MQ Research Portfolio
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Funders Panel for Suicide Prevention Researchers
AFSP/IASR Research Training Series
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A Global Organisation

We have delivered ground-breaking research through grants and collaborations in 37 countries around the world.

In 2023 we have two offices in London and New York.

Our active grants portfolio stands at over £3M or $3.7M USD.
Our Strategic Priorities

1. Growing Talent

In order to transform mental health, we need a cadre of highly skilled researchers passionate about using their expertise to benefit people’s lives. Mental health research is constrained by the scale of the workforce, with an urgent need to increase its size and diversity. We support talented, early-career researchers with bold ideas from across the globe, who aspire to be the next generation of leaders in mental health research. We will be funding bold ideas by future leaders with a combination of direct funding and development opportunities. Critically, we will ensure they are embedded in a truly interdisciplinary mental health science.

Over the next five years, MQ will invest in inspiring new talent and expand the capability and quality of research.

2. Investing in Impact

MQ's research & publications, alongside our work leading and convening experts at local and international level, have sharpened the focus of Governments, institutions and funders. We must continue to get research to work for those affected. We must drive rapid innovation and development, particularly new remote and digital interventions, and radical new ways to think about depression. We need 'live' research that can transform policy and practice on the ground.

Over the next five years, MQ will invest in research programmes that drive innovation in policy and practice and challenge the status quo.

3. Challenging Inequality

We will have maximum impact by focusing our efforts on substantial unmet need. A cluster of interconnected structural inequalities drastically impact how people experience mental illness and treatment. We will put research to work so that vulnerable groups can flourish. We will target the rising tide of youth mental illness, the injustice of racial inequalities in mental illness and treatment, and the scandal of lives cut short through failing to integrate mental and physical health care.

Over the next 5 years, MQ will invest in research that closes the inequalities gap.

4. Engaging People

MQ uniquely exists to bring people and researchers together to drive forward mental health research. We believe that while the stigma attached to mental health is decreasing, there is more to do to help people talk transformatively about mental health, to access improved services and treatments more easily, to take part in research and invest their support in helping the next generation of those experiencing mental illness. We have seen so much support already. Over 10,000 people donated to MQ over the last six years, and over 80,000 people took part in research via our Participate platform - seeing first hand how research can change the future of mental health.

Over the next five years, we want to see the number of people actively supporting mental health research increase three fold, as well as engage a diverse group of individuals to take part in and inform our research projects.
Generating Impact

**Commissioning Research**
Designing and delivering high quality grant rounds that commission ground breaking research.

E.g. Brighter Futures Adolescent MH, IDEA FLAME

**Partnering on Research**
Acting as a Co-Investigator, advisor or member of the Scientific Board of research projects, bringing to bear MQ’s expertise and networks

E.g. AFSP, PHSOP Cog-I, DATAMIND

**Engagement**
Bringing together experts to leverage policy change, and using our skills to guide others to achieve more for mental health research

E.g. APPG, HBGI, Science Summit
Grants Portfolio 2022 >>

Fellows 2022/23
Value: £1.5M
Outputs: 5 fellowships focused on early mortality through suicide and comorbidity of SMI and Physical Health

Post Doc Fellows 2023 (in Development)
Value: £520k-910k
Outputs: 4-7

Project Grant 2023
Value: £500k
Outputs: themed grant round

Fellows 2024
Value: £1.8M
Outputs: 6 fellowships, theme tbc

Post Doc Fellows 2025
Fellows Awards

**MQ Fellowship Awards**

**Length:** Ongoing  
**Duration:** 2013- Present

- 2022 Theme: *Gone too Soon*: premature mortality – Primarily suicide and comorbidities

- Full proposal applications reviewed by external reviewers, MQ Fellows Panel, and experts by experience.

- Shortlisted applications invited to interview and ranked for funding decisions

- Mental Health Science Council approves process and funding recommendations to MQ Board. Note: grants are subject to available funds/other restrictions
2022/23 Fellows
UK, US, India, Canada
Gone too Soon

Highlights

• MQ/AFSP Fellow Dr Marisa Ellen Marraccini
  University of North Carolina, USA. Marisa will be
  building and testing a tailored virtual reality
  supplement to cognitive behavioural therapy to be
  provided during hospitalization after a suicide
  attempt.

• Gone too Soon Research Roadmap
  International expert panel co-chaired by Rory
  O’Connor and Carol Worthman will deliver their
  report & recommendations this spring.

“My work situates suicide prevention within the
environment youth spend majority of their time:
schools. Without prioritizing school environment,
researchers and practitioners miss opportunities to
address the day-to-day stressors and issues faced by
students.”

• MQ Research Roundup for funding updates
  https://www.mqmentalhealth.org/research-programmes/fellows-award/

• International Alliance of Mental Health Research Funders
  https://iamhrf.org/members

• Movember (Men’s Health)  https://us.movember.com/about/funding

• Mental Health Innovation Network  based at WHO & LSHTM
  www.mhinnovation.net