

# UK ME/CFS Biobank Application (Full)

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**Prepared by** CureME and UK ME/CFS Biobank at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

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## APPLICATION FORM 2 – Full Research Proposal

Applicants should return the completed form to: [mecfsbiobank@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:mecfsbiobank@lshtm.ac.uk)

### Details of Applicants

Name of Principal Applicant	
Title & Position of Principal Applicant	
Name, Title & Position of Co- Investigator(s)	

### Details of Institution

Institution where research will be conducted	
Address	
Telephone No, including country code	
E-mail	

### Project Title


### Project Timing

Date of Application (DD/MM/YY)	
Proposed Start Date	
Proposed Duration (months)	

### **Abstract of Research Project**

*This should be in a form suitable for consideration by lay members of the ME/CFS BIOBANK SBGB and should not exceed 250 words using the following sub headings: (i) **title**; (ii) **brief background**; (iii) **objectives**; (iv) **methods** - including materials, particularly samples and/or data required from the UK ME/CFS Biobank; and (v) **expected outcomes**.*

## **Proposed Investigation**

*This must not exceed 4 single-spaced pages (excluding references) written in a minimum size 11 font (in Arial or Times New Roman). Research methods should be sufficiently detailed to allow expert assessment. This section should be written in clear and concise terms under the following sub headings: (i) title of research; (ii) background; (iii) objectives; (iv) methods, including research design, sample size/power calculations and types and amount of samples requested; (v) expected outcomes; (vi) timescale and milestones to be achieved; (vii) impact; and (viii) references*

Please also describe any commercial interests and other conflicts of interest in the research, if applicable.

## **Justification**

*Please provide a justification of request for access to samples including: (a) whether this is a pilot study or research into a novel aspect of ME/CFS; (b) evidence that the project realistically can be carried out at the host Institution; and (c) the relevance of the project to the aims of the UK ME/CFS BIOBANK, as outlined below:*

*o testing or generating new hypotheses on the mechanisms (pathophysiology) of ME/CFS,*

*o improving diagnosis (biomarkers) and phenotyping, and/or,*

*o basic science, e.g. pharmacological in vitro studies potentially leading to clinical trials on therapeutic approaches.*

## Funding Source

*This section is intended to provide the UK ME/CFS BIOBANK SBGB with an overall view of the financial support available for this research – details of grants awarded or awaiting decision and the financial capability of the applicants to bring the project to a successful conclusion. Please also include projected staff time commitment for the proposed research (e.g. names and roles of staff members, hours per week, number of months).*

## Referees

*We welcome the nomination of up to two independent referees not associated with your project or institution, who may be able to assist the ME/CFS BIOBANK SBGB in reviewing the application.*

	Referee 1	Referee 2
Name		
Institutional address		
Title and Position		
Telephone No, including country code		
E-mail		

## Approvals and Agreements

### ETHICAL AGREEMENT

Ethical committee approval being sought (Yes/No)

Ethical committee approval obtained and copy attached (Yes/No)

### PROJECT APPROVAL

#### i) Head of Department

I confirm that I agree to this research being carried out in my Department and that the facilities outlined in the application will be made available for it.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

#### ii) Administrative Authority

If approval is granted, the Institution will be asked to confirm that it will administer the project utilizing the samples and that it accepts the standard terms and conditions and any supplementary terms and conditions agreed in the material or data transfer agreement(s), as applicable.

## Curriculum Vitae of Principal Applicant

Name

Qualifications, including year(s) awarded and Institutions

Present position, department, and institution

Brief summary of relevant research experience with emphasis on experience in field of proposed research or a related field



Applicant's publications

*Please list (including full title, authors and journal) up to **5** publications that you consider key to demonstrating your experience in this field of research and mark those which are directly relevant to the proposed project.*

Approximate number of hours to be devoted to this project per week \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## PEER REVIEW FORM

The UK ME/CFS Biobank receives applications from researchers who wish to access stored samples and/or data for ethically-approved research projects (see “Background information” – page 18). The purpose of this peer review form is to allow you to assess a specific proposal on scientific merit, taking into account factors such as scientific relevance, timeliness, and relationship to other published work. The form includes a standardised scoring system to facilitate decision-making. It should be returned by email to [mecfsbiobank@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:mecfsbiobank@lshtm.ac.uk).

### SECTION 1 – General information

Name of Principal Applicant	
Institution where research will be conducted	
Address	
Title of project	
Proposed start date	

### SECTION 2 – Referee report

Please SCORE each of the below sections (A-C) the project on a scale of 0 (wholly negative) to 100 (wholly positive) on our standardised scoring system which facilitates decision making at the UK ME/CFS Biobank

**A)** Is this proposed research, including the methods and techniques proposed, scientifically valid?  
(Please give reasons)

SCORE (Section A) \_\_\_\_\_ (out of 100)

**B)** Is this proposed research project likely to contribute to the better understanding of disease determination or mechanisms in a way that can be (directly or indirectly) translated into better understanding, diagnosis, sub-grouping or management of ME/CFS? (Please give reasons)

SCORE (Section B) \_\_\_\_\_(out of 100)

**C)** Is the research or procedure specified, technically feasible given the background of the researcher(s), the resources available to them, and the timescale proposed? (Please give reasons)

SCORE (Section C) \_\_\_\_\_(out of 100)

**D)** Would you recommend that the UK ME/CFS Biobank make samples (and data) available for this research? (Please suggest any amendments if you wish)

**E)** Please state any conflicts of interest or confirm that you do not have any conflicts of interest.

**SECTION 3 - Referee**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_ (dd/mm/yyyy)

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