**APPLICANT DETAILS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Principal Investigator** | |
| Name |  |
| Position |  |
| Department |  |
| Unit Location | Oxford / MORU / OUCRU (delete as appropriate) |
| Email address |  |
| Research Group |  |
| **Co-Investigator (1), if applicable** | |
| Name |  |
| Position |  |
| Department |  |
| Unit Location | Oxford / MORU / OUCRU (delete as appropriate) |
| Email address |  |
| Research Group |  |
| **Co-Investigator (2), if applicable** | |
| Name |  |
| Position |  |
| Department |  |
| Unit Location | Oxford / MORU / OUCRU (delete as appropriate) |
| Email address |  |
| Research Group |  |

**Will this project be undertaken with an external collaborator\* (academic or industry)?**

Yes  No

If yes, please provide the following details (please add for each collaborator as appropriate):

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Position |  |
| Institution |  |
| Location |  |
| Email address |  |
| Ongoing collaboration? | Yes / No |

\*Please note, where the project has an external collaborator involved, a research collaboration agreement will need to be put in place

Tick if you are an Early Career Researcher\*\* and state a senior person as your mentor for this application

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Mentor’s name |  |
| Mentor’s position |  |
| Mentor affiliation |  |
| Email address |  |

**\*\*Please see the UKRI MRC guideline on the definition of an early career researcher** [**https://www.ukri.org/what-we-do/developing-people-and-skills/esrc/early-career-researchers/**](https://www.ukri.org/what-we-do/developing-people-and-skills/esrc/early-career-researchers/)

[**https://www.ukri.org/what-we-do/developing-people-and-skills/esrc/early-career-researchers/**](https://www.ukri.org/what-we-do/developing-people-and-skills/esrc/early-career-researchers/)

**Project Title**

|  |
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|  |

**Research Area (please tick all that apply)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Medical diagnostic devices |  | Digital health solutions |  |
| Platform technologies |  | Other (please describe) |  |
| Other tools to accelerate translational research |  |  |  |

**Administrative Contact for Award** *(Departmental research facilitator, manager, administrator or finance officer who can facilitate award set up through IRAMS and X5).*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name, position and contact details of administrative contact: |  |

**Funding History (please tick all that apply):**

Please indicate if the project has received any funding from the following sources to-date.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| If this current application is related to a previous **unsuccessful** application, please indicate how you have incorporated the feedback received by appending a 1-page point-by-point response to the reviewer comments to this application. If this current application is related to a previous **successful** application, please indicate below how this current application is different (Maximum 100 words) | |
| Previous MLSTF applicant |  |
| Previous DiTi applicant |  |
| Engineering & Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) |  |
| Medical Research Council (MRC) |  |
| Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) |  |
| National Institute for Health & Care Research (NIHR) |  |
| Cancer Research UK (CRUK) |  |
| Wellcome |  |
| Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation |  |
| Your institutional internal funding schemes (please provide details)  Fund name:  Year obtained:  Amount of grant: |  |
| Other (Please specify) | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Has your proposal been submitted to be considered for funding elsewhere?  Y. N. | If yes, please give brief details: |

***In order to complete this form, please use font ‘Arial’ with minimum font size of 11 without adjusting the margin of the text box.***

***Applicants are strongly advised to use the ‘Guidance for Applicants’ document on ‘What are the panel looking for?’ hints under each section of the case for support form when completing your application.***

***The use of generative AI tools to prepare DiTi applications is permitted, however, caution should be applied. The DiTi scheme’s stance on the use of generative AI in applications is in line with the guidelines set by UKRI. Further details can be found*** [***here***](https://www.ukri.org/publications/generative-artificial-intelligence-in-application-and-assessment-policy/use-of-generative-artificial-intelligence-in-application-preparation-and-assessment/)***.***

**Non-confidential lay summary** (max. 250 words)

This information could be shared with external agencies such as funders and potential industry partners if deemed within the best interest of the PI. Please Include a description of your innovation and its impact, who the potential partners and/or end user could be, the competitive advantage, how the funding will be used to reach a critical milestone.

I am happy for this summary to be shared with selected potential industry collaborators and/or funders Y N.

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY: Brief outline of existing and expected intellectual property (IP) from this proposal** **(if any)**

It is highly recommended that you consult with Oxford University Innovation (OUI) −contact details at end of document − to discuss all (IP) matters (max 200 words).

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Do you have any patents/IP in place or submitted that covers this work?  Y. N. | Please give brief details: |
| Do you anticipate that work proposed here will give rise to any new IP?  Y. N. | Please give brief details: |
| Do any organisations other than Oxford University, have any rights to the work being proposed here *(e.g. through commercial sponsorship, or grant funding)? How will IP be managed in respect to these collaborators?*  Y. N. | Please give brief details: |
| Do you need to access background IP/patents, materials, data or other resources held by anyone else for this work (*e.g. using a technique/ discoveries patented by another group, or materials, data or equipment provided under an agreement)?*  Y. N. | Please give brief details: |
| Have [OUI](https://innovation.ox.ac.uk/about/contact-us/) been engaged in discussions around the proposed research?  Y. N. | Please give brief details of Licensing and Ventures Manager engaged with project: |

**Ethics**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Not required | Please give reason *(e.g. does not involve human material):* |
| Application in progress | Please state status: |
| Ethics obtained | Please give relevant ethics committee project title and reference number: |

**CASE FOR SUPPORT FORM**

**SECTION 1.1: Scientific Justification** (max 500 words)

**Please use this section to include additional information that is not already in the abstract / lay summary**

Please use this section to include background information such as:

Scientific rationale and background of your project

The unmet clinical need of your proposed project

Progress to date

You will need to append the **supporting data and information** (figures / tables) (1 page maximum) as a separate PDF.

**SECTION 1.2: Project Description and Developmental Plans** (max 500 words)

Please use this section to include additional information that is not already in the abstract / lay summary

• This project objectives, milestones, go/no-go success criteria and proposed end-point outcomes.

• Next steps in the development plans post this funding

You will need to append **a comprehensive Gantt chart** on the milestones and timeline of your project (1 page maximum, see link to an example at the end of this form) as a separate PDF.

**SECTION 1.3: Please list the key risks to delivering the project** (max 500 words)

Provide 1) A list of risks associated with the project, including the unlikely-likelihood of occurring; 2) What impact the risks would have on the successful completion of the project (low-medium-high); 3) How will these risks be managed and what mitigation plans are put in place?

**SECTION 1.4: To be completed if your project involves significant use of AI.** Significant use of AI in an DiTi project refers to the integration of artificial intelligence as a core enabling technology that fundamentally shapes the project’s functionality, development, and value proposition. Use of AI in the project is therefore not only an add-on feature but a major technique that drives the project’s capabilities, automation, decision-making, or user experience.

|  |
| --- |
| Please outline your current intended use statement for the technology (which may be subject to further refinement), including target users and the benefits to those users [max.150 words] |
| Please describe the data that will be used for training the AI technology, including specifying the dataset(s) you have used, as well what curation have you performed. Please also describe the data that will be required in operational delivery of the technology [max.150 words] |
| Please describe the AI tools and methods that you intend to deploy for this proposal, including the model architecture. Are you using an off-the-shelf model (specify which one) or a bespoke model? [max. 150 words] |
| Is any part of your code based on or incorporate any 3rd party code? If so, have you checked the applicable permissions for use (e.g. research only/ all or commercial use) [max.150 words] |

|  |
| --- |
| How have you conducted the training, testing and validation set up? How have you mitigated against overfitting of the model? Please comment on e.g. cross-validation schemes, hold-out datasets, external validations. Please also specify which features or input variables drive the prediction of your model? [max. 150 words] |
| Please describe any novel approaches (e.g., use of data, methods deployed) in the AI component of your proposal [max. 150 words] |

**SECTION 2: Competitiveness of the approach** (max 400 words)

Discuss the competitive landscape in both academic and industry sectors and what the significant advantages the proposed research will offer over the methodologies already on the market or in development by your competitors.

Have you considered, or do you have the need, to receive support for market research and identify commercial opportunities? Y N. If you have ticked yes, please note that DiTi can fund market research or business development support as part of the proposal. You are advised to contact the TRO at application who can support you in acquiring a quote.

**SECTION 3: Industry engagement** (max 200 words)

Provide the details of an industrial collaborator, if you have one, and what their contribution will be. If there is no collaboration currently in place, please describe any conversations that you may have had with industry or what your plans are for engaging with the commercial sector.

**SECTION 4: Regulatory management** (max 300 words)

Provide evidence and details of consultation with the appropriate regulatory body or regulatory experts and summarise the outcomes of these discussions. Alternatively, summarise why regulatory discussions are not necessary at this stage.

**SECTION 5: Data Management Plan** (max 100 words)

State your data management plan or provide evidence that the creation of such a plan is currently underway and how you propose your data fill fit within the NHS Secure Data Environment / any other data protection currently in place in your country.

Does your project include utilisation of clinical data from the NHS or other sources as training model for your proposed technology? Yes No

**SECTION 6: Justification for support** (max 200 words)

Provide a description of what resources (models, equipment, infrastructure, expertise) are needed to undertake the proposed project. Also provide justification for the funds being requested and state why the DiTi scheme is an appropriate scheme for your proposal.

Which follow-on funding streams would be most appropriate for your project?   
 MRC DPGF  MRC DPFS  NIHR i4i  Other

|  |
| --- |
| **Once completed please append the following documents to this case for support form and merge into a single PDF to be uploaded onto IRAMS by the deadline (7th November 2025, 5pm):**  **One page CV for each named applicant**  **One page of the X5 costing**  **One page MAX of a comprehensive Gantt chart for the proposed project (Please see this exemplar Gantt chart ‘Setting Realistic Timelines’ to help prepare your application** [**https://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/for-staff/resources/translational-research-office/news-training-events/tips-for-mlstf-applicants**](https://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/for-staff/resources/translational-research-office/news-training-events/tips-for-mlstf-applicants)  **One page MAX of your supporting data/table/figures for SECTION 1.1**  **A 1-page point-by point response to reviewer comments, if an applicant is resubmitting a previously unsuccessful application.** |