

Pathway Transformation Fund Support for Rapid Uptake Products: 2020/21 Application Guidance

Overview of the Pathway Transformation Fund

The Pathway Transformation Fund (PTF) is available to help providers to deploy innovative ideas and solutions to overcome barriers to the deployment and adoption of Rapid Uptake Products (RUPs). The PTF can be used to support providers overcome practical obstacles to deploying these products.

This guidance note provides an overview of the requirements of the scheme and advice on making a successful application. For further advice and guidance please consult with your AHSN RUP lead.

Eligibility Criteria

The following eligibility criteria **must** be met for an application to be considered:

- The applicant is an NHS provider or organisation
- Providers should either already have adopted, or be planning to adopt an eligible RUP within the term of this funding
- Trusts in 'Special Measures' will not be eligible as adopting new RUPs may place an additional burden on their systems

Eligible RUPs

RUP	Product	Supplier
Lipid Management: High Intensity Statins, Ezetimibe and PCSK9 inhibitors	High intensity statins: Atorvastatin (20mg to 80mg) Rosuvastatin (10mg to 40mg)	Generic medicines
	Ezetimibe	Generic medicines
	PCSK9 inhibitors (PCSK9i): Alirocumab (Praluent) Evolocumab (Repatha)	Sanofi Amgen
Measuring fractional exhaled nitric oxide (FeNO) concentration in asthma	NIOX VERO	Circassia
	NObreath	Bedfont Scientific
Biologics for treating severe asthma	Reslizumab (Cinqaero)	Teva Pharmaceuticals Ltd
	Benralizumab (Fasenra)	AstraZeneca
	Mepolizumab (Nucala)	GlaxoSmith-Kline
	Omalizumab (Xolair)	Novartis



Eligible Activities

PTF is available for providers to deploy innovative ideas and solutions to overcome barriers to deployment and adoption of eligible RUPs. This could cover a broad range of actions, but the following are typical and given as guidance:

- training and accreditation for staff on how to use new equipment (we would expect to leverage support from the supplier)
- care pathway redesign
- business support expertise
- provision of specialist nurses/clinical staff needed to implement a new part of the procedure
- covering double running costs
- backfilling of posts
- quality improvement programmes
- coaching to address change management challenges
- piloting of new roles
- capital equipment

Please refer to the RUP specific guidance note for additional recommendations on activities relating to that RUP.

Funding and timelines

The PTF contract and administration of finances will be undertaken by North East and North Cumbria Academic Health Science Network (NENC AHSN) on behalf of the Accelerated Access Collaborative. Successful applicants will be contacted by NENC AHSN to complete the contracting process and make payments.

The following will apply to applications:

- The maximum value of individual awards will be not greater than £250k. Your AHSN lead will be able to advise you on an appropriate value in relation to your project
- Depending on the total value of the project, there may be phased release of the funds according to specific deliverables and milestones being achieved
- If the proposed start date of the project is delayed funds will be released closer to the start date once the organisation has reconfirmed its commitment and ability to deliver the project
- All costs should be stated gross including VAT where this is irrecoverable
- On award of the application an invoice will be required to be submitted with the signed contract

Tips for a successful application

We would particularly welcome applications which directly address the barriers to adoption that have been identified by the relevant RUP project working group. These priorities are contained in the product specific guidance we have shared with you.

The following are areas you should focus on to help submit a successful application:

- Provide evidence of engagement with relevant stakeholders associated with the technology and the care pathway (**Q1 and Q2**)



- Demonstrate that there is a cohesive Trust approved vision and plan for integration of the RUP into routine practice **(Q3), with buy-in from senior decision makers and participants in the implementation of these changes**
- Applications which demonstrate collaborative and “at-scale” working across organisations or across different health system sectors will be of particular interest (e.g. applications which bring together multiple secondary care organisations to implement a region-wide new pathway, applications which bring together multiple GP practices / PCNs to form a hub)
- Clearly describe local barriers to adoption of the RUP, and articulate how the PTF will be used to address those barriers, i.e. what will you do **(Q5 and Q6)**
- Ensure there is a clear plan how you provide robust audit and evidence of the impact and value that the PTF project has delivered **(Q7)**.
- Clearly describe the likely benefits to patients and (if available) and indication of the cost-impact
- Please adhere to the word limit for questions

Requests for funding should **not** cover the following:

- The cost of developing internal business cases
- The cost of developing data collection process or evaluation of the PTF award.

Closing date for applications is **12noon, 11 February 2021**

Applications should be submitted to:

AAC RUP Delivery Team c/o England.ptf@nhs.net and your local AHSN project manager.

Please submit your application in Word saved with the filename in the following format “PTF_NHS organisation name.doc”, and please enter “PTF application” in the subject of your email.

It is expected that the outcome of the appraisal of applications will be communicated to you by w/c 1 March 2021. Contracts will be issued to successful applicants as soon as possible following that.

