

VALIDATE - first Newsletter

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NEWSLETTER #1 **DECEMBER 2017**

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THE START OF VALIDATE!

Welcome to VALIDATE's first newsletter! We hope you find lots of useful information to help further your research and career, stimulate new collaborations, and help you find funding and training opportunities.

VALIDATE kicked off its three year MRC-funded programme on 1 June 2017, and aims to accelerate development of vaccines against tuberculosis, leishmaniasis, melioidosis and leprosy. By working together, we will advance research more quickly and effectively.

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MEMBER BENEFITS

- Be part of an engaged community of researchers committed to finding efficacious vaccines for these neglected pathogens
- More easily form new research collaborations
- Eligible for pump-priming grants of £20-50k and training grants of up to £3k
- Easy notification of training and job opportunities via our social media and website
- Early notification of research results via our data portal and seminar series
- Opportunities for mentorship by a leader in the field
- Networking opportunities and resource/idea sharing at our annual meeting and training events

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VALIDATE VISION

Accelerate vaccine R&D for TB, leishmaniasis, melioidosis and leprosy by creating an engaged and interactive community of researchers who form new cross-pathogen, cross-continent, cross-species and cross-discipline collaborations, generating new ideas, taking advantage of synergies and quickly disseminating lessons learned across the Network.

Provide pump-priming grants for ground-breaking projects by members.

Facilitate CPD and career progression among our members, particularly Early Career and LMIC Researchers.

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VALIDATE AIMS

- Bring researchers around the world together into an engaged community

- Accelerate vaccine R&D for TB, leishmaniasis, melioidosis, and leprosy

- Provide Fellowship, pump-priming and training grants to accelerate research

Provide a central hub website that highlights funding, job and training opportunities in the field

- Organise relevant workshops and seminars

- Host a mentoring scheme to support Early Career Researchers

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"Without doubt, vaccines are among the most efficient tools for promoting individual and public health" - World Health Organization

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FELLOWSHIP CALL OPEN

VALIDATE Fellowships are open to Associate Members to fund a year's independent scientific research with the aim of producing initial/pilot data to enable you to go on to obtain independent external funding and launch your career as a PI and/or Group Leader...

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MENTORING CALL OPEN

To encourage CPD and career progression amongst our members, we have an annual mentoring scheme where we aim to place ~10 post-docs/early PIs with Senior Scientist mentors from the Network. The mentoring relationship will run for 12 months, and round #1 is open now...

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VALIDATE SEMINARS

Join us at 12.30 (UK) on 6th December for our 1st seminar by Drs Andrea Zelmar and Helen Fletcher (LSHTM) on "Correlates of risk of TB disease and their back-translation into animal models". The event will be live-streamed so you can watch wherever you are in the world...

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1ST PUMP-PRIMING PROJECTS ANNOUNCED

Network members can apply for pump-priming funding of £20-50k for innovative projects that will accelerate development of vaccines against our focus pathogens. Our first grant call closed on 31 October - find out about the funded projects on our website.

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1ST TRAINING GRANTS AWARDED; 2ND CALL OPEN

Network Associates are eligible to apply for training grants of up to £3k to take advantage of continuing professional development opportunities. Our first grants have now been awarded and our 2nd call is now open. Find out more about these grants and how to apply on our website.

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NEWS & EXTERNAL FUNDING

The VALIDATE website lists relevant external funding calls and jobs, with a handy weekly round-up so you can easily see what's new.

Current calls include:

- MRC Infection & Immunity grants
 - UUKi Fellowships for non-UK ECRs to post-doc in the UK
 - IMPRINT Fellowships
 - HIC-VAC pump-priming grants
 - Africa-Oxford travel Scholarships
- and much more...

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ANNUAL MEETINGS

Our first Annual Meeting was held 5-6 September 2017 at Oxford. With talks to stimulate new research ideas, networking opportunities for new collaborations, info about VALIDATE funding calls & much more, the first annual meeting had a great buzz to it and lots of interesting info. You can read the meeting report [here](#).

The 2018 meeting will be held **6-7 November 2018**, so put the date in your diaries!

VALIDATE has 73 members from 37 institutes in 15 countries - find out more about our members [here](#).

We are an open and inclusive network and new members are always welcome - please forward our details to anyone you think would be interested in joining VALIDATE.

We're always looking for up-to-date information for our members, so please forward any training or job opportunities available at your institute, or any new journal articles you publish or funding calls you spot, to our Network Manager for dissemination (samantha.vermaak@ndm.ox.ac.uk).

**Follow our news and information on
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THE VALIDATE NETWORK

VAccine deveLopment for complex Intracellular neglected
pAthogEns

www.validate-network.org

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Message sent by the VALIDATE Network: a GCRF MRC-funded vaccine Network led by University of Oxford
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