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

**Phase 1**
- **2008-09**
  - Fellowships
    - Early Career
    - Intermediate
    - Senior
- **2011-17**
  - Margdarshi Fellowships
- **2013**
  - Clinical & Public Health Fellowships
- **2014-17**
  - Research Training Fellowships for Clinicians
- **2017**
  - Mid-Term Review

**Phase 2**
- **2018-19**
  - Team Science Clinical Research
    - 1:1 Funding DBT : Wellcome
- **2023-24**
  - Clinical Research
    - 2:1 Funding
Fellowships
Phase 1+2
- Early Career
- Intermediate
- Senior

High quality individual researchers

Grants
Phase 2
- Team Science
- Clinical / Public Health Research Centres
- Clinical Research Training Fellowships

High quality teams of researchers

Two streams
- Basic Science
- Clinical and Public Health

Interdisciplinary Multi-institutional
Address health challenges for India
Strengthen India’s clinical research ecosystem
## Key Fellowship Provisions – Basic schemes

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

* Guided by research career trajectory
# Key Fellowship Provisions – CPH schemes

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<th>Criteria</th>
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<th>Intermediate</th>
<th>Senior</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Eligibility</td>
<td>-1-15 years post-MD/MS/MPH or equivalent*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration</td>
<td>5 years</td>
<td>5 years</td>
<td>5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget cap</td>
<td>INR 1.9 crores (Euro 242,000)</td>
<td>INR 3.8 crores (Euro 483,500)</td>
<td>INR 4.7 crores (Euro 598,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salary/year</td>
<td>Up to INR 13.4 lakhs (Euro 17,000)</td>
<td>Up to INR 16.8 lakhs (Euro 21,400)</td>
<td>Up to INR 19.5 lakhs (Euro 24,800)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major equipment</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#Support staff</td>
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</table>

* Guided by research career trajectory  
# Flexible and provided per scientific justification
Fellowships Process

1. Pre-application
2. 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

351 Fellowships
99 Institutions
36 Cities

351 awards

- Early: 30%
- Intermediate: 50%
- Senior: 13%
- Margdarshi: 2%
- Res Training Fellowship: 5%

Map showing the distribution of fellowships across 36 cities in India, with 351 fellowships in total.
On a per grant basis, India Alliance funding is comparable or better than the best in the world.

 Courtesy: Siddharth Jhunjhunwala, IISc
OUR IMPACT – Papers and Patents

720 Papers

Year

No. of Papers


1 3 11 19 40 60 87 130 292 182 24

Patents = 10
Indian = 08
International = 02

- Cell; Developmental Cell
- Nature; Nature Cell Biology; Nature Nanotech; Nature Chem Bio; Nature Communications; Scientific Reports
- Proc Natl Acad Sci (USA)
- Development; Genes & Development
- British Journal of Hematology; Blood
- British Journal of Cancer; Oncogene
- 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)

At current institution in India 63%
Outside India 4%
Undecided 28%

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.

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

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

India Alliance Fellows have established >250 collaborations globally

1. Austria (2)
2. Belgium (3)
3. Finland (1)
4. France (6)
5. Germany (15)
6. Hungary (1)
7. Ireland (1)
8. Lithuania (1)
9. Netherlands (7)
10. Norway (1)
11. Sweden (2)
12. Switzerland (5)
13. Spain (1)
14. UK (49)

Canada (6)
USA (101)
Chile (2)
Singapore (1)
Australia (2)
S. Africa (1)
Japan (1)
New Zealand (1)
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

Early Career Fellowships, Intermediate Fellowships & Senior Fellowships
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
- PIs 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).
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.
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.
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.