

## The Medical Research Council

[The Medical Research Council](#) is at the forefront of scientific discovery to improve human health. Founded in 1913 to tackle tuberculosis, the MRC now invests taxpayers' money in some of the best medical research in the world across every area of health. Thirty-one MRC-funded researchers have won Nobel prizes in a wide range of disciplines, and MRC scientists have been behind such diverse discoveries as vitamins, the structure of DNA and the link between smoking and cancer, as well as achievements such as pioneering the use of randomised controlled trials, the invention of MRI scanning, and the development of a group of antibodies used in the making of some of the most successful drugs ever developed. Today, MRC-funded scientists tackle some of the greatest health problems facing humanity in the 21st century, from the rising tide of chronic diseases associated with ageing to the threats posed by rapidly mutating micro-organisms. [MRC Wikipedia entry](#).

[About the MRC](#). Based on priorities set out in the [Strategic plan](#), the MRC invests in research on behalf of the UK tax payer. Our research has resulted in [life-changing discoveries](#) for over a hundred years. The MRC's mission, as set out in our Royal Charter, is to:

- Encourage and support research to improve human health
- Produce skilled researchers
- Advance and disseminate knowledge and technology to improve the quality of life and economic competitiveness of the UK
- Promote dialogue with the public about medical research

## UKRI

From April 2018, the MRC will no longer exist as a separate [Research Council](#) [seven: Science & Technology Facilities Council(STFC); Medical Research Council (MRC); Natural Environment Research Council (NERC); Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC); Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC); Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC); Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC)] but will become part of a body called [United Kingdom Research & Innovation](#) (UKRI) whose website can be found [here](#). The launch and future development of UKRI has been set out in a [speech](#), dated January 2018, given by Sam Gyimah, Science Minister at the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.