Accelerating Translation in Non-Alzheimer's dementia

Applicant Guidance

Alzheimer's Society

Together we are help & hope
for everyone living with dementia

Applicant Guidance 2026

Accelerating Translation in Non-Alzheimer's dementia

Guidance to support your application to this programme are below. This document **does not** apply to other Alzheimer's Society grants or funding programmes. This is a **one-off** funding call. Applications that do not follow this guidance are likely to be rejected at shortlisting or submission stage.

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Alzheimer's Society

Introduction

Alzheimer's Society is committed to improving the lives of people affected by dementia through research, supporting progress in diagnosis, treatment, prevention and care. To deliver our vision of a world where dementia no longer devastates lives, it is crucial that we address the long-standing inequalities in research investment and clinical progress between Alzheimer's disease and other diseases that cause dementia.

Vascular dementia, Lewy body dementia and frontotemporal dementia account for a substantial proportion of dementia cases, yet there remains a significant gap in the clinical evidence and infrastructure needed to develop and test new treatments.

The aim of this non-AD dementia programme is to drive progress by catalysing research that will address this gap by generating the preliminary clinical evidence and infrastructure needed to enable future large scale clinical trials in non-Alzheimer's disease (non-AD) dementias. Applications which support the future development of innovative clinical trial methodologies, including platform trials are also within scope of this call.

We're seeking applications that focus on addressing key barriers to progressing towards clinical trials in vascular dementia, Lewy body dementia (including Parkinson's disease dementia) and frontotemporal dementia. This includes generating the evidence, tools or approaches needed to support large scale clinical trials in non-AD dementia in the UK and to build the evidence base required to secure future clinical trial funding. The aim of the call is to accelerate clinical research and the development of new treatments for non-AD dementias.

Applicants may apply for direct costs of up to £2million to support their research including staff salary, consumables and equipment. Funding is available for up to five years. The project start date must be within 12 months of March 2027.

The evidence needs of different non-AD dementia disease types vary. Applications may focus on one or more of the following areas in one of the common non-AD causes of dementia:

- Establishing well-characterised patient cohorts and defining how they will be recruited to clinical trials. This may include generating new data to inform or strengthen future clinical trial applications
- Identifying research sites with relevant capability to deliver studies
- Stratifying treatment selection through systematic review and literature review
- Designing trial methodology including statistical analysis preparation
- Developing trial-ready outcome measures to measure drug efficacy

This list is not meant to be exhaustive, and applicants should consider carefully the barriers faced with their specific disease, and how their programme addresses them.

Applications need to be future focused, with a clear indication of how funding from this call will unlock future impact, particularly for patients, and advance the development of symptomatic or disease modifying treatments for the targeted disease into late-stage clinical trials.

By the end of the programme, it is expected the successful team will have generated the critical high-quality evidence required to apply for large scale, clinical trial funding in the targeted disease area. Examples of follow-on funding include the NIHR's Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Programme or LifeArc's Rare Disease Clinical Trials Programme. Applications may be further strengthened by outlining clear expected outcomes during the grant period, as well as once the grant has finished. For example, expected outcomes in clinical readiness to be achieved by Years 2 and 3 of the programme.

Alzheimer's Society anticipates being an active partner in the research project. Successful applicant team(s) will meet with the Society as part of the awarding process to discuss how the Society could work in partnership to support the funded study/studies.

Please contact the Research Grants team with any queries: grantenquiries@alzheimers.org.uk

Our standard grant terms and conditions, conflict of interest policy and open access policy can be found on our website here. **Please note:** Alzheimer's Society may develop bespoke terms and conditions for this funding call.

Reasonable adjustments

Please let us know if you require any reasonable adjustments to be made in relation to your application. If you are involving a person with dementia in your application and they require support completing any sections of the application form, please notify the Society to arrange this.

Submitting an application and review process

Applications must be submitted through our online grants system which can be accessed here: https://researchgrants.alzheimers.org.uk. Applications for funding will be a two-part process and will include an outline stage. **Full applications submitted without prior submission of an outline application will not be considered.**

Stage 1 – Outline application

Applicants will submit an outline application describing the proposed research, including its alignment with the aims of the funding call. Outline applications will clearly demonstrate future pathways to impact and top line budget information.

Stage 2 – Full application

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to submit a full application. Full applications will include a detailed case for support, budget and supporting information.

All shortlisted applicants will be invited to interview before final funding recommendations are made.

Assessment and Review Process

All applications that fulfil the eligibility criteria will be assessed using the following processes.

Peer and lived experience review
We will invite relevant academics and people affected by dementia to review your application independently, against the specified criteria for this grant.

Shortlisting
Based on reviewer comments and scores, our Non-AD Dementia Advisory Board will shortlist the highest-quality applications to take forward to full application and interview stage. Feedback will be provided to all applicants based on review by this Advisory Board.

Response to shortlisting feedback
If an application is invited to full application stage, the applicant team will be given the opportunity to respond to the Board's feedback at interview.

Advisory Board
The Non-AD Dementia Advisory Board, chaired by Prof Jeremy Chataway will be made up of both subject-specific external researchers and lay reviewers from Alzheimer's Society's Research Network. The Advisory Board will collectively review all applications against the funding criteria and rank them alongside other applications. Shortlisted applicant teams will be interviewed by the Advisory Board before funding recommendations are made. Feedback will be provided to all shortlisted applicants following a funding decision.

Application and Decision-making timeframe

The call will follow the timelines outlined below:

- Call opens for outline applications – **8th June 2026**
- Further information for applicants webinar – **25th June 2026**
- Outline submission deadline - **9th September 2026**
- Shortlisting – **September to November 2026**
- Shortlisting outcome communicated **by early November 2026**
- Call opens for full applications – **9th November 2026**
- Full applications close – **8th January 2027**
- Peer and lay review **– January 2027 to February 2027**
- Interviews completed by **end of February 2027**
- Funding decisions made by **March 2027**

Start dates

When completing your application, it is important that you include a realistic start date for your project if it is successful. As a minimum we would recommend two months after the time the funding decision will be communicated to allow for contracts to be approved and signed.

The start date for the project must be within 12 months of March 2027.

Scope of the funding call

What is suitable for this funding call?

- Projects underpinned by scientific rationale and evidence base, clearly justified within the current research landscape
- Addresses clearly defined barrier(s) to progressing towards clinical trials in vascular dementia, Lewy body dementia and/or frontotemporal dementia
- Generates the clinical evidence and/or infrastructure needed to enable future large-scale UK clinical trials
- Projects that improve trial readiness, including work to support study design, feasibility or delivery
- Development or validation of approaches relevant to clinical research
- Research that supports the understanding of patient populations for future projects

- Projects that sufficiently aim to progress towards future clinical research, for example building on prior research, pilot data or feasibility studies
- Research which develops or consolidates new networks of clinical research centres

What is not suitable?

- Early-stage discovery research/pre-clinical research
- Research focused solely on hypothesis generation
- Research that is not aligned to vascular dementia, Lewy body dementia or frontotemporal dementia
- Research which further supports a single, established centre of clinical research

Review criteria

Reviewers will consider the following criteria when reviewing all submitted applications:

- Strength of evidence base and scientific rationale for proposed application
- How clearly the application addresses a key barrier or barriers to advancing clinical trials in the chosen disease type
- Clarity of clinical study/trial plan and overall methodology for the proposed application
- Potential of the project to generate the clinical evidence and/or infrastructure needed to enable future clinical trials
- The strength and appropriateness of the research team and environment to deliver the project
- The feasibility of the project, including the clarity of milestones, recruitment and overall study design including how appropriate patient groups will be accessed and stratified
- Details of any already established manufacturing process for GMP trial supplies (if applicable to the proposed application)
- Strength of previously conducted research and existing infrastructure which supports the application, including details of any existing research capacity or cohorts which supports the application
- Strength of previously conducted Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement (PPIE) to support the study design and/or plans for PPIE during proposed study
- Strength of biomarkers proposed to be used within the study or plans to validate/develop biomarkers during the study design (if applicable)
- The potential impact of the research for people affected by dementia, including how the outputs will support future research progression
- Detailed expected outcomes of the programme, detailing what clinical trial readiness outcomes will be achieved during the grant period (for e.g. Years 2 and 3) and what outcomes will be achieved when the grant has concluded.

- Clarity and feasibility of plans for follow on funding and route to impact for patients affected by the chosen disease type

Application development

- Applicants must refer to published literature in their chosen area of research. Those that do not are likely to be rejected at shortlisting.
- Applicants should demonstrate their understanding of the background of research on which the proposal is built and that they are aware of other research being conducted both nationally and internationally in the research area. Information on current research in this area and how the proposed project relates to the wider research field must be provided in the application form.
- Applicants must provide information about how their research connects with the wider dementia research environment at their institute.
- Applications must include sufficient detail in the case for support regarding the research methods, to indicate to reviewers that the project is appropriately designed and feasible.
- Applicants should justify the costs claimed in the application and show that the project demonstrates value for money for the Society.
- Applicants that wish to use Alzheimer's Society services or staff as part of their research project **must** contact the Research Grants team **first** to discuss their application before submission. Please email grantenquiries@alzheimers.org.uk before contacting any teams at the Society.

Creating the right team

- The project team **must** include at least one person with a strong track record in dementia research, and the application should demonstrate how the project team will work together. It is strongly recommended that the team includes more than one person with a track record in dementia research.
- Applicant teams should include the appropriate expertise to support translational progress, including clinical, methodological or trial design expertise where relevant.
- Appropriate statistical support within the team should be demonstrated for all quantitative studies.

Co-applicant

A co-applicant is considered to be an individual who will have intellectual input into, and part ownership of, the research if the application is successful. They are expected to be actively involved in the project but do not necessarily need to be funded by the project. E.g. appropriate methodologists or people affected by dementia. A co-applicant is not limited to a researcher; we encourage the involvement of non-academic stakeholders. We strongly encourage applicants to

include early career researchers employed on grant proposals to be included as co-applicants if they are not lead applicants.

Collaborator

A collaborator is considered to be any individual named in the body of the application who will not be involved in the day-to-day execution of the project. E.g. someone providing technical advice voluntary organisations or Applied Research Collaborations (ARCs). A letter of support or email correspondence must be attached from any collaborator indicating their support for the project.

Authorised signatory

An authorised signatory is considered to be a research institution member of staff that confirms the institution is willing to administer the award if successfully funded. This person is usually a member of the institution's finance department.

Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement

Patient and public involvement (PPIE) is the term for involving people in your research who have personal experience of dementia - either living with the condition, carers and/or former carers. Meaningful PPIE moves beyond communicating research to the public, to involving people in the design and delivery of research. Meaningful PPIE enables people affected by dementia as 'experts by experience' to work with academics and clinicians to conduct high quality, relevant research.

Alzheimer's Society has a flexible approach to this as we believe it is important to engage with the right people to work in partnership to ensure your research is more relevant, credible, and impactful. So effective PPIE could also involve gathering the views of people who use, or may in the future use, a health service or treatment that your research is focussing on.

Alzheimer's Society lay reviewers expect to see clear descriptions of your plans or evidence of PPIE, and your reasons for doing so, in your applications. Your application will be enhanced by details of how you intend to meaningfully involve people or groups who will inform your research. These may include partnerships you have established independently, local PPIE services or the Alzheimer's Society Research Network. If you would like to discuss the option of involving the Research Network in your PPIE plans, contact researchnetwork@alzheimers.org.uk.

Additional PPIE resources:

- Applicants may find consulting the NIHR Research Support Service (RSS) useful when developing their application. Contact details for your local RDS are available here.
- Applicants may find the NIHR Research Design Service patient and public involvement in Health and Social Care Research handbook useful when developing PPIE plans here.

Participant recruitment

- Extensive detail must be given on all recruitment strategies and what may happen if the project fails to recruit, especially at full application stage.
- Applications **must not** solely use Alzheimer's Society as the main avenue for recruitment to the project.
- It is expected that all successfully shortlisted applicants proposing studies which include participant recruitment should discuss recruitment plans with Alzheimer's Society's Research Participation team during the full application stage. Contact details will be shared by the Research Grants team once an application has been successfully shortlisted.
- Applicants **should not** approach local Alzheimer's Society staff directly about support with recruitment, instead please email: grantenquiries@alzheimers.org.uk
- Join Dementia Research is a national service connecting people with research studies in their area.
- Alzheimer's Society is a National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) non-commercial Partner. Meaning that studies funded by us may be eligible to access NIHR Clinical Research Network (CRN) support. The NIHR CRN supports researchers in planning, setting up and delivering high quality research to the agreed timelines and study recruitment target, for the benefit of the NHS and its patients in England. Contact your local CRN team as early as possible when planning your study to access their support: Study Support Service | NIHR

General Finance guidelines

Alzheimer's Society does not pay institutional overheads on research grants.

Eligible costs:

- Salary (including National Insurance and superannuation contributions) of co-applicants if they do not hold a permanent position, or for those that must be bought out of their current contracts to work on the project
- Any direct expense required to complete the project
- Reasonable dissemination costs to academic and non-academic audiences
- Travel related to the project
- Equipment up to £20,000 per item - detailed justification is required regarding the expected use and demand of any equipment requested
- Care support costs to enable travel of staff employed on the grant

Costs which should not be claimed:

- Indirect costs and overheads, as specified by the research councils

- Salary of the principal investigator or other tenured co-applicants
- Publication charges, including open access fees
- Retrospective funding for work already completed
- 'Top-up' funds for current research projects
- Overspending on current grants
- Advertising/recruitment of staff
- Stationery
- Staff facilities
- Financial services (e.g. accounting, auditing)
- Routine care for patients
- Databases (unless specifically required for the research project)
- Teaching replacement costs

Requested salary costs should be based on a recognised pay model or the host institution's local salary scale, including London weighting if appropriate. Annual increments must be included, which should be based on the host institution's own salary scale. You should not include inflation on salaries. We do not have minimum FTE requirements.

The way in which Excess Treatment Costs are paid for clinical research changed in September 2021. Updated guidance can be found on the NIHR website. If your grant involves excess treatment costs you will be required to submit the Schedule of Events Cost Attribution form with your grant application to the Society. You must email this form to grantenquiries@alzheimers.org.uk with your Society grant application reference number.

Eligibility criteria and cost guidance

We only accept applications for research projects that will take place at UK-based universities, NHS sites or other recognised higher research institutions.

Principal investigators should have a contract of employment with the host university that exceeds the planned finish date of the research by at least 12 months.

Cost guidance

Applicants may apply for direct research costs up to £2,000,000 for up to five years to support their research, providing budgets for staff salary, consumables, and equipment.

Reasonable costs to allow the person(s) working on the project to attend any relevant conferences can also be included.

Alzheimer's Society do not pay the salaries of researchers with a full-time salaried contract of employment. However, you can claim for the salary of co-applicants if they do not hold a full-time

salaried position or if they need to be bought out of their contracts with their respective universities to work directly on the project. The applicants must ensure that no more than 100% of FTE is claimed by any co-applicant.

Any applicant wishing to apply for their own salary must submit the application jointly with a tenured senior member (preferably the head) of the department in which they propose to work.

Salaries cannot be claimed for project management time.

Contents of Outline Application Form

Project summary	This section includes: ▪ Scientific abstract (250 words) ▪ Lay abstract (250 words) ▪ Total Research Cost ▪ Project duration (months) ▪ Confirm submission elsewhere/ previous application with AS
Project overview and impact	The word limit for each question is 200 words. This section includes: ▪ How does your project align with the aims of this funding call? Use this question to describe how your project aligns with the aims of the funding call. In particular, explain how the research addresses a key barrier to developing the clinical infrastructure and/or evidence needed to enable future clinical trials in your chosen disease type(s). ▪ What are the key milestones and deliverables of your project? Use this question to outline the major milestones of the project and the deliverables associated with each stage. ▪ What impact will your project have and how will it enable the next stage of research? Use this question to describe the expected impact of your project and how the evidence generated will support future research. ▪ Engagement with Alzheimer's Society Use this question to describe how you will work with Alzheimer's Society to support delivery of the project and maximise impact.
Lead applicant details	This section must be completed in as much detail as possible: ▪ Personal information ▪ Previous posts held ▪ Education & training ▪ Research Grants ▪ Up to 10 most relevant publications
Co-applicant details	Please add details of the co-applicants to this proposal with the same information as the lead application.

	A co-applicant is considered to be an individual who will have intellectual input into, and part ownership of, the research if the application is successful. They are expected to be actively involved in the project. Co-applicants are required to login to update their own CV.
Collaborators	Please add details of any collaborators to the project. A collaborator is considered to be any individual named in the body of the application but will not be involved in the day-to-day execution of the project. A letter of support or email correspondence should be attached from any collaborator indicating their support for the project.
Scientific outline proposal	You will be required to attach a five (5) page (excluding references) scientific outline. Please see the 'scientific outline proposal' section for more details.
Lay outline proposal	You will be required to attach a three (3) page lay outline to be reviewed by Alzheimer's Society Research Network volunteers. Please see the 'lay outline proposal' section for more details.
Authorised signatory	Ensure an appropriate member of your institutions finance department is ready to authorise your application at the submission stage. **Your authorised signatory must sign off your application before the submission deadline for your application to be officially submitted.** This section should include their name and contact details.
Attachments	Attachments can include: ▪ Gantt chart/project plan All attachments must be converted to pdf when uploaded. Attachments that are over five pages in length may be removed by the Society to ensure the application forms are manageable for reviewers.

Scientific Outline Proposal

The scientific outline proposal will be peer reviewed and considered by the Non-AD Dementia Advisory Board. **This section is limited to five (5) pages (excluding references) in Arial no smaller than 11pt with a minimum 2cm margin.** We recommend you titling this attachment 'Scientific Outline: [project title]' and include page numbers within your document.

You must attach a one-page GANTT chart/project plan to your application as an additional attachment. All other figures should be included within the five-page limit and **cannot** be attached separately.

At the end of your outline proposal, please provide references in full (including title, all authors, journal, year, volume, and page numbers). This does not count towards the five-page limit.

Some suggested headings and points to consider are included below:

Aims of the project and significance of the research

- Clearly describe scientific rationale for the project and accurately define the evidence gaps which will be met by the proposed application

- Clearly describe the significance of the proposed research study and the difference it will make tangibly for patients affected by the targeted disease, giving indicative timelines where possible

Work that has led up to the project

- Outline the existing evidence which supports clinical trial delivery for the targeted disease type, clearly identifying any gaps in data, knowledge and infrastructure
- Outline any existing work to identify or stratify patient groups

Research design and methods to be used

- Provide a detailed clinical study/trial plan
- Provide clear milestones for the project and how and when these will be measured

Recruitment and Participation

- Provide plans for patient recruitment including details of how patients will be identified, accessed and recruited.
- Include details of how resources such as Join Dementia Research, Trialfinder and AS support services may be utilised to support participant recruitment.
- Provide plans for how research sites will be identified. If sites are already established, provide details of how this work was conducted previously.
- How will diversity of participants be managed within this study?

Involvement of delivery partners/other stakeholders and people affected by dementia

- Outline any non-academic stakeholders and delivery partners (for example industry partners) and how they will support the study delivery.
- Clearly outline any PPIE plans for the proposed study and how this will be managed. Provide milestones were appropriate.

Route to patient impact

- Clearly define the route to patient impact for the proposed study, outlining the direct impact of this funding and how future follow-on impact will be achieved.
- Outline how the direct outcomes of this study will support future follow-on funding applications. Give details of which follow-on funding programmes will be applied to using the evidence and infrastructure generated through this funding (e.g. HTA programme or LifeArc Rare Disease Clinical Trials Programme).
- Clearly detail the impact that will be felt by patients during the research study and following years, including timelines wherever possible.

Project team

- Outline who will be involved in designing, delivering, and supporting the research.
- Describe the roles of the individuals involved in the research.

- Clearly articulate why the chosen research team are best placed to deliver this research study, including relevant experience in research field and research environment at host institutions/research study sites.

Lay Outline Proposal

Introduction of the research area and your project

- What type of dementia will your study focus on and what problems in clinical trial delivery will your project address?
- What you hope to find out.
- How the results of your study could benefit the lives of people affected by dementia today or in the future – be as specific as possible.
- Describe any involvement of people affected by dementia in the preparation of your proposal.

Methods and techniques

- Describe the methods and techniques used in the proposal.
- If you are including people as participants in your project, describe and justify the number of people you plan to recruit and how you aim to do this.
- A brief description of how you have considered diversity amongst study participants.

Dissemination and impact

- Dissemination plans for the outcomes of your project – be as specific as possible.
- How your findings could be put into practice or developed after completion of the project.

Conclusion summary

- **The lay case for support can contain an overwhelming amount of information for lay reviewers. We highly recommend that you summarise the key points and main takeaways of the research project and what it aims to accomplish.**

Contents of Full Application Form

Proposal summary	This section includes: ▪ Scientific abstract (250 words) ▪ Lay abstract (250 words) ▪ Total Research Cost ▪ Project duration (months) ▪ Confirm submission elsewhere/ previous application with AS
Project overview and impact	The word limit for each question is 200 words. This section includes: ▪ How does your project align with the aims of the funding call? Use this question to describe how your project aligns with the aims of the funding call. In particular, explain how the research addresses a key barrier to developing the clinical infrastructure and/or evidence needed to enable future clinical trials in your chosen disease type(s). ▪ What are the key milestones and deliverables of your project? Use this question to outline the major milestones of the project and the deliverables associated with each stage. ▪ What impact will your project have and how will it enable the next stage of research? Use this question to describe the expected impact of your project and how the evidence generated will support future research. ▪ Engagement with Alzheimer's Society Use this question to describe how you will work with Alzheimer's Society to support delivery of the project and maximise impact.
Lead applicant details	This section must be completed in as much detail as possible: ▪ Personal information ▪ Previous posts held ▪ Education & training ▪ Research Grants (if applicable) ▪ Up to 10 most relevant publications (if applicable)
Co-applicant details	Please add details of the co-applicants to this proposal with the same information as the lead application. A co-applicant is considered to be an individual who will have intellectual input into, and part ownership of, the research if the application is successful. They are expected to be actively involved in the project. Co-applicants are required to login to update their own CV.
Collaborators	Please add details of any collaborators to the project. A collaborator is considered to be any individual named in the body of the application but will not be involved in the day-to-day execution of the project. A letter of support or email correspondence should be attached from any collaborator indicating their support for the project.
Finance	Please see the finance guidelines for allowed costs. In this section provide a detailed costing and justified budget **in as much detail as possible.** Outline any additional sources of funding or any grants in a similar area.

Alzheimer's Society

Impact of COVID-19 Statement	500 words to ensure applicants have an opportunity to inform reviewers and Panel members of the impact of COVID-19 to their: Research, Publications, Funding, Research time, institutional support, and any other impacts. Applicants are asked not to: 1. name any third-party individuals; 2. identify the relationship with any third parties; 3. otherwise include anything which might identify the third party. We encourage Applicants to use phrases such as 'a close relative had COVID19 and required significant support in order to recover' or 'I had to carry out caring responsibilities in addition to my research and admin workload, which had an impact on the amount of time I could dedicate to my research'.
Case for support	You will be required to attach a ten (10) page (excluding references) scientific case for support. Please see the 'case for support' section for more details.
Lay case for support	You will be required to attach a five (5) page lay case for support to be reviewed by Alzheimer's Society Research Network volunteers. Please see the 'lay case for support' section for more details.
Ethics and R&D approvals	If relevant, please include information on human participants in your study including all ethics and NHS R&D approvals you have/will need to obtain.
Equality, diversity, and inclusion	Addressing health inequalities across the entire dementia journey, from bench to bedside, is of strategic importance to Alzheimer's Society. Applicants are asked to outline the steps taken by their team to ensure that equality, diversity and inclusion are taken into account within the research project. (E.g., consideration of health inequalities, large-scale population cohort studies and clinical trials with diverse populations) and within the research team. *Sex and gender considerations for the research project are not required in this section as these will be specifically addressed in the next question.*
Sex and gender considerations	Accounting for sex and gender dimensions is essential to ensuring that dementia research is rigorous, reproducible, and beneficial to all. Alzheimer's Society is committed to adopting the MESSAGE policy framework as a funder, promoting its integration into research practices. We aim to ensure that researchers incorporate these considerations into their studies and that our expert reviewers apply this framework when evaluating applications. We expect applicants to consider and include the following aspects in their proposals: 1. Sex and/or gender characteristics: ▪ Identify which sex and/or gender characteristic(s) will be addressed and justify their inclusion in your study. ▪ Specify how research participants or subjects will be recruited to reflect these characteristics. 2. Participant distribution: ▪ Describe the target sex and/or gender distribution of participants or subjects and explain why this distribution is appropriate for answering your research question. 3. Recruitment and retention strategies: ▪ For clinical and population health research involving primary data collection, outline how you will recruit and retain participants to achieve the desired distribution. ▪ For secondary data analysis, describe the sex and/or gender distribution in the original dataset. 4. Analysis and reporting:

	▪ Provide an analysis plan that includes any sex- and/or gender-disaggregated analysis. If not planning to conduct such analysis, provide a strong, evidence-based justification. ▪ Commit to reporting the sex and/or gender distribution and disaggregated findings in all published outputs. In cases where these aspects are not addressed, applications must provide an evidence-based justification. For more detailed guidance, refer to Section 3 of the MESSAGE policy framework.
Data and power calculations	If applicable, applicants must provide details of the data sets that will be used in the proposed research. This includes whether the data is publicly available, requires access approval, or is generated as part of the study. Please describe the size and characteristics of the data set(s), including key variables relevant to your research question. You must also include power calculations or justification of sample size to demonstrate the feasibility and statistical robustness of your proposed analyses. Where power calculations are not possible, a clear rationale should be provided.
Authorised signatory	Ensure an appropriate member of your institutions finance department is ready to authorise your application at the submission stage. Your authorised signatory must sign off your application before the submission deadline for your application to be officially submitted. This section should include their name and contact details.
Referees	Please provide the name and contact details of researchers in the same field who could potentially review your application. These referees must not be from your institution, and you must not have a working relationship with them. In certain circumstances it may be appropriate to notify the Society of any researchers that you wish to be excluded from reviewing your application, for example competitors. The Society will try to accommodate these requests where possible.
Attachments	Attachments can include: ▪ Gantt chart/project plan ▪ Animal licenses ▪ Letters of endorsements/support from institution and collaborators All attachments must be converted to pdf when uploaded. Attachments that are over five pages in length may be removed by the Society to ensure the application forms are manageable for reviewers.

Scientific case for support

The scientific case for support will be peer reviewed and considered by the Non-AD Dementia Advisory Board. **This section is limited to ten (10) pages (excluding references) in Arial no smaller than 11pt with a minimum 2cm margin.** We recommend you titling this attachment 'Case for support: [project title]' and include page numbers within your document.

You must attach a one-page GANTT chart/project plan to your application as an additional attachment. All other figures should be included within the ten-page limit and **cannot** be attached separately.

At the end of your case for support, please provide references in full (including title, all authors, journal, year, volume, and page numbers). This does not count towards the ten-page limit.

Some suggested headings and points to consider are included below:

Aims of the project and significance of the research

- Clearly describe scientific rationale for the project and accurately define the evidence gaps which will be met by the proposed application
- Outline any existing barriers to clinical trial delivery in chosen disease type, describing how these barriers prevent progress towards large scale clinical trials
- Clearly describe the significance of the proposed research study and the difference it will make tangibly for patients affected by the targeted disease, giving indicative timelines where possible
- Clearly demonstrate how an investment of this size will deliver transformative change for the patients effected by the targeted disease – please be as specific as possible

Work that has led up to the project

- Outline the existing evidence which supports clinical trial delivery for the targeted disease type, clearly identifying any gaps in data, knowledge and infrastructure
- Outline any existing work to identify or stratify patient groups
- Outline supported evidence or pilot data which will be used in the proposed study for e.g. evidence to support biomarkers, therapeutics or outcome measures

Research design and methods to be used

- Provide a detailed clinical study/trial plan and detail all methodology which will be used, including statistical methodology.
- Provide clear milestones for the project and how and when these will be measured. Describe any measures which will be taken if milestones are not met to mitigate outcomes.
- Elaborate further on any budgetary information provided in finance section if required.
- Provide details of any already established manufacturing processes for GMP trial supplies (if applicable)

Recruitment and Participation

- Provide plans for patient recruitment including details of how patients will be identified, accessed and recruited.
- Include details of how resources such as Join Dementia Research, Trialfinder and AS support services may be utilised to support participant recruitment. Include details of discussions with Alzheimer's Society Research Participation team during the full application stage of this process.
- Provide plans for how research sites will be identified. If sites are already established, provide details of how this work was conducted previously.

- How will diversity of participants be managed within this study? Please provide details of any steps that will be taken to ensure the diversity of participant cohorts.
- Justify any exclusion criteria.

Involvement of delivery partners/other stakeholders and people affected by dementia

- Outline any previous PPIE activity which underpins the research proposal.
- Outline any non-academic stakeholders and delivery partners (for example industry partners) and how they will support the study delivery.
- Clearly outline any PPIE plans for the proposed study and how this will be managed. Provide milestones were appropriate.

Route to patient impact

- Clearly define the route to patient impact for the proposed study, outlining the direct impact of this funding and how future follow-on impact will be achieved.
- Outline how the direct outcomes of this study will support future follow-on funding applications. Give details of which follow-on funding programmes will be applied to using the evidence and infrastructure generated through this funding (e.g. HTA programme or LifeArc Rare Disease Clinical Trials Programme).
- Clearly detail the impact that will be felt by patients during the research study and following years, including timelines wherever possible.

Project team

- Outline who will be involved in designing, delivering, and supporting the research.
- Describe the roles of the individuals involved in the research.
- Clearly articulate why the chosen research team are best placed to deliver this research study, including relevant experience in research field and research environment at host institutions/research study sites.

Lay case for support

The lay case for support will be reviewed by Alzheimer's Society Research Network volunteers. It is the **only** part of the application that they will see therefore it is important that it is not only comprehensible to such readers but also comprehensive. The lay case for support should be clearly written in language that people without a scientific background can understand.

- **The lay case for support should be a maximum of five (5) pages and should use the headings below. Do not use print smaller than Arial 12 pt.** This section does not require referencing.
- Please name this attachment 'Lay case for support: [project title]'.
- Hear from our volunteers about how to write a lay case for support.
- Presentation, spelling, and grammar are important. You may wish to use pictures and diagrams if this improves comprehension and readability, but these must be included within the page limit.

- Use plain, non-technical language and avoid using unexplained abbreviations or acronyms. We recommend including a glossary for unavoidable scientific terminology.

We recommend that your summary includes the following:

Introduction of the research area and your project

- What type of dementia will your study focus on and what problems in clinical trial delivery will your project address?
- What you hope to find out.
- How the results of your study could benefit the lives of people affected by dementia today or in the future – be as specific as possible.
- How your project complements national/international research in the area.
- Explain why the Society should invest in this project and how it offers value for money.
- Describe any involvement of people affected by dementia in the preparation of your proposal.

Methods and techniques

- Describe the methods and techniques used in the proposal.
- Outline any advice given from any specialists about the proposal, e.g., statisticians.
- How will you recruit participants in your project and how many will you aim to recruit?
- A brief description of how you have considered diversity amongst study participants.

Dissemination and impact

- Dissemination plans for the outcomes of your project – be as specific as possible.
- How your findings could be put into practice or developed after completion of the project.

Conclusion summary

- **The lay case for support can contain an overwhelming amount of information for lay reviewers. We highly recommend that you summarise the key points and main takeaways of the research project and what it aims to accomplish.**

Pre-submission checklist

To help make sure you've completed the steps needed to submit your application please go through the list of questions below:

- Is your host institution a University, Hospital or Research Institution based in the UK?
- Is your CV up-to-date and fully complete?
- Have your co-applicants confirmed their participation and approved the application?
- Have they fully completed their CVs?
- Are your costs eligible and appropriately justified?
- Are your cases for support within the page limits?
- Does your lay summary use the appropriate language and writing style for a lay audience? Have you used the recommended headings?
- Are your attachments suitable and in the correct file format?
- Have you included a realistic project start date? (at least 2 months after the award date in March)
- Is your authorised signatory at your host institution ready to sign off your proposal to complete submission?