



**Medical
Research
Foundation**

See how you
can fund
the science
that future
generations
will depend on



**In an uncertain world,
there are two things
we can be sure of:**

- 1. If we don't fund the scientists,
we can't do the research**
- 2. If we don't do the research,
we won't find the answers**

Thank you so much for considering a gift in your Will to the Medical Research Foundation. As the charitable arm of the Medical Research Council, the Foundation depends on support from generous members of the public to fund life-changing medical research.

In this brochure, you can learn more about the Foundation, gifts in Wills and the impact you can have on human health for years to come.

It is no exaggeration to say that gifts in Wills are the lifeblood of the Medical Research Foundation – these types of gifts make up over 90% of our voluntary income. Without the generosity and foresight of people like you, we simply couldn't do what we do, which is to fund the research, and the scientists, that the health of future generations will depend on.

I believe it's impossible to overstate the importance of medical research on our health and wellbeing both here in the UK and around the world. And we have certainly seen how quickly new health challenges can crop up around the world – Zika, Ebola and of course Covid-19.

While we don't know what the next global health emergency will be, we can be certain that it is only through considered, high-quality research that we will meet whatever new challenges come our way, and tackle those long-standing health challenges that many of us and our families have to live with for long periods.

That's what you could make possible if you decide to include a gift to the Medical Research Foundation in your Will. A gift of this kind would be a way for you to play an active role in the future of human health, and to invest in some of the most promising scientists of tomorrow. I can't think of a more important, or meaningful gift for humankind.

If you have any questions, I encourage you to get in touch with my colleague Cheryl, who's our Director of Fundraising. She'd be happy to talk through any questions about what your gift could achieve, and though she's not a solicitor, she does have a great deal of knowledge about gifts in Wills. You can reach her by emailing cheryl.armitage@medicalresearchfoundation.org.uk or give her a call 020 4581 2404. I know she'd love to hear from you.

Let me close by simply saying, again, how grateful I am to you for considering this very special gift.

Yours sincerely,



Angela Hind PhD
Chief Executive





Provide the science that future generations will depend on with a gift in your Will

Your lasting contribution to making scientific discoveries

A gift in your Will is perhaps the greatest gift you will ever make. It is an expression of your values and priorities – and a message to your loved ones about who you are and how you want to be remembered.

By choosing to leave a gift in your Will to the Medical Research Foundation, you will ensure that quality, impactful and life-changing medical research continues to provide the knowledge that future generations will depend on. While we cannot predict the next global threat to human health, we can prepare for it by funding the scientists of the future.

That's exactly what you can achieve with a gift in your Will – leaving a lasting legacy of scientific excellence for years to come.

The impact your gift could have

Gifts in Wills are hugely important to the future of the Foundation and are the driving force behind the majority of the research we are able to fund. Over 90% of our voluntary income comes from gifts in Wills. Without these types of gifts, the Foundation simply wouldn't be able to function.

Advances in medicine are only made possible as a result of decades of research – and gifts in Wills help give the Foundation the confidence to invest in long-term projects. Your gift could lead to life-changing advances in medicine for future generations.

Above: Dr Caroline Richards, University of Birmingham, is investigating potential causes of self-harm in autistic children with intellectual disability, thanks to funding from the Foundation.

90% of our voluntary income comes from gifts in Wills.

Please take a moment to share your intentions with us using the form provided. If you'd like more information on how to make a Will, please turn to the next page.

How to leave a gift in your Will to the Medical Research Foundation

Six easy steps to leave a lasting legacy to fund the medical research that future generations will depend upon.

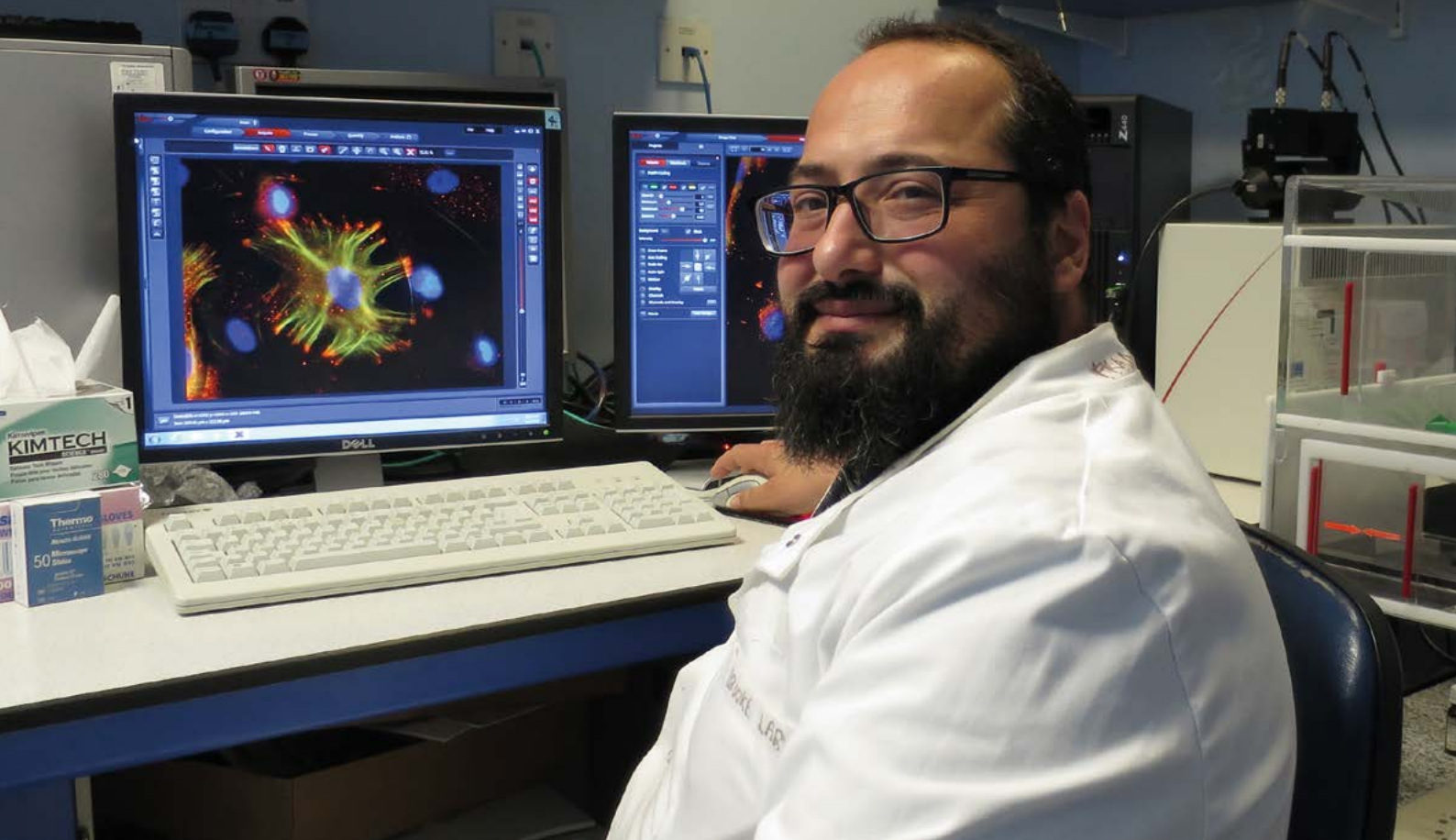
1. Decide who you would like to name as executors, as they'll be responsible for ensuring your wishes are carried out. You can also pay your solicitor to be your executor if you choose.
2. Calculate the value of your assets, including property and investments, as well as anything you may owe.
3. List the family, friends, loved ones and causes you'd like to remember in your Will. If you do decide to include a gift to the Medical Research Foundation, remember that any amount can make a huge difference.
4. Visit a solicitor to have your Will drawn up. We always recommend hiring a professional to ensure your Will is valid.
5. Keep a copy of your Will in a safe place – your solicitor may be able to do this for you – and ensure your executors know where your Will is kept.
6. And finally, please take a moment to let us know your intentions using the enclosed form.

If you have any questions on gifts in Wills or the impact you could have, please contact Cheryl Armitage on 020 4581 2404 or email cheryl.armitage@medicalresearchfoundation.org.uk

“The Foundation’s commitment to discovery science not only offers solutions to immediate research questions, but also advances the whole frontier of biomedical sciences. In our own way, leaving a gift in our Wills is a way for us to play our role in helping to make a better world.”

Caroline and Mike Howes, Supporters of the Medical Research Foundation





Your questions on Gifts in Wills answered

We've compiled a list of questions supporters commonly ask about gifts in Wills. If you have more questions, please feel free to get in touch with our Director of Fundraising, Cheryl Armitage on 020 4581 2404 or by emailing cheryl.armitage@medicalresearchfoundation.org.uk

What will my gift be spent on?

If you choose to leave a gift to the Medical Research Foundation in your Will, you can feel confident that this will be spent wisely on priority projects that will provide further advances in medical research. A gift to the Foundation is a gift to the health of future generations.

How much should I leave?

It is entirely up to you how much you leave to the Foundation. We award research grants that are both large and small, so anything you give can make a huge difference. Even one per cent of your estate, for example, could have a significant impact on research.

Do I have to tell you if I've left a gift?

No. Your Will is personal, and it is completely up to you if you choose to notify us of your pledge, or how much you wish to tell us. If you feel comfortable, we would love to know your thoughts on gifts in Wills – there's no need to provide specific details and anything you do tell us is confidential and not legally binding. You can use the form at the end of the booklet to simply tell us of your intentions – we would be grateful to hear from you, and it would be wonderful to thank you properly and to keep you up-to-date on the research you're interested in.

Above: Dr Franco Conforti, University of Southampton, studies the factors which drive an incurable lung disease called idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis.



"As scientists, our duty is to secure the future of research for the generations that follow."

**Professor Fiona Watt,
Patron of the Medical
Research Foundation and
Director of the European
Molecular Biology
Organisation**

Do I need a new Will if I want to add a gift to the Foundation?

If the only change you'd like to make to your existing Will is adding a gift to the Foundation, it may not be necessary to write a new Will. You can amend your Will using a simple form called a Codicil. However we recommend consulting a solicitor to ensure your Codicil is valid.

Can I save tax by leaving a gift to the Foundation?

Gifts to the Foundation are tax-exempt and this can sometimes mean you could save some of the tax your executors would otherwise need to pay. However, inheritance tax is a very complex area of law and the requirements change regularly, so we always recommend visiting www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax for the latest government advice.

What are the different types of gifts in Wills?

Here are the common types of gifts you can leave in your Will, depending on your specific needs and circumstances.

Residuary gift

This is the remainder of your estate once other gifts and payments have been made, and may commonly be known as a share of your estate.

A conditional gift

A gift that you would make if the person you first intended to benefit through your Will passed away.

Pecuniary gift

A fixed sum of money.

Specific gift

A named item, for example property, shares or jewellery.

What type of gift is best?

Any type of gift can have a huge impact and the Foundation is grateful for any and all gifts. A residuary gift is a popular choice with supporters as it will allow you to care for friends and family first, and still support causes you care about. It also keeps pace with inflation.

Where can I find out more about making my Will?

There are several different options to make your Will, and many ways the Foundation can support you. You can find out more here:

www.medicalresearchfoundation.org.uk/will-writing-options

What do I need to include a gift to the Foundation in my Will?

All you need are the following details to give to your solicitor.

Registered name:

Medical Research Foundation

Registered charity number:

1138223



“The recent pandemic has highlighted the critical importance of philanthropic support of medical research. Through complementary alignment with the MRC, the Medical Research Foundation supports research of the very highest quality and impact, with a crucial focus on the brightest early- and mid-career investigators.”

**Professor Sir John Savill,
Former CEO of the Medical
Research Council**

Thank you for considering a gift to the Foundation. If you have any further questions, please call Cheryl Armitage, Director of Fundraising on 020 4581 2404 or email cheryl.armitage@medicalresearchfoundation.org.uk



Left: Dr Upkar Gill, Queen Mary University of London, examines the immune and viral outcomes of treatment in patients with chronic hepatitis B.

Your support can fund the research and scientists that our society needs

Funding the scientists of tomorrow

Funding at this time can help shape an early-career scientist's area of focus for the future. They may have a keen interest in infectious diseases or investigating a condition that receives little attention elsewhere. But without funding at the early stages, they can be forced to abandon their passion and leave science altogether, with an immeasurable loss to future human health.

The Foundation awards funding to scientists during this critical period, helping them become leaders in their field so they can go on to continue pushing forward important research for many years to come.

Tackling key areas of research our society needs

Each year, the Foundation focuses on key areas of research that we have identified as being particularly important to global human health, are underfunded, or where there is a lack of understanding and great potential for discovery.

In the past we have supported scientists working in areas such as **antimicrobial resistance, lupus, young stroke, mental health and pain research** – not only funding incredible current research, but ensuring these scientists can continue to make discoveries for years to come.

Please turn over to read about some of the scientists who have received funding from the Foundation.

How the Foundation chooses what to fund

We seek advice from the Medical Research Council's research boards and training panels who help provide expertise in deciding which projects to fund.

The Foundation sets research priorities on a five-year cycle which change according to need and opportunities within medical research.

With your help, we fund projects that sit within our strategic research themes



Increasing understanding

Discovery science that sheds light on the processes underpinning all human health and disease.



Emerging research leaders

Providing opportunities for promising scientists who will address the biomedical research questions of the future by supporting their cutting-edge research today.



High need, low research investment

Research on the conditions and diseases that devastate lives where there is unmet need for new research but little investment from other sources.



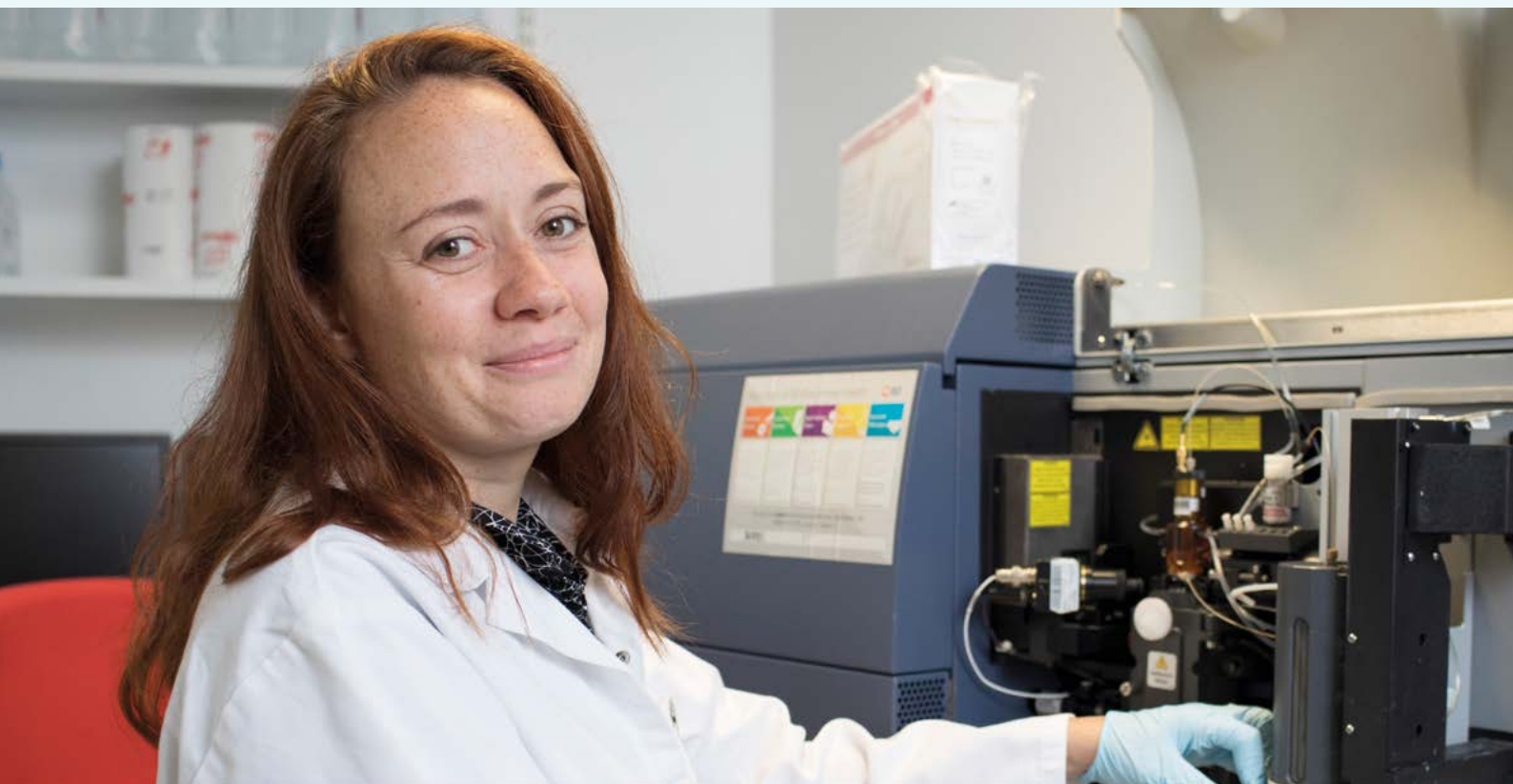
Disseminating findings

Ensuring research results reach beyond the scientific press to people who are able to influence healthcare policy and practice as well as personal life-choices.

This framework helps the Foundation ensure that your support will help shape the future of human health in the UK and across the world, so we can meet the ever-changing needs of society.

By supporting the Medical Research Foundation, you can help fund some of the most exciting, under-funded and potentially life-changing research and researchers, providing the science that our society will need for years to come.

Below: Dr Elizabeth Rosser from University College London is aiming to increase our understanding of the autoimmune disease, lupus.



It would be wonderful if you were willing to share with us your current thoughts on leaving a gift in your Will to the Medical Research Foundation. Anything you tell us isn't legally binding and will be kept in the strictest confidence, and we realise, of course, that your intentions can change. It can still be helpful in planning our research goals to understand more about your thoughts on gifts in Wills, so we would be very grateful for your response – whatever it may be. Thank you.

Cheryl Armitage
Director of Fundraising

My details

Title First name Last name
Address
 Postcode

My intentions

- I have included a gift to the Medical Research Foundation in my Will.
- I intend to include a gift to the Medical Research Foundation in my Will.
- I am considering giving a gift to the Medical Research Foundation in my Will.
- I am not planning to leave a gift to the Medical Research Foundation in my Will.

If you would like more information

- I would like to speak to the Director of Fundraising, Cheryl Armitage to discuss my legacy in more detail.

I'd prefer to be contacted by

We would like to contact you from time to time with our latest news

(Please provide your details below if you are happy for us to contact you in this way)

Email Telephone

The Medical Research Foundation does not share your personal information. You can unsubscribe at any time. For further information on how we collect, store and process your personal data, please read our Privacy Notice medicalresearchfoundation.org.uk/privacy

Please turn over to tell us a bit more about you. Thank you.

Please return this form to:
Freepost, MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION



