

Health Research Charities Ireland (HRCI)



FACT SHEET

About HRCI

Who we are

HRCI is the national umbrella organisation for charities active in health research in Ireland.

Together, our members represent over 1 million Irish patients.

Through support and advocacy we represent the joint interests of our 40 members to improve health and prevent illness through research.

What we do

Ensure impactful health research through increased **Patient and Public Involvement (PPI)**. We host a PPI Shared Learning Group, provide practical supports, collaborate on national and international PPI initiatives, and communicate the importance of PPI.

Facilitate an increase in the quantity and quality of health research through the **Joint Funding Scheme (JFS)**. We partner with the Health Research Board (HRB) to manage the JFS, work to increase

the quantity and quality of applications and inform key stakeholders about the scheme.

Inform and support HRCI members to increase their capacity to engage in health research. We provide one-to-one assistance, organise events, guidelines and educational talks, provide networking and knowledge-sharing opportunities and inform members about relevant developments through our communications channels.

Positively influence Ireland's development as an excellent place to do health research. We manage the **Irish Health Research Forum (IHRF)** to create a strong environment for high quality health research. We act as the collective voice of member organisations and raise awareness and understanding of the value of health research.



1996

HRCI founded (then called MRCG).

HRCI and the HRB launch the Joint Funding Scheme.

2006

2014

Establishment of Irish Health Research Forum.

First CEO of HRCI appointed.

2017

2019

Rebranding of the MRCG as Health Research Charities Ireland (HRCI).

134 projects funded through Joint Funding Scheme since inception.

2020

The HRCI/HRB Joint Funding Scheme (JFS)

What is the JFS?

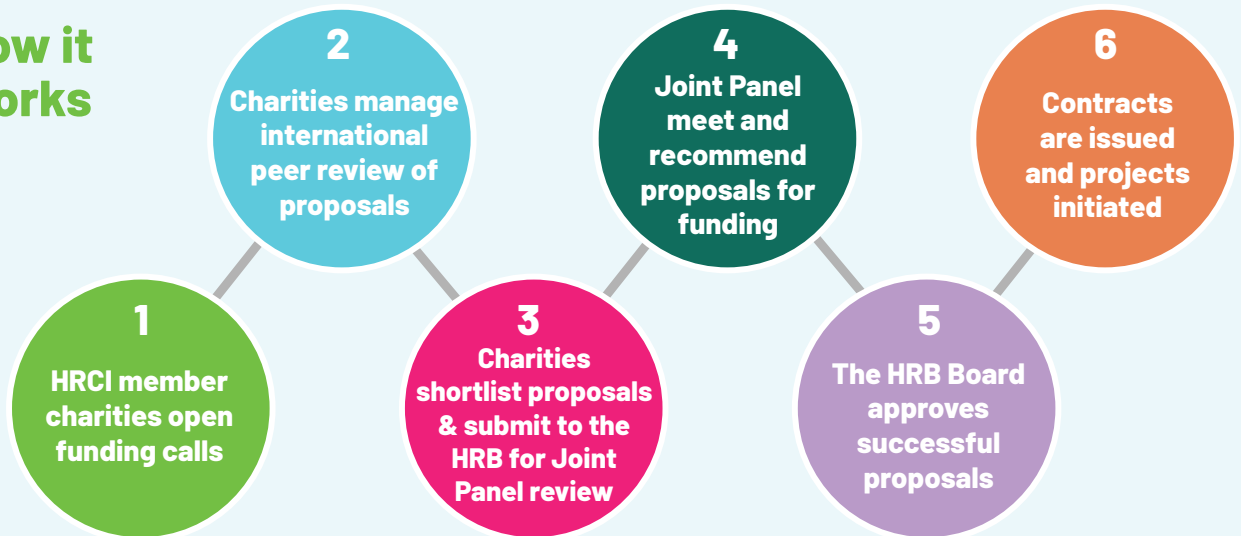
- A **unique scheme** that brings together the HRB and HRCI member charities to co-fund projects of key relevance to charities
- Projects are funded **50/50 by the HRB and by member charities** (very small charities can get 75% HRB funding towards their projects)
- The Joint Funding Scheme runs **every 2 years**. The HRB makes a **€2 million** contribution to each round
- To date **134 awards made**, with approximately **€13.5 million** each of HRB and charity funding awarded since inception
- Supports research projects of **12-36 months duration** up to a max of **€300,000**.

What is funded by the JFS?

Every type of health research is open to funding including:

- Basic biomedical research
- Applied biomedical research
- Clinical research (with the exception of clinical trials)
- Population health research
- Health services research
- Psychological and social research on health.

How it works



Impact of the JFS

The JFS was the **most productive HRB funding scheme** in terms of:

- **Healthcare innovations** (2014/2015)
- **Policy and practice outputs** (2014/2015)
- **Oral and poster presentations** (for projects finishing in 2014/2015 and 2016/2017)
- **Prizes, awards and recognitions** (2014/2015)