The Wellcome Trust/DBT India Alliance

Göttingen; 27 June 2019



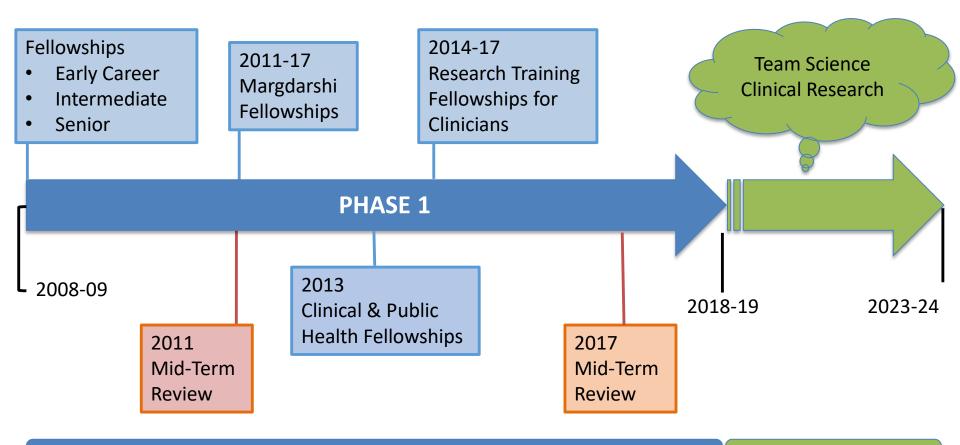




An initiative established in 2008 by the Wellcome Trust, UK and Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India



2:1 Funding



1:1 Funding DBT: Wellcome

High quality individual researchers **Fellowships** Phase 1+2 **Early Career** - Basic Science Clinical and Public Health Two streams Intermediate Senior

High quality teams of researchers

Grants

Phase 2

Team Science

Interdisciplinary Multi-institutional

Address health challenges for India

Clinical / Public Health Research Centres

> Clinical Research Training Fellowships

Strengthen India's clinical research ecosystem

Key Fellowship Provisions – Basic schemes

Criteria	Early Career	Intermediate	Senior
Eligibility (post-PhD/ MD/ MPH)	-1 to 4 years	4 to 15 years*	4 to 15 years*
Duration	5 years	5 years	5 years
Budget cap	INR 1.7 crores Euro 216,000	INR 3.6 crores Euro 458,000	INR 4.5 crores Euro 573,000
Salary/year	Up to INR 10.36 lakhs (Euro 13,000)	Up to INR 13.82 lakhs (Euro 17,500)	Up to INR 16.12 lakhs (Euro 20,500)
Major equipment	No	Yes	Yes
Support staff	1 technician (not in year 1)	Up to 2, including PhD students, postdocs	Up to 4, including PhD students, postdocs
Work Outside Host Institution	Up to 2 years, \$3000/month	Up to 1 year, \$3000/month	As per need
Travel allowance (INR)	7.5 lakhs	7.5 lakhs	10 lakhs
Contingency (INR)	2.5 lakhs	7.5 lakhs	10 lakhs

^{*} Guided by research career trajectory

Key Fellowship Provisions – CPH schemes

Criteria	Early Career	Intermediate	Senior	
Eligibility	-1-15 years post-MD/MS/MPH or equivalent*			
Duration	5 years	5 years	5 years	
Budget cap	INR 1.9 crores (Euro 242,000)	INR 3.8 crores (Euro 483,500)	INR 4.7 crores (Euro 598,000)	
Salary/year	Up to INR 13.4 lakhs (Euro 17,000)	Up to INR 16.8 lakhs (Euro 21,400)	Up to INR 19.5 lakhs (Euro 24,800)	
Major equipment	No	Yes	Yes	
#Support staff	1 technician (not in year 1)	Up to 2, including PhD students, postdocs	Up to 4, including PhD students, postdocs	
Work Outside Host Institution	Up to 2 years, \$3000/month	Up to 1 year, \$3000/month	As per need	
Travel allowance (INR)	7.5 lakhs	7.5 lakhs	10 lakhs	
Contingency (INR)	2.5 lakhs	7.5 lakhs	10 lakhs	

^{*} Guided by research career trajectory

[#] Flexible and provided per scientific justification

Fellowships Process

1 Preapplication

Full application

3 Peer Review 4 Remote shortlisting

5 Interview

Office checks

- Eligibility
- Remit
- Cohort

Office checks

- Policies
- Accuracy
- Letters

Review by domain experts

At least 3 separate reports

International review

Committee members score application

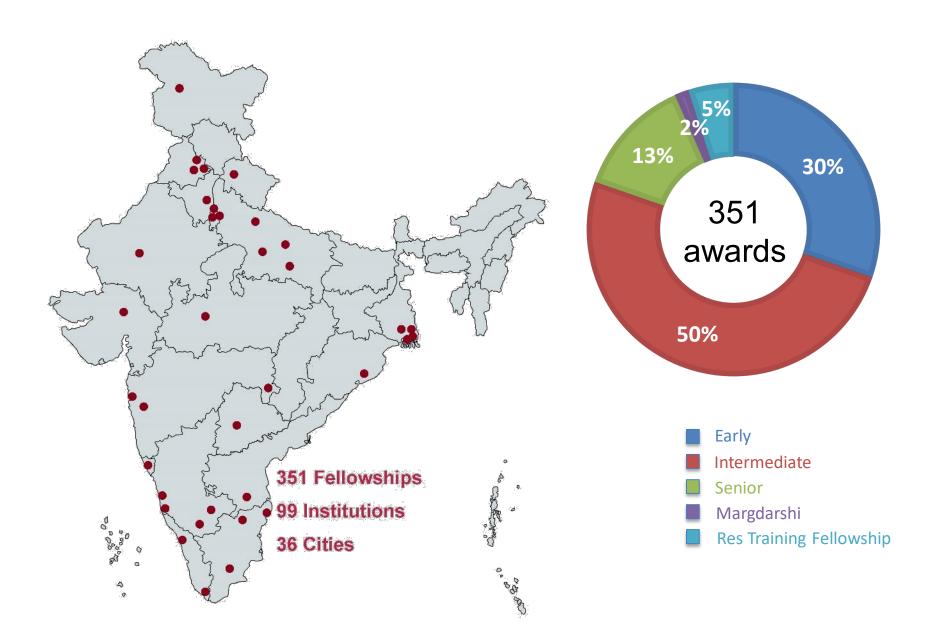
Decision to interview with Chair

45 minutes each candidate

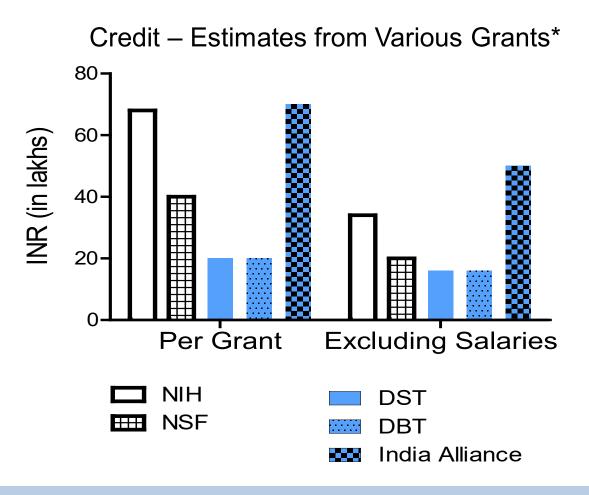
2 DCMs + Chair

Decision

OUR REACH AND STRATEGY

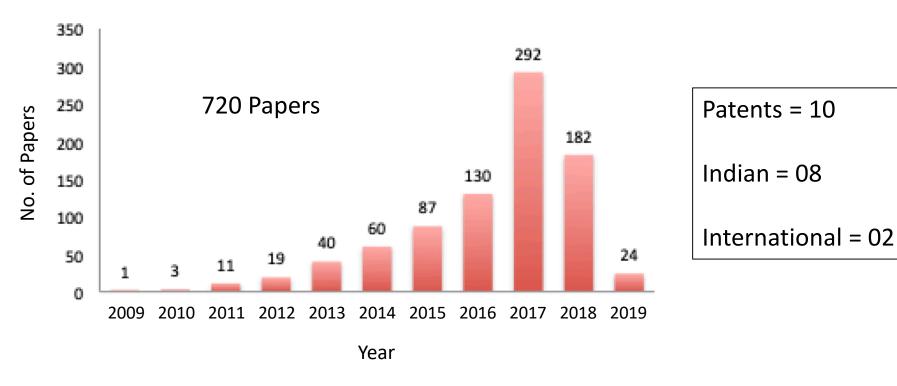


Funding Research – a comparison



On a per grant basis, India Alliance funding is comparable or better than the best in the world.

OUR IMPACT – Papers and Patents



- British Journal of Cancer; Oncogene
- Nature; Nature Cell Biology; Nature
 Nanotech; Nature Chem Bio; Nature
 Communications; Scientific Reports

Cell; Developmental Cell

- Proc Natl Acad Sci (USA)
- Development; Genes & Development
- ☐ British Journal of Hematology; Blood

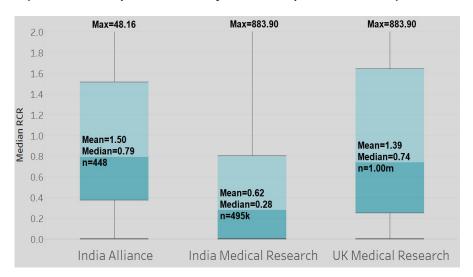
- billish Journal of Cancer, Officogene
 - Journal of Neurophysiology
 - Journal Cell Science; Journal Cell Biology
 - Molecular & Cellular Biology
 - Nucleic Acids Research; Oncogene
 - **PLoS Genetics**

OUR IMPACT

(based on external assessment)

India Alliance-funded research is cited more than other biomedical research from India

(Source: Impact & Analysis Group, Wellcome)

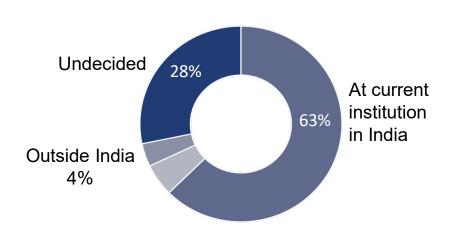


Relative Citation Ratio (RCR) of India
Alliance-funded publications benchmarked
against comparators

Evidence of "brain gain"



83% of former India Alliance fellows currently reside in India. (n=35/42)



Only 4% active IA fellows plan to move overseas. (n=5/131)

OUR IMPACT - Awards

3 Infosys Science Prizes

7 Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Awards

3 EMBO Young Investigator Awards

1 HHMI International Research Scholar Award

1 Royal Society TMH Emerging Leader Award

Many fellowships to India's science academies

The Inspiring Science Award 2019. 151 entries. 6 finalists.





ATRAYEE BASU



MANALEE V. SURVE



MUGDHA SATHE



KAUTILYA KUMAR JENA



SWAPNIL ROHIDAS SHINDE

5 of 6 students work in the labs of India Alliance **Fellows**

OUR

IMPACT

Honouring the best published scientific paper in the Life Sciences from India

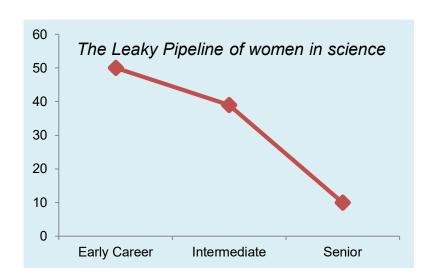


OUR IMPACT

33%

India Alliance awardees are women

- Consider non-research career breaks, including maternity break.
- One-year full cost extension of fellowship following a maternity break.



1/4th

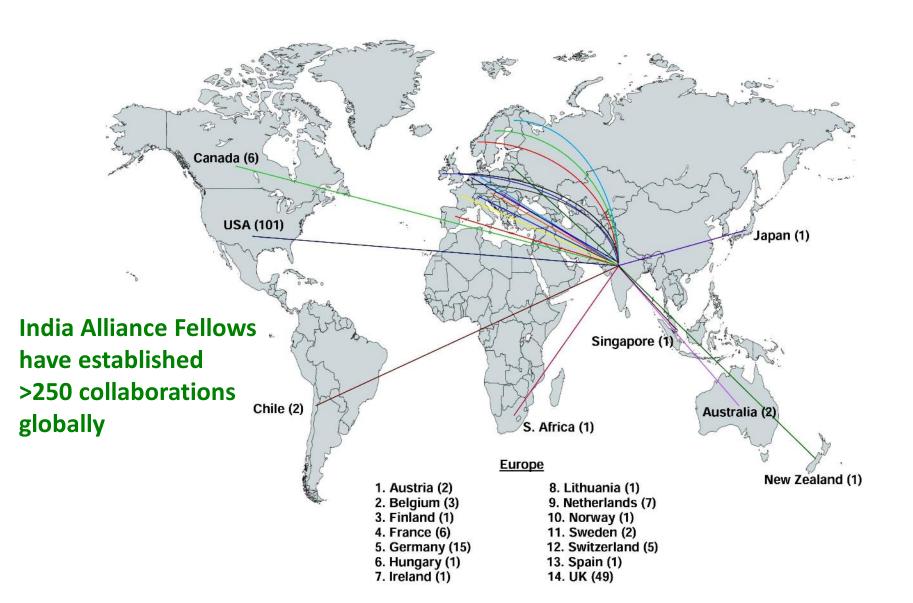
Awards made to new (<10 years old) institutions

over 1300

PhDs, postdoctoral scientists, undergraduates and research technicians trained in the laboratories of India Alliance Fellows

 Funded diverse area of basic, clinical and public health research: stem cell biology, bioinformatics, disease biology, biomaterials, nutrition, neuroscience, genomics, behavioural health-based research for policy uptake, and technology-based public health interventions

COLLABORATIONS – Globally connected research



Programmes (Phase 2)

Fellowships

- Basic and Clinical & Public Health streams
- 3 levels Early, Intermediate, Senior

• "Team Science"

- Multi-disciplinary, multi-institutional
- Solve important health challenges for India

Clinical Research Centres (CRCs)

- Develop physician scientists
- Strengthen clinical research

Fellowship deadlines

Basic Biomedical Research Fellowships

Early Career Fellowships

Call for applications in July 2019 (tentative)

Senior & Intermediate Fellowships

Call for applications in July 2019 (tentative)

Clinical and Public Health Research Fellowships

<u>Early Career Fellowships</u>, <u>Intermediate Fellowships</u> & <u>Senior Fellowships</u>

Applications under process, next Call for applications in early 2020

New Funding Schemes

Team Science Grants (TSG)

To foster interdisciplinary collaborative research that addresses an important health challenge for India

Clinical/Public Health Research Centres (CRC)

To establish research-oriented virtual centres that aim to improve clinical and public health research ecosystems in India

Clinical Research Training Programme (CRTP)

To develop Physician Scientists to strengthen clinical research in India (This programme is embedded in the CRC scheme)

The next call for applications opens in 2020

Team Science Grants (TSG)

Remit

To foster interdisciplinary collaborative research that addresses an important health challenge for India

Who can apply?

- A minimum of three PIs including one lead PI
- Pls should have PhD/MD/MBBS-MS/MPH or equivalent, with at least 5 years of experience in running an independent research group or lab
- No age or nationality bar
- Lead PI has to be based in India but the other PI's can be based overseas

Funding

Up to INR 10 crores (including 10% overheads) for a 5-year project

Funds can be requested for:

- hiring staff
- purchasing equipment and research supplies
- strengthening research management structure at the institution(s)

Clinical/Public Health Research Centres (CRC)

Remit

To establish research-oriented virtual centres that aim to improve clinical and public health research ecosystems in India

Who can apply?

Indian institution(s) in collaboration with global partners (optional)

Funding

Up to INR 10 crores (including 10% overheads) for a 5-year project.

Funds can be requested for:

- hiring of new clinical and public health researchers
- purchasing equipment and research supplies
- maintaining clinical and population cohorts
- training early career clinicians in research
- strengthening research management structure at the institution(s)

Clinical Research Training Programme (CRTP)

PART OF CRC FUNDING SCHEME

Remit To develop Physician Scientists to strengthen clinical research in India

Who can apply?

Indian institution(s) applying for CRC in collaboration with other eligible partners (optional)

Funding

Up to 12 fellowships will be available each year. The value of each fellowship will be INR 50 lakhs (only personal support of the Fellow).

Strengthen clinical research

Research Methodology Workshops

These workshops are an attempt of IA to enhance research skills of researchers by providing structured training in epidemiological study design, data collection and analysis.





Developing Indian Physician Scientists Workshops

With an aim to develop Physician Scientists, IA runs the DIPS workshop annually, which is designed to ignite scientific curiosity in young doctors and promote an understanding of the frontiers of medicine and related sciences.

Foster collaborations

India | EMBO Symposia

IA and **EMBO** co-fund up to 3 scientific meetings per year in India, which facilitate discussions on important global challenges in the context of the life sciences and aim to promote discovery and innovation through an interdisciplinary approach.





Africa-India Mobility Fund

IA, in partnership with the **African Academy of Sciences** (AAS), provides researchers from Africa and India a travel grant (of up to \$5000) for short visits in either direction to encourage South-South collaborations.

Robust research ecosystem

Research Leadership Workshops

IA in partnership with EMBO, through these workshops, helps its Fellows and young India researchers recognize and cultivate their leadership style and develop management skills.





India Research Management Initiative (IRMI)

IRMI aims to strengthen institutional ecosystems by facilitating setting up of research management systems through funding, training, and mentoring.

Open and accessible science

Open Research

All of IA-funded research is published as or made open access per policy. IA has joined **Wellcome Open Research** and **Europe PMC** to ensure adoption of its open access policy.





Science Communication Workshops

IA has trained ~3000 researchers from over 100 Indian institutions to communicate their science effectively through its SciComm workshops.

Public Engagement

IA runs and funds various public engagement programmes, which bring the scientific community and the public together on one platform to share, debate and deliberate on matters of science and health.





India Science Media Fellowship

IA launched ISMF this year in partnership with Nature India to strengthen and establish science journalism as a distinct, independent genre of journalism.

www.indiaalliance.org

info@indiaalliance.org (Research funding-related queries)





