Does the PI have to be a pharmacist or a medical researcher? Or both as co-applicants?

The PI does not have to be a pharmacist in order to apply. The PI or co-applicants can be either a pharmacist or a medical researcher, there are no restrictions or eligibility requirements on who leads on the research. However, the research team should be multi-disciplinary and have a strong background in the area of research that they are undertaking. Furthermore, if the PI has relatively junior research experience, it must be evident that they are being supported by experienced researchers in the team.

Is the reference list counted in the word count?

The reference list is not included in the word count and can be included as an appending document to the application form.

Will an entirely qualitative research project be considered?

Yes, an entirely qualitative project will be considered. It needs to be made clear why a qualitative study/methodology has been selected to address the particular issue and why this is the most appropriate method. Systematic reviews are also eligible within the Project Grants scheme, however the case for patient benefit/improvement to policy and practice needs to be made.

What indirect costs can the funding cover?

None. Pharmacy Research UK is an independent research charity with limited funding available, therefore the funding that we provide must be used solely for the purposes of research related work (i.e. direct costs). The costs that we will provide include salaries for research work, appropriate travel and dissemination costs, equipment and PPI. Indirect costs includes estate charges, which the Charity will not fund. However, these Organisations can gain support for indirect costs from the funding councils for England (Higher Education Funding Council for England), Scotland (Scottish Funding Council), Wales (Higher Education Funding Council for Wales) and Northern Ireland (Department for Employment and Learning).

Can part funding from PRUK be used as part of a longer project e.g. a PhD project that runs for three years?

This will depend on the nature of the work taking place. Pharmacy Research UK will consider co-funding research with other funding bodies, however it must be made very clear in the application exactly what costs are being claimed for from us. Additionally, the funders must agree in advance to the co-funding arrangement, as the necessary arrangements to the intellectual property must take place prior to the release of any funding. As a note, the Project Grants scheme is intended for impactful research that will provide benefit to patients down the line, either in the short or long term. Unless otherwise justified, PhD research would not be appropriate for this research scheme however the Personal Awards scheme would be more appropriate.

Can the funding be used to pay salary for a research fellow (who is also an international candidate)?

Yes, collaborators from outside of the UK are welcome to work on the research and salaries can be claimed for a research fellow to conduct research related work. All costs claimed must relate to the research work and be justified.