
Call 6	93	83	10	11%
Total	475	417	58	12%



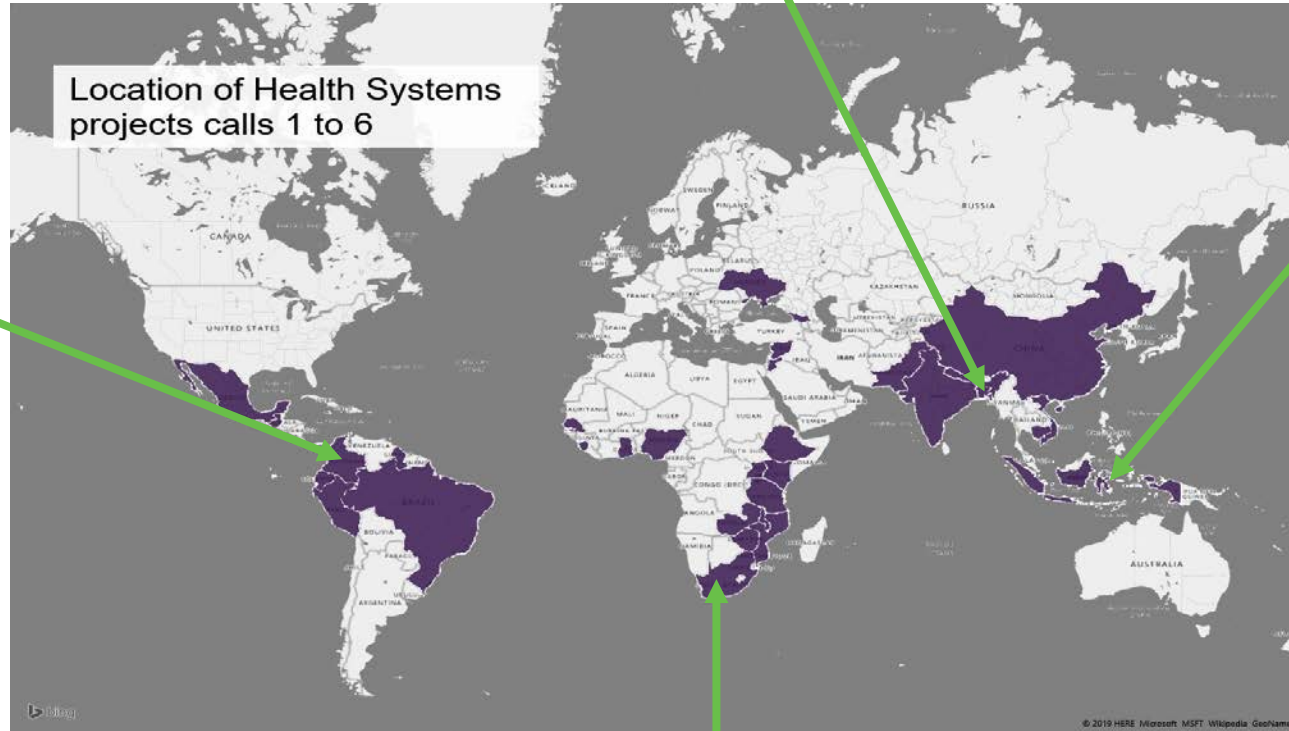
# HSRI Portfolio

## 1. Research Grant: War and Peace – the health and health system consequences of conflict in Colombia

Principal investigator: Rodrigo Moreno-Serra, University of York

Disciplines: Health economics; public health; health services research; medicine, political science

Location of Health Systems projects calls 1 to 6



## 2. Foundation Grant: Verbal Autopsy with Participatory Action Research (VA-PAR) – developing a people-centred health systems research methodology

Principal investigator: Lucia D'Ambruoso, University of Aberdeen

Disciplines: Epidemiology; demography (verbal autopsy); social sciences qualitative research (participatory action research)

## 3. Research Grant: Stakeholder monitoring to improve quality of maternal and neonatal healthcare in public- and private-sector facilities following a district health systems approach

Principal investigator: A T M Iqbal Anwar, International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh

Disciplines: Clinical medicine; public health; economics; epidemiology; qualitative research; psychology

## 4. Research Grant: Making health financing work for the poor – an evaluation of equity in health systems financing in Indonesia

Principal investigator: Virginia Wiseman, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

Disciplines: Health economics; health financing; health policy research

# Proposal development and review – Funder perspective

**Don't** scrimp on methodological or statistical detail

**Don't** leave anything up to assumption

**Do** get a colleague to read your proposal and comment prior to submission

**Do** consider research risks as well as mitigation strategies and present them in your proposal

When developing the proposal, consider the overall value for money

- What does the proposal offer for the cost?
- How important is the health systems research question it addresses?
- How many sites does it include and how generalisable is it?

- Capacity building plans form part of the assessment
- The *Pathways to Impact* is important, don't leave it to assumption!
- Systems thinking is key



# Assessment Criteria:

- **Research Quality** – is it novel, important and timely?
- **Impact** – is it of direct relevance to decision makers? Is it scalable?
- **Research Management and People** – is the team and management strategy appropriate?
- **Methodology** – is the design appropriate and feasible? Is it underpinned by a relevant theoretical or conceptual framework?
- **Ethics** – is the research ethically acceptable?
- **Data Management Plan** – are there sound plans for managing the research data?
- **Resources Requested** – does it represent value for money?



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# Thank you



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