

01 September 2010

To: NIHR Senior Investigators

Dear Colleague

NIHR national nominating body for Advisory Committee on Clinical Excellence Awards

The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) will make ACCEA nominations for the second year running in the 2011 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, Gold and 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.

This year NIHR will focus our efforts on:

- Senior Investigators who are already in receipt of national level awards (Bronze, Silver or Gold) and who intend to apply for the next level of award in the 2011 round;
- Senior Investigators who are eligible but are not yet in receipt of a national award and who intend to apply in the 2011 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 Carolina.Arevalo@dh.gsi.gov.uk stating your intention to seek NIHR nomination by **September 13th 2010**. This email should include your GMC number, your institution, your current award level, how many years you have held current award and the level of award for which you are seeking support.

Yours sincerely,



PROFESSOR DAME SALLY C DAVIES
Director General of Research and Development