Leaving a gift to medical research
BMA foundation for medical research

About us...
The BMA has been awarding research grants since 1839. It was one of the first professional organisations to award scholarships and prizes to encourage and further medical research.

Today the grants help fund innovative medical research in a variety of areas, from neurological disorders to cancer and from asthma to heart disease as well as many other research areas. The grants are awarded to medical doctors and research scientists. For many the grants are key to supporting their career development and contributing to advances in medical research.

If or when the time is right for you to include a gift in your will, and once you have considered your friends and family, why not give thought to leaving a gift to the BMA to support medical research?

Why leave a gift
The BMA foundation for medical research is fully reliant upon money left as legacies. Without the money received from bequests we would not be able to fund medical research and continually strive to improve human health. Leaving a gift in your will to the British Medical Association, however large or small, could help fund the next clinical breakthrough.

A gift in your will can be an effective way to reduce inheritance tax. For more information on inheritance tax and leaving bequests, please visit the HMRC website.

If you decide to leave a gift, we invest the funds wisely and efficiently in order to maximise the award money, so that your legacy can continue to support medical research for years to come.

The rhinovirus studies led to the identification of viruses being a major cause of asthma exacerbation and identification of a defect in interferon-beta production, thereby reducing the innate immune system response to viruses. This discovery has led to the development of inhaled beta-interferon as a new treatment for virus induced exacerbations.

Prof S Holgate, previous winner of HC Roscoe Overseas Fellowship.

I cannot overestimate the help that this award was able to contribute in the progress of our work.

Prof J Belch, previous winner of Doris Hillier grant.
How to leave a gift

Leaving a gift to the BMA foundation for medical research is easy. Gifts can either be left for ‘the purpose of general medical research’, or there is the option to specify an area of medical research that you would like your gift to support.

Leaving a gift to medical research in your will can be done in two ways.
1. You can leave a percentage of your estate (after other gifts and debts have been paid), this is known as a residuary bequest.
2. You can leave a stated sum of money, known as a pecuniary bequest.

If you are thinking about writing your will, it is best to use a solicitor or professional will writer for this. If you would like to include the BMA, here is our suggested wording:

For a residuary gift:
I give free of inheritance tax x% of my residuary estate to the British Medical Association Scholarship Trust Fund of BMA House, Tavistock Square, London, WC1H 9JP, registered charity number 245997 (England and Wales), absolutely for the purpose of medical research and I declare that the receipt of the treasurer or other proper officer for the time being shall be sufficient discharge to my executors.

For pecuniary gift:
I give free of inheritance tax £x to the British Medical Association Scholarship Trust Fund of BMA House, Tavistock Square, London, WC1H 9JP, registered charity number 245997 (England and Wales) for the purpose of medical research and I declare that the receipt of the treasurer or other proper officer for the time being shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors.

If you already have a will, a simple way to amend it is by completing a codicil—an additional instruction that is added to your existing will. To make this easier for you, a codicil form, to make a pecuniary gift is attached. Once completed, the codicil should be kept safely together with your will and any other codicils.

The project funded by Margaret Temple represented one of the most important milestones in my career so far. It allowed me to train alongside distinguished world-class clinical academics in an extremely stimulating, motivating scientific environment.

Dr M Rizig, previous winner of the Margaret Temple grant.
Codicil

Please ensure that you sign this form in the presence of two independent witnesses.

The following people cannot witness your codicil:

– Your executor
– Your executor’s spouse/civil partner
– A beneficiary of your will
– A beneficiary’s spouse/civil partner

I (full name) ____________________________________________

Of (address) ____________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

Postcode __________________

Declare this to be the (1st/2nd/3rd/...) ________ codicil to my will dated ___ / ___ / ______

I give, free of inheritance tax, the sum of (amount in figures and words)

£ ____________________________________________

to the British Medical Association Scholarship Trust Fund of BMA House, Tavistock Square,
London, WC1H 9JP registered charity number 245997 (England and Wales) for the purpose
of medical research and I declare that the receipt of the treasurer or other proper officer for
the time being shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors.

If, by the time this gift becomes payable, the Fund has changed its name or amalgamated or
transferred all its assets to any other body, my executors shall pay such sum to the charity
in its changed name or the body resulting from such amalgamation or to which such assets
are transferred.

In all other respects, I confirm my will and the (1st/2nd/3rd/...) codicil(s) thereto.

SIGNED by me ____________________________________________ as a (1st/2nd/3rd/...) codicil
to my will dated ___ / ___ / ______ in the presence of the following witnesses, who witnessed and
subscribed this codicil at my request and in my presence.

Signature ____________________________________________ Date ___ / ___ / ______
First witness

Signature ________________________________
Name ________________________________
Address ________________________________

____________________________________ Postcode __________________
Occupation ________________________________

Second witness

Signature ________________________________
Name ________________________________
Address ________________________________

____________________________________ Postcode __________________
Occupation ________________________________
Our promises to you

– We won’t put you under pressure. This is a big decision so please decide in your own time.
– Your loved ones come first. We respect that.
– We’ll use your special gift wisely and effectively.
– You don’t have to tell us your decision – we respect your right to privacy (although we’d love to have the opportunity to say thank you).
– We’ll answer any questions honestly and quickly.
– If you want your gift to support an area of research that is special to you, we can arrange that for you.

The research grants team

Nicky Jayesinghe  Fay Davies  Darshna Gohil

How to contact us

BMA foundation for medical research
Corporate Development,
British Medical Association,
BMA House, Tavistock Square,
London, WC1H 9JP

E-mail: researchgrants@bma.org.uk
Tel: 020 7383 6341