



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部食物及衛生局  
Food and Health Bureau, Government Secretariat  
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region  
The People's Republic of China

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**Our Ref.:** FH CR 1/1/581/03  
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**Your Ref.:**

22 June 2009

Dear Sir/ Madam,

**Joint Call for Grant Applications**  
**Research Fund for the Control of Infectious Diseases (RFCID)**  
**Health and Health Services Research Fund (HHSRF)**  
**Application round in 2009**

I am delighted to inform you that the *Research Fund for the Control of Infectious Diseases* (RFCID) and the *Health and Health Services Research Fund* (HHSRF) have today issued a joint call for research grant applications.

The aim of the RFCID is to encourage, facilitate and support research on the prevention, treatment and control of infectious diseases. The RFCID considers applications for research projects relevant to the control of infectious diseases in the areas of aetiology, epidemiology and public health, basic research, and clinical and health services research. Collaborative research with Mainland China and overseas institutions is encouraged.

The HHSRF was established with the aim of maximising population health, improving the quality of life, and enhancing the standard and cost-effectiveness of the health system through the generation of new knowledge in areas of human health and health services. The HHSRF has three broad themes centred on public health, health services and Chinese medicine.

To address the immediate research needs arising from the current human swine influenza (HSI) pandemic, an expedited review of research proposals related to HSI is specially arranged and the closing date for submission is **31 July 2009**. Funding decision will be announced in the fourth quarter this year. The closing date for other research grant applications is **17 November 2009**.

The thematic priorities for the RFCID and the HHSRF, which will be accorded higher funding priorities for the current open call for grant applications, are as follows:

**RFCID**

- Human swine influenza
- Viral respiratory pathogens
- Technology platforms for infectious disease
- Zoonotic diseases

**HHSRF**

- Public health theme
  - Smoking
  - Mental health
  - Injury and poisoning
- Health services theme
  - Enhanced primary care
  - Reducing avoidable hospitalisation
  - Chronic disease prevention and management
- Chinese medicine theme

Grant ceiling is normally \$1 million for a period of 2 years. Full details of the research priorities, application guidelines and application forms are available from <http://www.fhb.gov.hk/grants>.

I would be grateful if you could promulgate the invitation message to appropriate section heads or relevant departments within your organisation.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours faithfully,



(Dr Richard A. Collins)  
for Secretary for Food and Health