

UK Prevention Research Partnership

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Background

- Increasing burden of NCDs
- Common risk factors for NCDs
- Clustering of risk factors
- Cost effectiveness of preventive strategies
- Recent capacity building in public health research
- AMS report
- NPRI review



What is UKPRP?

- Multi-funder partnership of Research Councils, Health Departments and Charities
- £40-50 million over 6-7 years
- Aim to produce robust new knowledge about implementable, cost effective, scalable, ways to improve population health and reduce inequalities in health
- Substantial long term investment to bring together a wide range of disciplines and stakeholders to build multidisciplinary teams answering big questions
- Capitalising on/developing opportunities: e.g. digital technology, 'big data', basic sciences



Focus

- NCDs, not infectious disease
- Common risk factors for a number of NCDs
- Solving problems rather than analysing or describing them
- Focus on systems, settings and environments
- Mental health and wellbeing as well as physical health
- Improving population health
- Reducing inequalities in health
- Improved targeting
- Costs and benefits of proposed solutions/strategies
- Studying existing and proposed new preventive strategies

Some other key features

- Disciplinary mix should be appropriate to the research question
- Stakeholder and user engagement is essential and should be appropriate to the research question
- Methodological approaches should be appropriate to the research question
- Continuous effort actively to align the interests of the funders, stakeholders and research teams
- The outcomes and value for money of the partnership will be evaluated

In summary, UKPRP will:

- fund research into the primary prevention of physical and mental NCDs
- encourage an upstream, and whole systems, approach to prevention
- provide substantial long-term investment to develop and build on basic research in a number of relevant disciplines
- build ambitious new multidisciplinary teams and researcher networks
- engage with stakeholders at every stage to produce clear answers relevant to decision makers
- capitalise on emerging digital technologies, 'big data' and basic science
- in order to generate useful new knowledge about how to prevent NCDs

