

4th September 2009

Dear Colleague

NIHR appointed national nominating body for Advisory Committee on Clinical Excellence Awards

I am delighted to announce that the Advisory Committee on Clinical Excellence Awards (ACCEA) has awarded NIHR nominating body status for the next three years. NIHR will make its first ACCEA nominations in the 2010 round.

Clinical Excellence Awards recognise and reward NHS consultants and academic General Practitioners who perform 'over and above' the standard expected of their role. ACCEA administers these awards. NIHR, as a nominating body, is invited to make a number of recommendations to ACCEA in each round. An NIHR nomination does not guarantee an applicant success but does ensure that their application is seen and considered by ACCEA.

The NIHR nomination process will run simultaneously with ACCEA's online application process. As a nominating body, NIHR can only nominate those applying for national level awards: Bronze, Silver and Gold but not Platinum. ACCEA advises that it is unlikely that applications for higher awards will be successful until at least four years have elapsed since the current award commenced. However, it may be possible in exceptional circumstances to move up more quickly if significant development can be demonstrated.

As this is the first year that NIHR will nominate to ACCEA we have decided to focus our efforts on:

- Senior Investigators who are already in receipt of national level awards (Bronze or Silver) for at least three years and who intend to apply for the next level of award in the 2010 round;
- Senior Investigators who are eligible for but are not yet in receipt of a national award and who intend to apply in the 2010 round.

Guidance on the NIHR nomination process is circulated with this letter. Formal notification of your intention to apply for NIHR nomination to ACCEA is required. Please email Karen.bhogal@dh.gsi.gov.uk by **September 16th 2009** if you wish to seek NIHR nomination. This email should include your GMC number

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sally C Davies'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Sally' written in a larger, more prominent script than the initials 'C Davies'.

PROFESSOR DAME SALLY C DAVIES
Director General of Research and Development