

NIAA

National Institute of Academic
Anaesthesia

The National Institute of Academic Anaesthesia

Strategy 2015–2020



OUR VISION

To improve the health of patients and the public through
research and innovation.

OUR MISSION

To promote, support and deliver world-class biomedical and
health research in anaesthesia, perioperative and pain medicine.



Across 2015-2020, the activities and resources of the

AIM ONE

DEVELOP HIGH QUALITY COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH THROUGH THE NIAA PERIOPERATIVE MEDICINE CLINICAL TRIALS NETWORK (CTN)

We will support and promote the work of the Clinical Trials Network. The CTN will:

- Create a group of suitably trained Principal Investigators across the UK and suitably trained Local Investigators from a range of professional backgrounds.
- Develop a Chief Investigator training and mentorship scheme.
- Identify and create training, communication and networking opportunities for trial investigators at all levels.
- Publicise the CTN as a new opportunity for anyone interested in engaging in clinical research in Perioperative Medicine.

We will continue to support the Quality Audit and Research Coordinators (QuARCs) in sharing information on local issues.

We will increase engagement with the NIHR Clinical Research Network (CRN) by:

- Increasing the number of NIHR portfolio studies and maximising the value of matched funding from the NIAA by utilising the CTN.
- Creating close links with the CRN National Specialty Lead and Regional Specialty Leads in Anaesthesia, Perioperative Medicine and Pain (APOMP).

AIM TWO

DEVELOP AND PROMOTE TRAINEE INVOLVEMENT IN NATIONAL AND REGIONAL RESEARCH AND AUDIT

We will support and promote the work of the Research & Audit Federation of Trainees (RAFT) and associated Trainee Research Networks (TRNs) by:

- Encouraging the creation of TRNs in regions where none currently exist and providing mentorship and support to fledgling TRNs.
- Encourage RAFT engagement with NIHR portfolio.
- Encourage support to regional TRNs in the development of sustainable, multi-centre audit and quality improvement projects.

We will promote the 'Research Aware–Research Ready–Research Experienced' education model by:

- Using the NIAA Academic Training Coordinator to oversee promotion of research training, develop approved research fellowships, and coordinate research meetings.
- Supporting parallel training pathways for university-based academics and research active NHS consultants.
- Working with the Royal College of Anaesthetists to update and support academic components of the anaesthetic specialty curriculum.
- Creating a network of academic leads to support academic trainees in their Annual Review of Competency Progression (ARCP).

We will create an environment where anaesthetists in training can make full use of high level government and charitable funding opportunities.

NIAA are focused on delivering four strategic aims:

AIM THREE

AWARD GRANT FUNDING TO RESEARCH AND RESEARCHERS OF THE HIGHEST QUALITY BASED ON THE NIAA VISION AND MISSION

We will maintain the integrity of the NIAA grants process to ensure the NIAA's continued status as an NIHR portfolio partner, by:

- Promoting the benefits of NIHR portfolio status and using NIHR data to analyse which grants achieved additional NIHR funding.
- Implementing a succession plan for the NIAA Grants Officer.
- Continuing to support the NIAA Funders' Forum as an opportunity for collaboration between specialist societies.

We will support the early career development of trainees who wish to pursue academic training, by:

- Investigating ways of securing matched funding for career development grants.
- Continuing to offer the John Snow Intercalated BSc Awards for medical students.

We will support NIAA mid-career/career development grants for research professionals and post-doctoral researchers, by:

- Continuing to provide fellowships through the HSRC.
- Encouraging other organisations to develop research fellowships.
- Developing good practice guidance for fellowships.
- Establishing a national strategy for local quality assurance of research fellowships.

We will promote and communicate research and career development opportunities as widely as possible through all available NIAA channels, events and external organisations.

AIM FOUR

FACILITATE INCREASED FUNDING FOR AND STRATEGICALLY INVEST IN NATIONAL HEALTH PRIORITY AREAS AS DEFINED BY PATIENTS, PUBLIC AND THE PROFESSIONS

NIAA partners recognise the importance of priority setting exercises as defined above; nevertheless top quality research proposals out-with these will be carefully considered on their merits.

We will communicate the ongoing need for high quality biomedical and clinical research in anaesthesia by:

- Seeking further joint funding initiatives with high profile bodies such as the Department of Health; NHS England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland; the NIHR; the Medical Research Council; the Francis Crick Institute; the Wellcome Trust, and Royal Colleges.
- Promoting the appointment of academic anaesthetists to research funding panels and the boards of major funders.

We will encourage the awarding of grants in accordance with defined priorities, such as the military, the James Lind Alliance Priority Setting Partnership (JLA-PSP), and specialist society priorities.

We will produce NIHR Health Technology Assessments (HTAs) based on JLA-PSP priorities and encourage specialist societies to submit proposals and vignettes for NIAA support.

We will continue to support and work closely with the Health Services Research Centre (HSRC).

We will continue to support joint NIAA and Royal College of Surgeons (RCS) initiatives and joint meetings.



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For a more detailed version of the NIAA Strategy,
please visit www.niaa.org.uk

