

# Development funding allocation

## IAPT assessment programme

### Section 1: background

Digitally-enabled therapy technologies that meet all of the eligibility requirements for this programme are prioritised by the NICE expert panel for production of an IAPT assessment briefing (IAB). NICE produces an IAB that includes an assessment of technical standards, content, clinical evidence and resource impact. The NICE expert panel reviews the IAB and will decide whether to refer a technology directly to evaluation in practice, or to refer the technology for development funding, or neither.

The panel may choose to refer promising technologies to apply for development funding. Promising technologies would have met the required standards in the assessment of their therapeutic content, and be supported by clinical evidence that shows user benefits.

Due to duration of the in-practice evaluations, funding is only available for technologies that have been assessed by the NICE expert panel by March 2019.

If the technology is referred to apply for developmental funding (as described in section 2 below), the panel will provide the technology owner with a list of specific points that need to be addressed. In order for the technology to be considered for the evaluation in practice phase of the programme, all of the specific development points must be addressed.

The technology owner will decide whether they wish to address these issues and subsequently be considered for evaluation in practice, or whether they wish to end their involvement in the programme at that stage.

If the technology owner wishes continue in the programme and address the issues highlighted by the panel, then they may apply for developmental funding from NHS England, subject to meeting the criteria outlined below. Alternatively, the technology owner may choose to cover the costs of development work themselves and re-notify to the programme when the work is completed.

In cases where issues for development are identified but the technology **does not** meet the criteria outlined below, the technology owner may not be eligible to apply for development funding from NHS England and may be expected to complete this work using their own resources.

Once this work has been completed, the technology owner will be asked to describe the development work that has been done, and self-certify to NICE that the necessary remediation work has been completed in order to move into the evaluation in practice phase.

## Section 2: Eligibility to apply for development funding

The NICE expert panel may refer technology owners to apply for development funding if they meet both of the following eligibility criteria:

- 1) The technology is not currently available to the NHS.
- 2) The technology has been assessed by the NICE expert panel before March 2019

Applications for developmental funding can be submitted according to the considerations identified in section 3.

## Section 3: conditions for applying for development funding

If the technology meets the criteria outlined in section 2, it may be eligible to apply for development funding from NHS England. Applications for developmental funding can be submitted according to the following considerations:

- 1) Proposed development work must address specific issues raised by the expert panel in relation to the use of the technology in this programme. Applications for general development or commercialisation outside of this programme will not be considered. An independent organisation has been appointed to check that the proposed development work in the application will meet the development requirements outlined by the expert panel.
- 2) The proposed development work must be completed within a period of time that allows subsequent evaluation in practice within the 3 years of this programme.
- 3) Only technologies that have been initially assessed by the panel to require development work before March 2019 will be eligible to apply for this funding.
- 4) The application for development funding is expected to itemise all costs for the development work.
- 5) Applications for funding will be reviewed by an independent organisation appointed to ensure that the level of funding requested is appropriate to the development work required.
- 6) After any funding has been awarded, the technology owner is expected to provide evidence to the independent organisation that the development work has been done, as per the requirements of the expert panel, before the technology will be considered for the evaluation in practice phase.
- 7) Funding will be allocated in tranches, based on completion of delivery targets.

## Section 4: areas of work **not** permitted in funding applications

Funding may be used to address specific issues raised by the expert panel in relation to the use of the technology in this programme. The following areas of work will not be considered for funding:

- General development or commercialisation of the technology outside of this programme.
- Funding clinical trials or research projects.
- Changing the therapeutic procedures in the programme
- Providing training to services that will be using the technologies as part of the evaluation in practice phase: a separate funding stream is available for this purpose

## Section 5: areas of work permitted in funding applications

### 1) Digital technical issues:

Development funding may be used to implement remediation plans as identified in the digital technical assessment report from IQVia (formerly known as Quintiles IMS). It is the technology owner's responsibility to describe and justify the costings for implementing the remediation plans in their funding application.

### 2) Organisational support

Development funding may be used to address issues of scalability, such as where a technology has not yet been commercialised to a large scale and so technical and organisational changes will be needed to ensure the technology can be used in an evaluation in practice phase.

### 3) Data collection:

Funding applications can include the costs of adding the outcome measures required for evaluation in practice in IAPT services. These are:

Main Mental Health Problem (primary problem descriptor)	Depression Measure	Other Recommended Symptom Measure (ADSM/MUS)	Back-up for calculating recovery if other recommended measure is missing
Depression/ Depressive episode	Patient Health Questionnaire -	Generalised Anxiety Disorder – 7 (GAD-7)	

	9 (PHQ-9)		
Generalised Anxiety Disorder	PHQ-9	GAD-7	
Mixed anxiety/depression	PHQ-9	GAD-7	
No problem descriptor/ other problem descriptor	PHQ-9	GAD-7	
Social anxiety/ Social phobias	PHQ-9	Social Phobia Inventory (SPIN)	GAD-7
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder	PHQ-9	Impact of Events Scale – Revise (IES-R)	GAD-7
Agoraphobia	PHQ-9	Mobility Inventory (MI)	GAD-7
Obsessive Compulsive Disorder	PHQ-9	Obsessive-Compulsive Inventory (OCI)	GAD-7
Panic Disorder	PHQ-9	Panic Disorder Severity Scale (PDSS)	GAD-7
Health Anxiety/ Hypochondriasis	PHQ-9	Health Anxiety Inventory	GAD-7
Irritable bowel syndrome	PHQ-9	Francis IBS scale	GAD-7
Chronic fatigue syndrome	PHQ-9	Chalder Fatigue Questionnaire	GAD-7
MUS not otherwise specified	PHQ-9	PHQ-15	GAD-7

4) Translation costs:

Funding can be used to translate non-English language technologies into English.

5) Adaptations needed to make a technology suitable for use in IAPT services

Funding applications may include work required to make the digital technology suitable for use in IAPT services, where the technology has not been used in IAPT before. This could include items such as creating a therapist manual in accordance with IAPT service's needs, or amending sections of the technology or manual to direct users to other relevant health and social care providers for support.

It is the technology owner's responsibility to describe and justify the costings for implementing these changes in their funding application. The application will be subject to review by an independent organisation that will ensure that the appropriate amount of funding is awarded.

Applying for development funding implies a commitment and agreement from the technology owner to provide their technology to NHS IAPT services on an economic basis following the conclusion of the evaluation in practice phase.

A flow chart summarising the allocation of development funding is available in appendix 1.

## Appendix 1: The process for allocating development funding

