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The Lorna & Yuti Chernajovsky
Biomedical Research Foundation

2026 Call for Grant Applications on the Biological Mechanisms of Fatigue (Phase I)

This call aims to identify molecular targets for the treatment of fatigue in immune-mediated inflammatory diseases (IMIDs).

Fatigue is the most common feature of IMIDs and greatly impacts on quality of life, yet research into its causes has been sorely neglected. Our current understanding of the biological mechanisms remains poor.

The Lorna & Yuti Chernajovsky Biomedical Research Foundation is therefore investing an initial £1 million into research projects that will identify molecular mechanisms of fatigue in IMIDs with the aim of developing novel targeted therapies.

Successful projects from this initial phase of funding will be eligible for more substantive funding in the second phase.

We will fund 5 project grants for 2 years (up to £200,000 each) in this initial phase focussing on discovery of potential targeted therapies for fatigue (including proof of concept).

Who can apply and what you can apply for:

- The award will be for a maximum £200,000, for up to 24 months with an expected starting date of September 2026.
- International or national scientific collaborations are **essential**
- The lead applicant **must** be based at a UK research institution with an internationally competitive track record.
- Risky projects are welcomed.
- Closing date for submission of applications is Thursday April 2, 2026 at 5 pm.
- Application forms can be obtained from <https://www.chernajovskyfoundation.org.uk>
- Full applications (in PDF format) should be uploaded to our password-protected Box.com website. Please contact yuti@chernajovskyfoundation.org.uk to receive your unique access key and password before submission.

We will **not** fund social or psychological projects.