

## OUR FUNDING STRATEGY

### We believe that extraordinary healthcare changes lives

Our funding strategy focuses on funding research and innovative healthcare initiatives which improve patient care.

We support the remarkable work of staff and researchers at the Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry (SMD) at Queen Mary University of London and Barts Health (BH) NHS Trust hospitals and City University. We do this by funding research, training, state-of-the-art equipment and innovative healthcare projects.

We support our researchers and clinicians in their aim to **“achieve the highest standards in research, integrating multi-disciplinary and translational approaches to address health related problems of local and global importance” and to “deliver safe and compassionate care to our patients.”**

We seek to provide a powerful competitive advantage to our Partners. We do this by forging a close relationship and aligning our funding strategy with their needs. This joint approach enables the research we support to deliver significant patient impact: BH is one of the largest NHS Trust in England serving a diverse population of 2.5 million with a predominance of comorbidities and high levels of socio-economic deprivation. The SMD has, in the past few years, gone from strength to strength, with the Complete University Guide 2018 placed Medicine 4<sup>th</sup> and Dentistry 1<sup>st</sup> in the UK.

This partnership means that we have the ability to fund significant translational research opportunities through the combination of large scale sample collection across this patient population and SMD’s research expertise providing potential to have national and international relevance.

Every research project we fund has a measurable impact on patients’ lives. Through our research, we’re helping to pioneer improvements in healthcare for the patients in the hospitals we support, our community, and even worldwide.

We are open to proposals and ready to support the best.

What we fund:

- **research projects** – we award grants to foster research in areas of strategic importance for BH and SMD. They are intended to ‘pump prime’ ideas, individuals and interdisciplinary collaborations. The purpose of the grants is to facilitate the collection of pilot data to allow a high quality competitive grant application to a research council.

- **infrastructure to support research** – to purchase state of the art equipment to enhance the research capability of our partners
- **infrastructure to deliver enhanced healthcare service to our population** – we fund innovative surgical and diagnostics instruments as well as improved environment for our hospitals' inpatients.
- **research into new & improved care pathways** – we fund studies that explore new improved ways to deliver healthcare.
- **Careers in science** – we have two fellowship schemes, one aimed at Clinical fellows and one for Nurses and Allied Healthcare professionals.

We fund individuals and teams; we provide seed funding to help with proof of concept, right through to major research programmes. We offer significant support with the aim of enabling and encouraging a step change in the next five to ten years.

### **OUR STRATEGIC OPERATING PRINCIPLES**

- We focus on areas that are identified by BH and SMD as having potential for growth and that can bring transformational change, helping to deliver their longer-term vision.
- Our funding plays a catalytic role to obtain funds from other external funders.
- We seek to fund projects that have a clear 5-10 year vision on how Charity funding will leverage significant further funds.

### **OUR GRANTS PROCESS**

We have two calls for applications per year in April and August. All our large grants proposal are peer reviewed prior to being assessed by our Grants Committee, which meets twice a year in February and October.

We review our funding strategy on an annual base, to respond to the ever-changing external environment and to ensure close alignment with our partners.