if

we had the investment we could get groundbreaking innovations underway quickly...



we had fast access to funding, we wouldn't miss urgent opportunities to make advances...

Investing in innovation

To improve the lives and futures of the 12.5 million people in the UK living with a neurological condition, it is essential to invest in cutting edge technology and innovation.

However, NHS budgets are over-stretched and the process of identifying and diverting funds for innovative ideas is complex and lengthy.

One of the major obstacles faced by clinicians and researchers in neurology today, is a lack of initial seed-funding to enable pioneering ideas in research, technology and patient care to get off the ground. This means that opportunities for progress and change are being missed. The National Brain Appeal directly supports the work of The National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery and the Institute of Neurology, together known as Queen Square.

The National Hospital is one of the world's leading centres for the diagnosis, treatment and care of patients with neurological conditions.

The Institute of Neurology has a world class reputation for neuroscience, with a mission to translate research into treatment for patients with a huge variety of neurological diseases including stroke, epilepsy, brain tumours, MS and dementia.

One in six people are, or will be, affected by a neurological disorder. It's the challenge of our times."

Theresa Dauncey Chief Executive, The National Brain Appeal

How the Innovation Fund works

The Innovation Fund enables The National Brain Appeal to award grants of between £50,000 and £150,000 to the world leading clinical and research teams at Queen Square.

Grants are awarded to the most innovative projects enabling them to scope, explore and test new diagnostic processes, treatment pathways, drugs and technologies.

We support the most innovative and urgent initiatives at the time.

Our panel of experts including three of our clinical trustees; Professor Michael Hanna, Professor John Duncan and leading neurosurgeon Joan Grieve along with The National Brain Appeal's Chief Executive, Theresa Dauncey, will review the applications for funding regularly throughout the year. The following is just one example of a project that needs funding:

Improving the success of skull base tumour removal

Successful neurosurgery in patients who have tumours at the base of the skull is dependent on removing as much of the tumour as possible, whilst minimising the risk of facial nerve paralysis. This is currently a potentially devastating complication of this type of surgery, causing problems communicating and a loss of confidence.

Led by Dr Jonathan Shapey, a team of researchers at The National Hospital have designed advanced imaging methods to improve the surgeon's view of the tumour and facial nerve and other critical structure during surgery.

A grant of just £75,000 will enable a feasibility study to be carried out with 20 patients, to validate the new system and enable them to design a future research study to determine its effectiveness in improving patient care. Each year approximately 300 patients undergo this type of surgery and could potentially benefit from a vastly safer procedure.

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The Innovation Fund will enable new ideas to be developed quickly and go from bench to bedside as efficiently as possible."

Professor Michael G Hanna Director, UCL Institute of Neurology



you are passionate about improving the lives of people affected by neurological conditions...

Our Ambassador for Innovation programme

Our Ambassadors for Innovation share our passion for investing in pioneering ideas to improve the future and quality of life of everyone affected by a neurological condition.

To become an Ambassador, we will ask you to:

- commit to making a minimum annual donation of £2,500 (£3,125 including Gift Aid) for at least three years.
 We ask for a three year commitment to enable us to build a secure fund with a long-term impact.
- help us to spread the word about this vital work and make relevant introductions to people you know who may also want to support innovation.

As an Ambassador for Innovation you will be fundamental to the success of this programme, and we will:

- keep you closely informed about the progress of the projects we are supporting.
- invite you (plus guest) to our annual Ambassador for Innovation event where you will hear directly from the researchers and clinicians about the impact of your support.

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I am very proud to be an Ambassador for Innovation. Innovation is progress – it is the only way to guarantee that the next person always has a better chance."

Charles Wells whose life was saved at The National after he suffered a brain haemorrhage. ...together we can change lives. Join us today and become an Ambassador for Innovation.



The National Brain Appeal Funding advances in neurology and neurosurgery



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By providing your name and email address you are consenting to allow us to provide email updates but you can unsubscribe at any time by calling the office on 020 3448 4724 (lines open Monday-Friday from 9am to 5.30pm) or emailing info@nationalbrainappeal.org

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