

Stroke Association

How we decide what research we fund

To ensure that we fund high-quality research we have a rigorous independent peer-review process.

We are a member of the Association of Medical Research Charities (AMRC) and as such we follow the AMRC's high standards and recommended principles of peer review:

- Proportionality
- Independence
- Diversity
- Rotation
- Impartiality
- Transparency

The funding process

Step 1:



We receive applications from researchers in response to our funding call. The Research Team at the Stroke Association check that the applications are eligible.

Step 2:

The Stroke Association creates a Panel of external experts and people with lived experience of stroke. This Panel reviews the applications.

Our external experts are people with scientific and/or clinical expertise and experience. They assess the applications based on:



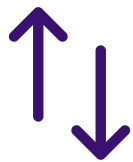
- The relevance of the project to our research priorities.
- The scientific quality of the project.
- The involvement of people with lived experience of stroke.
- Their plans for achieving impact.
- The project's value for money.

Our lived experience reviewers are people who have had a stroke themselves or have cared for someone after a stroke. They are members of our Stroke Voices in Research involvement network and are experts through experience. Applicants produce plain English summaries of their projects for our lived experience reviewers to assess based on:



- The relevance of research and outcomes for people affected by stroke.
- The quality of patient and public involvement and potential impact.
- The quality of research trials and recruitment and feasibility.
- The clarity of plain English descriptions.
- The plans to disseminate results to relevant audiences.

Step 3:



Peer review scores from our Panel are used to rank applications and shortlist for interview with agreement from the Panel Chair.

Step 4:



In-person or online Panel meetings take place. For our Fellowship and Lectureship awards, the applicants give a short presentation on their project and are interviewed by the Panel. The Panel scores each application and decides who should be offered funding.

Step 5:



A list of the projects that have been recommended for funding is sent to our Trustees to approve. Once this is done, the researchers must formally accept their funding offer and then the projects can start.