



Knowledge exchange fellowships 2018 applicant guidance

Alzheimer's Society and Alzheimer Nederland are the largest care and research charities in their respective countries. Both organisations have a proud history of funding research and this knowledge exchange fellowship programme is designed to support the exchange of knowledge, data and expertise between the two countries. You can read more about the research programmes of the two countries here - [Alzheimer's Society](#) and [Alzheimer Nederland](#).

The knowledge exchange fellowships will allow researchers to spend a period of time in the other country to establish and strengthen collaborations between researchers and research groups. Applicants should have shown exceptional promise in their career so far and may be expected to make an important contribution to/occupy an important place in dementia research in the near future.

Previous knowledge exchange fellowships

In 2015 Alzheimer's Society and Alzheimer Nederland jointly funded seven exchange fellowships for care and biomedical researchers to spend up to a year in the other country to establish and strengthen collaborations between research groups. In December 2017 we brought these fellows together for a meeting in Amsterdam to discuss the programme and evaluate the scheme. The feedback from the fellows on the scheme was overwhelmingly positive so the charities decided to repeat the call in 2018.

Why apply for this fellowship?

- Unique opportunity to build or strengthen collaborations between two leading countries in dementia research.
- Personal development for the applicant through training, learning new skills and leadership qualities.
- The grant provides an opportunity to bring new skills to and from the host institution.
- The fellowship gives you exposure to 'critical friends' and encourages better performance and higher quality research.
- Research outputs are more relevant for a wider audience due to the involvement of wider stakeholder groups and wider populations.
- Time out from the office allows you to develop new ideas and focus on writing publications.
- Development of further research opportunities and future collaborations.



Fellowship 2018 call details:

Applications are invited from talented researchers from Dutch and UK Universities and research institutes who are at the beginning of their scientific career, within ten years of completion of their PhD.

Applications should be submitted from the prospective fellow intending to travel either:

- From the UK to a host institute in the Netherlands
- From the Netherlands to a host institute in the UK

Only one application can be submitted per fellow, if researchers are interested in a bidirectional exchange then two separate applications must be submitted.

Funding up to £10,000 (€12.500) is available to support exchange fellowships lasting up to 18 months. The grant will not cover salaries. Applicants can apply for one long visit or multiple short visits to one or more institute.

Application deadlines:

Closing date midday 1 October 2018

Decisions by 14 December 2018

How to apply:

Applicants to submit application documents, in Word format, to Alzheimer's Society at: grantenquiries@alzheimers.org.uk or Alzheimer Nederland at onderzoek@alzheimer-nederland.nl

All applicants must complete:

- Full application form
- Lay application – English
- Lay application – Dutch

Top tips when preparing your application:

- Be realistic about your time planning when writing your application, think strategically about when would be best to schedule visits to maximise learning and avoid busy times in the visiting institution.
- Make sure both institutions are supportive of your exchange – plan some of the logistics such as where you will be based during your exchange visits, how will you make sure you meet with your supervisors, what support can the host institutions offer you to get the most out of the exchange.
- Be aware that you may need to make appointments with busy supervisors months ahead of your meetings.

Lay application guidance:

These guidelines describe which information you must include (where relevant for your research project) in sections 1 to 6 of the lay application. This lay application will be assessed by people affected by dementia who may not have a scientific background.

1. Background, research question and strategy

- What is already known about the proposed research topic/project?
- What is the research question and how does this build on past work in the field of research?
- How do you plan to find an answer to your research question? Give a brief description of the method and provide a timetable for the research project.

2. Why is it important to go abroad for this research project?

- What is the added value of carrying out your research at the institute or research team of your choice (e.g. more expertise in the field you wish to develop in, usage of special patient groups, learning a specific technique, building/strengthening networks, combining data, personal development)?

3. Importance of the research for people with dementia and/or caregivers

- Describe the goals of the research project. Explain in which of the following areas these goals lie:
 - Knowledge about the origin of the disease and disease mechanism
 - Diagnostics
 - Treatment and prevention
 - Effective care and support
- What are the implications of a positive outcome of the research for the patient and/or caregiver, now and/or in the future?

4. Burden and possible risks for participants

- How often and how long will the person with dementia and/or caregiver have to go to a specific location and what does the research participation consist of (e.g. diagnostic imaging, blood samples, biopsy, etc.)?
- What activities will the person with dementia and/or caregiver perform at home and what is the frequency of these activities (e.g. keeping a diary, measurements, questionnaires, etc.)?
- What are the possible risks for people with dementia and/or caregivers who participate in the research project?

5. Involvement of people with dementia and/or caregivers

- How are people with dementia and/or caregivers involved in the set up/implementation/evaluation of the research project?
- How do you plan to inform people with dementia and/or caregivers about the progress and the results of the research project?

6. Applicant motivations

- How will this fellowship support your career development?
- What skills and training do you hope to get out of the fellowship?
- What are your longer term career ambitions?