



Impact of COVID-19 on Mental Health Research UK - March 2020

Dear Supporter

I hope that you are keeping well in these difficult times. I wanted to keep you up to date about the impact of COVID-19 on Mental Health Research UK.

The COVID-19 pandemic will have an impact on fundraising for MHRUK. Many of our supporters raise money for us through personal challenges such as organised runs and marathons. These are being at best postponed. We do not know the full impact yet.

Existing PhD Scholarships are protected as we have the funding for those assured. Our first priority is to ensure that we support our current Scholars. We have been in touch with all the supervisors of current PhD students asking them to let us know what the impact is on their current studies. Those who have completed data collection should be relatively unaffected but where data collection is face to face clearly this will be impacted. We want to support our Scholars as much as possible, and this will have some financial impact although we hope that universities will approach this in a spirit of partnership.

The round of scholarships starting in September 2021 has already been advertised. The good news is that thanks to the generosity of the Fieldrose Charitable Trust we are offering a new scholarship in the genetics of schizophrenia. This will start in September 2021. Click on the link: [Fieldrose](#)

As far as the other three scholarships are concerned, we have decided that we should continue with the scholarship competition as advertised on our website. However, we cannot guarantee that we shall be able to award all three scholarships. Nor can we guarantee the start dates of all the scholarships in September 2021. This will depend on our financial position. We leave it to Universities whether they enter the competition under these terms.

We thank you for your continuing support and understanding.

Keep well and safe

Clair

Clair Chilvers

Co-founding Trustee

Mental Health Research UK - the first UK charity dedicated to funding research into the causes of and cures for mental illness.

<http://www.mhruk.org/>

Transforming lives - making a difference in the long-term