

British Veterinary Association  
**ANIMAL WELFARE FOUNDATION**

*Committed to improving the welfare of all animals  
through veterinary science, education and debate*



# Guidelines for a research grant application

September 2007

Registered Charity 287118

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### **BVA:AWF**

The BVA Animal Welfare Foundation (BVA:AWF) is committed to improving the welfare of all animals through veterinary science, education and debate.

The principal aim of the Foundation is to apply the knowledge, skill and compassion of veterinary surgeons in an effective way through a variety of projects and activities.

Through veterinary science, education and debate, the BVA:AWF is committed to finding practical solutions to the welfare problems of all animals, and then disseminating this information amongst veterinary practitioners, nurses and students, farmers, animal care workers and the general public.

All applications must be submitted on the attached application form

### **Title of study**

The title must be brief, clear and specific designation of the subject of the study

### **Statement of intent**

BVA:AWF research funds support projects that directly impact on the health and welfare of companion animals and livestock predominantly but not exclusively in the United Kingdom. Consideration will be given to proposals addressing important welfare issues that increase awareness of animal welfare in both the veterinary profession and related industry and also in a more general sphere. Applicants are encouraged to clearly and briefly state the importance of the proposed study relevance to the Foundation's interests and how their approach will provide a novel contribution to the improvement of animal welfare.

### **Principal Investigator and Co-investigators**

Please state the name, degrees, title or position of the principal applicant and co-applicants and list personnel who will be involved in the study. Include a short *curriculum vitae* of the principal applicant and the names and contact details of two referees.

### **Background and Significance**

Briefly describe the background leading to the current proposal critically evaluate existing knowledge, and specifically identify the gaps which this study is intended to fill. Any preliminary data where available will substantially enhance the viability of the application. In addition cite important publications from other institutions.

### **Specific Aims and Hypothesis**

Please clearly and succinctly state the specific hypothesis and aims of the study.

### **Design and Methods**

Protocols: Describe the working plans and methods to satisfy the stated aims and objectives, include experimental design and procedures in detail and give a rationale for their use. References should be included where necessary.

Animal use: For all procedures using live animals justification for the choice of species and the number of animals used must be included. Information on the provision of veterinary care must also be stated. All



projects must have local ethical approval and where procedures are subject to Home Office regulation please include a cost-benefit analysis and any other relevant documentation. For clinical studies, document availability of sufficient case material.

**Duration:** The Foundation will support projects of up to three-year duration. All projects are subject to six-monthly review (please see interim report guidelines). State the proposed duration of the project indicating appropriate milestones. Estimate how much of the proposal is expected to be completed in the first half of the funding period. If you foresee any obstacles to the successful completion of the project, identify these and indicate how you intend to reduce their likelihood of occurrence. If applicable, please indicate whether future funding for continuation of the project is anticipated.

**Outcomes:** Discuss expected outcomes and state proposed methods of analysis and interpretation of results where applicable. State how these findings support the specific hypothesis and aims of the study and how implementation of these findings will have a direct effect on improvement of animal welfare. State explicitly how the work will improve the quality of life of animals. How might the project improve the public understanding of animal welfare?

**Knowledge Transfer:** Please indicate journals/venues at which findings are to be published or presented. Prior to publication please submit any material to AWF for approval. All publication should also contain prominent acknowledgement of the funding received by AWF. Please identify other routes you will use to publicise the outcome of your work. How do you see the project raising the profile of the BVA:AWF?

### **Budget**

A detailed budget should include the estimated cost to the Foundation of personnel, expendable supplies, and animal and animal maintenance where applicable. The foundation does not pay for building costs or purchase of laboratory equipment.

Please state if the proposed project part of a larger on-going programme. Include previous and proposed funding by other institutions and from any other source. Please indicate if this application is a continuation, or next phase of a previous AWF-funded study. If so please state the study title, year started and year ended. Please also state in this is a re-submission of a previous unapproved proposal. If so please indicate the title and date of previous unsuccessful submission.

Please indicate any possibilities for seeking matching funding for this work if the AWF could only partly fund this application.

Please note that if you are seeking funding of £10,000 or above you will need to complete an additional form which is available from the BVA:AWF's website: [www.bva-awf.org.uk](http://www.bva-awf.org.uk).

### **Referees**

Please give the names of two referees who might be contacted.



**RESEARCH GRANT APPLICATION**

**TITLE OF STUDY**

**STATEMENT OF INTENT**

**PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR AND CO-INVESTIGATORS**



**RESEARCH GRANT APPLICATION**

**BACKGROUND AND SIGNIFICANCE**

**SPECIFIC AIMS AND HYPOTHESIS**

**DESIGN AND METHODS**



**RESEARCH GRANT APPLICATION**

**BUDGET**

**REFEREES**