RCGP Scientific Foundation Board | Annual Research Grants 2021 - Scoring Criteria

Typical descriptors	Category	Score	Outcome
▪ Very important research questions; likely to result in a strong impact on NHS / primary care practice ▪ Excellent research design, very strong team and very good value for money ▪ Active participation and influence of service users ▪ Users at all relevant stages of the project	No faults A few minor fixable faults A number of minor fixable faults	10 9 8	Fundable
▪ Good quality research, important research questions ▪ Competent and appropriate research team ▪ Likely to be productive and have an impact on practice ▪ Good value for money ▪ Well planned Patient and Public Involvement (PPIE) that is likely to lead to user-informed outcomes ▪ Concerns about the research approach can be corrected easily	A major fixable fault and some minor fixable faults A few major fixable faults or a large number of minor fixable faults	7 6	Potentially fundable
▪ Potentially useful study but only of modest quality ▪ Important research questions, but low expectation of success and impact, and questionable impact ▪ Some elements of PPI, but not well integrated and of questionable quality ▪ Applicants without relevant research experience	Important research question but proposal has too many major fixable faults Research plans contain some good elements but proposal has fundamental flaws Questionable potential for impact and proposal has fundamental flaws	5 4 3	Not competitive Not fundable Reject
▪ Poor/flawed/duplicative; serious scientific concerns ▪ Unnecessary duplication of work, would not be productive or have an impact on practice, unlikely to lead to impact ▪ Key skills missing from the research team ▪ PPI components very limited or lacking altogether ▪ Poor value for money	Unlikely to lead to impact and proposal has fundamental flaws Unlikely to lead to impact and research question is fundamentally flawed	2 1	Not fundable