Grand Challenge is a series of £20 million funding awards which look to accelerate progress using a collaborative, interdisciplinary and multinational approach to tackle some of the toughest challenges in cancer.

We are looking for big, innovative ideas from interdisciplinary teams. If you think you have what it takes, we want to hear from you.

AWARD PROCESS

EXPRESS YOUR INTEREST  PANEL SHORTLISTS TEAMS  SEED FUNDING  FULL APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW  AWARD

OCT 15 - FEB 16  MAR 16  APR 16  APR - SEPT 16  SEPT 16

WHO CAN APPLY

Applications for Grand Challenge are welcomed from teams across the world and can come from any discipline. We anticipate teams that teams will have:

• 1 Principal investigator and up to 7 co-investigators from recognised academic institutions or for-profit companies
• Be interdisciplinary
• Include a Patient Advocate
• And that at least 25% of the Grand challenge award will be spent in the UK

APPLY NOW

CLOSE
12 FEBRUARY
NEW CANCER PREVENTION TARGETS

To prevent cancer, we need to better understand different mutational signatures in our DNA – the ones we already know about, and the ones we haven’t yet discovered. Do you have a way to:

DISCOVER HOW UNUSUAL PATTERNS OF MUTATION ARE INDUCED BY DIFFERENT CANCER-CAUSING EVENTS?

PREVENTION VACCINES

The power of the immune system is already being used to treat cancer. Now we want to see it harnessed to prevent cancer. Advances in immunotherapy mean there has never been a better time to team up and tackle an even bigger ambition to:

DEVELOP VACCINES TO PREVENT NON-VIRAL CANCERS

ERADICATE EBV CANCERS

Every year, 200 000 cancers are caused by Epstein Barr Virus (EBV). We want to reduce that figure to zero. If you can put together a team with an innovative way of doing this, we want to hear from you. Your Grand Challenge is to:

ERADICATE EBV-INDUCED CANCERS FROM THE WORLD

WHICH CHALLENGE WILL YOU TACKLE?
LETHAL V NON-LETHAL CANCERS
Our methods for diagnosing cancer simply aren’t good enough. We need to detect the disease at an early stage, but the diagnosis needs to be more accurate too. Can your team find a way to:

DISTINGUISH BETWEEN LETHAL CANCERS THAT NEED TREATING AND NON LETHAL CANCERS THAT DON’T

3D TUMOUR MAPPING
We won’t understand how tumours function until we understand why all the cells are there, how they got there and what they are doing. Can you put an interdisciplinary team together to:

FIND A WAY OF MAPPING TUMOURS AT THE MOLECULAR AND CELLULAR LEVEL

TARGETING MYC
It’s one of the most promising therapeutic targets in cancer, but it defies conventional drug discovery. Can innovation and the world’s smartest minds unlock its potential? We believe they can, so this Grand Challenge is to:

DEVELOP INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO TARGET THE CANCER SUPER-CONTROLLER MYC

BIOLOGICAL MACROMOLECULES
We don’t yet have a good way of getting macromolecules, potentially the most powerful anti-cancer drugs we have, into the body. We’re challenging physical scientists, engineers and others to team up with cancer biologists to:

DELIVER BIOLOGICALLY ACTIVE MACROMOLECULES TO ANY AND ALL CELLS IN THE BODY

@CRUKresearch
Cruk.org/grandchallenge