



Guidelines on Application for a BCVA Clinical Research Grant

The BCVA makes available a small number of research grants each year. Any full member of the BCVA is eligible to apply for a research grant. While applications from individuals not having previously undertaken any research will be given full consideration, in many instances an application will be strengthened by collaboration with individuals having prior research experience. In many instances therefore the BCVA would encourage individuals to collaborate with colleagues in an academic or research establishment.

The BCVA is particularly interested in supporting projects likely to provide results of immediate relevance to its members. In the majority of cases therefore the subject under investigation will be of clinical importance to cattle practitioners within the UK. The maximum available grant at the current time is £1,000.

In addition to filling in the attached application form, applicants should provide a short description of the project of not more than 1,000 words. This should be written under the following headings: -

- 1. Title of Proposed Project:**
- 2. Contact Details of Applicants:** Name, Address, Tel, Fax, E-mail *etc.*
- 3. Details of Applicants Current Employment:** e.g. Practitioner, Intern, *etc.*
- 4. Introduction:** Brief introduction stating the reasons you consider the research should be undertaken, the aims and objective of the research and why BCVA members should support the project.
- 5. Research Protocol/Study Design:** State how the research is to be undertaken, specific details such as case/control selection, sampling methods, assays and statistical analysis to be employed should be included.
- 6. Costing:** The project should be costed in full. Any other sources of funding or potential funding should be identified. The amount applied for should be clearly stated (current maximum £1,000).
- 7. Legal/Ethical Considerations:** There should be a clear statement that the applicants have given full consideration to the techniques to be employed, and have taken necessary steps to ensure that they are working within the Law. If there is any doubt whether the procedures employed will fall within the remit of *The Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986* advice should be sought from a Home Office Inspector before the application is submitted to the BCVA.
- 8. Duration of Project:** Expected start and finish date of the project.

9. **Risks:** What problems can you foresee may occur with this project? e.g. lack of case material.
10. **Postgraduate study:** If the work is to form part of a candidate's postgraduate study for a further qualification, details should be provided.

Administration and Conditions:

1. The Education, Clinical Research and Student Liaison Officer of the BCVA will consider applications in the first instance with the assistance of the Education Group.
2. The final decision whether to fund an application rests with the full BCVA Council.
3. Applications will therefore be considered at the earliest meeting of Council. Council meetings proceed the BCVA scientific meetings in April, July and October, with occasional additional meetings at other times of the year.
4. It is a condition of all BCVA Grants that the results are presented verbally at a BCVA meeting and as a paper in the Association's journal *Cattle Practice* as soon as possible after the completion of the work (usually within 6 months).
5. Awards are paid in two halves. Half at the time the initial award is made and half on completion of the work and after condition 4 has been fulfilled.
6. All applications for funding will be considered; however, please note that application where all or the majority of the incurred costs are related to travel are unlikely to be funded

Jon Huxley
Clinical Research Officer
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