



Application of Novel Transgenic technology
& Inherited symbionts to Vector Control

ANTI-VeC International Conference Bursaries

Mosquito Sensory Biology Symposium

6-8 September 2019

University College London, UK

Application Guidance

- **Abstract submission deadline to Joerg Albert (joerg.albert@ucl.ac.uk) and Judy Bagi (j.bagi@ucl.ac.uk) at University College London: 2nd August 2019**
- **ANTI-VeC bursary application deadline: 2nd August 2019**
- **Notification of funding: by 12th August 2019**

1. Summary

ANTI-VeC is a Vector-borne Disease Network awarded to the University of Glasgow, in partnership with Imperial College London. It is funded by the UK government Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) which supports research on global issues affecting developing countries, through BBSRC, MRC and NERC.

The ANTI-VeC Network focuses on the development of genetic / symbiont vector control strategies and related fields. This includes:

- suppression and replacement / transmission blocking approaches
- vector-pathogen/symbiont interactions and line creation
- symbiont discovery
- underlying vector biology relevant to genetic intervention
- relevant aspects of vector ecology and behaviour
- social science of community acceptance
- mathematical / economic modelling

The Network provides an opportunity to stimulate new lines of research and new collaborations, increase interactions in these emerging fields, and share experiences / expertise - from lab techniques to best practise in running field trials and to expand the links between leading UK scientists and excellent researchers based in disease-endemic countries.

ANTI-VeC funds several initiatives including:

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- Pump-Priming grants
- Training and technology/knowledge exchange visits
- International conference bursaries
- Travel bursaries to attend ANTI-VeC meetings

2. Funding

The ANTI-VeC Network announce a call for applications for conference bursaries to attend the Mosquito Sensory Biology Symposium up to the maximum value of £2,500 each.

Here we call for applications for international conference bursaries. The Network aims to encourage Continuous Professional Development (CPD) and career progression amongst its members. To achieve this, the call is open to registered PhD students from DAC-list countries and early career researchers from the UK or DAC-list countries, via competitive application to the Network Executive Committee.

Our conference bursaries are intended to support attendance at leading international conferences. Funds are specifically available to support members presenting work at scientific conferences.

Further information on the network remit can be found on our website www.anti-vec.net

3. Eligibility

PhD Students and Early Career Researchers: ANTI-VeC network members, who are registered PhD students and early career researchers are eligible to apply. Applicants must apply to become a network member if not already one. Membership is open to all those with an interest in the field and the network is free-of-charge to join via the ANTI-VeC website:

<https://www.gla.ac.uk/research/az/antivec/join/>

Applications are welcome from:

- **Registered PhD students from DAC-list countries**
- **Early career researchers including post-docs and lecturer level staff from UK or DAC-list countries**

These grants are only available to researchers based for work in UK or DAC-list countries. Please refer to the DAC list of ODA recipient countries for information:

<https://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/daclist.htm>

Please note that countries from all 4 columns (LDC, OLIC, LMIC and UMIC) on the DAC list are eligible to receive ODA funds.

Value of grant: 100% of the eligible directly incurred costs will be provided, up to a maximum amount of £2,500. Indirect costs are **not** eligible under this scheme. ANTI-VeC funding can be used in conjunction with other funding to cover international conference attendance that is more expensive than this (details of any additional funding secured should be included in section 5.1 of the application form).

Activities supported: Conference registration fees, travel, accommodation and subsistence costs, visa fees, travel insurance and vaccinations are all eligible, up to a maximum amount of £2,500.

Activities not supported: applications from non-members of the ANTI-VeC Network; staff salary costs; indirect costs.

Any questions for clarification about eligibility should be directed to the Network Manager, Michelle Connolly on Michelle.Connolly@glasgow.ac.uk

4. Application Process

Targeted calls will be launched for bursaries to support attendance at leading international conferences, within the ANTI-VeC funding period, which runs until June 2020. Dates associated with these calls will be advertised on the ANTI-VeC website, by emails to network members, and through other relevant channels to ensure wide dissemination of these opportunities.

Applicants should complete the **ANTI-VEC International Conference Bursaries Application Form – Mosquito Sensory Biology**.

The following information will be required to complete the application form:

- **Applicant Details**
- **Abstract Submission:** please indicate if you have submitted an abstract for a poster presentation to University College London. Abstracts should be submitted to Joerg Albert Joerg.albert@ucl.ac.uk and Judy Bagi j.bagi@ucl.ac.uk. Please also include the title of the abstract, along with abstract text on the application form.
- **Supporting Statement:** please describe how attending this conference will contribute to your professional development in ANTI-VeC associated research (**maximum 200 words**)
- **ANTI-VeC Funding:** please detail any funding you have received to date from the ANTI-VeC Network (**maximum 200 words**)
- **Conference attendance costs requested:** please itemise the total costs of the conference attendance (e.g. registration fees, cost of travel, accommodation, subsistence, visa, insurance, vaccinations etc). Please also include details of additional funding secured (if any) to support attendance at the conference.
- **Justification of Resources:** please provide a breakdown of the costs you have requested (**maximum 200 words**)

The budget requested must be fully justified. Please note that there may be a challenge process on value for money, which may result in the actual funding offered being less than the full amount requested.

Applicants should submit the following attachments with the application form:

- Abstract submission confirmation email
- Letter of Support from your PhD Supervisor / Research Group Leaders

Your application must be formatted as follows:

- Arial font
- 11 point font or larger

- Minimum of 0.5" margins all round
- Single line spacing
- Standard character spacing

The closing date for applications is 2nd August 2019.

The application form and associated documents must be submitted by email in PDF format to the Network Manager, Michelle Connolly, at anti-vec-network@glasgow.ac.uk

All applications will be acknowledged within 2 working days.

5. Review Process

Applications for funding will be initially assessed for eligibility, before joint evaluation by the organisers at University College London and the ANTI-VeC Network Executive Committee (NEC). Where there is a conflict of interest with any applicants submitting applications, committee members will not review that particular proposal. The Network Management Board may be invited to assess applications.

Examples of a conflict of interest include:

- Employed by the same institution as the applicant(s)
- Actively involved in research collaborations with the applicants(s)
- Working closely with the applicant(s), for example as a co-author or PhD Supervisor, or has worked closely in the last 4 years
- Holding a current position on the governing body of or an honorary position within the institution(s) of the applicant(s)
- In receipt of personal remuneration in excess of £5000 per annum from the applicant's organisation
- Personal/family relationship with the applicant(s)

6. Assessment Criteria

The criteria for assessment will be:

- Applicant fulfils the stated eligibility criteria
- Abstract is within the scope of the ANTI-VeC network
- Abstract has been accepted by the University College London organising committee
- Value for money

The budget requested must be fully justified. Please note that there may be a challenge process on value for money, which may result in the actual funding offered being less than the full amount requested.

7. Notification of Review Results

Successful applicants will be sent award letters confirming the funds available by **12th August 2019** following the University College London organising committee and ANTI-VeC NEC decision.

Funding awarded must be used to support attendance at the Mosquito Sensory Biology Symposium as detailed in the original application.

Unsuccessful applicants will be informed promptly and the Network Manager may pass on specific feedback if available.

8. Post Award Administration and Reimbursement Guidance

The University of Glasgow will issue an award letter contract to the awardee, confirming the funding awarded.

Awardees are expected to acknowledge receipt of the bursary by 'accepting' or 'declining' within 5 working days.

Awardees are strongly encouraged to start the process of applying for a visa **immediately** after notification, if required, as this can take time.

1. Up to a maximum £2,500 is available to fund each conference bursary and will be for actual costs incurred. Any underspend will be retained by ANTI-VeC.
2. Reimbursement of costs will only be processed after the conference. No payments will be provided prior to the conference and payment is conditional on full attendance at the conference for which the Grant is awarded.
3. All expenses must relate exclusively to you and your attendance at the conference for which the award was issued.
4. Travel, accommodation, visa, vaccinations and insurance: you will be responsible for booking your flight, travel and accommodation plus any visa, immunisation and insurance needs.

Travel should not be booked until you have received your visa (where applicable).

5. Subsistence: all receipts should be for one meal/one person only. No alcohol purchases will be reimbursed.
6. Please keep receipts for all of your expenses. You will receive a Claim Form to be completed in full, including Bank details. We also require Bank Account Confirmation attested from your Bank. All claims must be supported by **original receipts** (credit card or bank statements will not be accepted).
7. Foreign Currency Claims will be subject to the exchange rate at the time of processing the claim by the ANTI-VeC Team. **Payments will be made in GBP.**
8. Please note there are bank charges associated with international money transfers and these will be shared between ANTI-VeC and the payee.
9. Payment of per diems will not be accepted. All expenditure to be claimed must be receipted.
10. Any expense deemed excessive or unreasonable by the ANTI-VeC Team will not be paid.

Eligible Cost Categories	Comments
Rail tickets Standard Class	Standard class is the expected standard of travel.
Air travel Economy	Economy class is the expected standard of travel.
Hotel Accommodation	Accommodation costs must be reasonable.
Taxis	Taxis may be used for journeys providing it is more cost effective than other options, or when it would not be reasonable to take a connecting journey via public transport (please provide an explanation when claiming). We expect awardees to use public transport to and from London Airports.
Travel visa fee	Only for the purpose of travel for the conference being funded.
Medical costs relating to travel	Additional medical costs incurred connected to the visit will be reimbursed (e.g. vaccinations required in order to travel).
Travel Insurance	We advise that you take out Travel Insurance for your trip, to cover the cost of lost luggage for example and to cover medical costs relating to illness/injury occurring once abroad.
Subsistence (Meals)	We will reimburse the actual cost of meals for the individual whilst attending the conference, up to a maximum cost of £30 per day. Lunch and refreshments during the conference are provided by the organisers. All claims will be reviewed by the ANTI-VeC team and any duplicate meal receipts will not be processed. Please note that this is not an allowance, but the maximum amount that can be claimed (including VAT).

Ineligible Cost Categories						
<u>The following items are excluded from funding</u>						
Including but not limited to the following items:						
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">Gifts</td> <td style="width: 33%;">Souvenirs</td> <td style="width: 33%;">Luggage wrapping</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alcohol</td> <td>Passport photos</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Gifts	Souvenirs	Luggage wrapping	Alcohol	Passport photos	
Gifts	Souvenirs	Luggage wrapping				
Alcohol	Passport photos					
If you are in doubt about whether an item is covered or not, please check with the ANTI-VeC Team. Any ineligible receipts will not be processed.						

Any questions for clarification about eligibility should be directed to Michelle Connolly at anti-vec-network@glasgow.ac.uk

Payment is made in arrears, and can be made in two ways:

1. **If your organisation paid the costs:** please contact ANTI-VeC (anti-vec-network@glasgow.ac.uk) to check what is required for your organisation to be reimbursed.
2. **If you personally paid the costs:** a detailed expense claim (claim form to be supplied by ANTI-VEC support team), bank account confirmation and expenses breakdown of costs incurred, with receipts should be submitted. Costs will be reimbursed to the bank account stated on the form. Claimants will need to send hard copies of the:
 - (a) Sundry Foreign Payment Form;
 - (b) Bank Account Confirmation (From your bank);
 - (c) Expenses Breakdown;
 - (d) Original itemised receipts.

Claim documents will be emailed to Recipients directly.

To the ANTI-VeC support team:

Michelle Connolly
ANTI-VeC Network
MRC-University of Glasgow Centre for Virus Research (CVR)
Institute of Infection, Immunity and Inflammation
College of Medical, Veterinary and Life Sciences
University of Glasgow
Henry Wellcome Building
Room 330
Garscube Campus
464 Bearsden Road
Glasgow G61 1QH

The payment claim should be sent to the ANTI-VeC support team once the cost is incurred.

Payment will be for actual expenditure up to the award value.

Recipients of awards are also required to provide a short report about the benefits of the conference, collaborations made, and the impact this has/will have on their future career development. A template will be provided.

The conference report and the financial claim must be submitted within one month of the conference taking place.

9. Publicity and Data Protection

A brief summary of successful applicants will be listed on the ANTI-VeC website and in other publicity.

All funding comes from the BBSRC, so to meet the UK Research Councils' obligations for public accountability and the dissemination of information, non-confidential details of awards may also be made available on the Research Councils' websites and other publicly available databases, and in reports, documents and mailing lists. The BBSRC will use this information for research related activities, including but not limited to, statistical analysis in relation to the evaluation of BBSRC funding, study of trends and policy and strategy studies.

10. Useful Resources

UK Government information on ODA strategic objectives:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/official-development-assistance-oda--2>

List of DAC-list countries: <http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/daclist.htm>

11. Contact

If you have any questions regarding the application process, please contact:

Michelle Connolly (ANTI-VeC Network Manager), Michelle.Connolly@glasgow.ac.uk / anti-vec-network@glasgow.ac.uk

12. Our Funders

ANTI-VeC (BB/R005338/1) is one of four Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) Networks in vector-borne disease research that are co-funded by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC), Medical Research Council (MRC) and Natural Environment Research Council (NERC). Three other vector-borne disease research networks have been funded.

1. The **Building out Vector-Borne Diseases in sub-Saharan Africa (BOVA)** network. BOVA aims to stimulate research in the area of vector-borne diseases and the built environment. <https://www.bovanetwork.org/>
2. The **Community Network for African Vector-Borne Plant Viruses (CONNECTED)** network, which aims to build a sustainable network of international scientists and researchers to address the challenges of vector-borne plant viruses in Africa. <https://www.connectedvirus.net>
3. The **Gnatwork** brings together workers on blackflies (*Simuliidae*), sandflies (*Psychodidae*) and biting midges (*Ceratopogonidae*) from around the world to address technical issues that arise when working on small biting flies. We aim to support and develop early career researchers working on these insects in countries receiving official development assistance (ODA) and also carry out high quality studies that will underpin future research efforts on these vectors. <https://www.gnatwork.ac.uk>



Imperial College
London

