11 August 2022

Dear ██████,

Freedom of Information request: FOI2022/00224

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 6 July, and clarification received on the 14 July, in which you requested the following:

Your request:

Public grant funding is a vital part of the medtech/innovation timeline, and I am currently looking into this. Could I please request UKRI funding on med-tech between 2010-2022. It would also be interesting if you could provide data on the firms which received the grants i.e. did they commercialise in the UK and go into the NHS or did they enter other global markets such as the US or the EU.

Medtech refers to medical devices (devices certified by a competent authority) as opposed to pharmaceuticals.

Our response:

I can confirm UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) hold the information relevant to your request. Please see the information below and attached.

Please find attached spreadsheet *"FOI2022_00224 UKRI Medtech Funding Data 2010-2022"*.

This data has been sourced from the UKRI private instance of Digital Science Dimensions. The public instance can be found here[1].

As the term "medtech" is not part of the Fields of Research (FoR) classification system[2], our search was conducted based on two criteria:
- The FoR category 1004 Medical Biotechnology[3] – which includes biomedical imaging, medical devices, neural engineering and tissue engineering
- The search string ("medical" AND "technology") OR "medtech" OR "med-tech"

In the dataset provided, we have included columns indicating whether each grant was returned under the FoR search (column I, medbiotech_for_ind), the search string (column J, search_string_ind) or both.

It is important to note that not all returns included in the dataset may be accurate to the field of inquiry. There may also be grants that are related to "medtech" which have not been picked up by our search.

To explain further, the FoR categories are assigned automatically within Dimensions (with no further refinement), therefore some grants may have been misclassified and are not relevant to the field of Medical Biotechnology. The search string used also cannot be considered as definitive, as not all projects that are included as "medical" and "technology" will necessarily fall into your definition of "medtech". To this end, we have also included the project

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[1] https://app.dimensions.ai/discover/publication
[2] https://dimensions.freshdesk.com/support/solutions/articles/23000018826-what-is-the-background-behind-the-fields-of-research-for-classification-system-
[3] https://www.abs.gov.au/Ausstats/abs@.nsf/Latestproducts/A39923040BFB815FCA2574180004872E?opendocument

title (column G) and project abstract (column H) for your reference, which may be useful in identifying any outliers to the field you are interested in.

For further information on these projects and to identify any others that may be of interest, you may wish to consult the UKRI Gateway to Research[4].

We would also like to point out that the projects funded data includes awards to Universities and other research organisations, as well as private firms. This can be identified through the Research Organisation field (column E) and filtered as necessary for your purposes.

For grants that were awarded to private firms, UKRI do not hold information on where these companies commercialised.

If you have any queries regarding our response or you are unhappy with the outcome of your request and wish to seek an internal review of the decision, please contact:

Head of Information Governance
Email: foi@ukri.org or infogovernance@ukri.org

Please quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are still not content with the outcome of the internal review, you may apply to refer the matter to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the review procedure provided by UKRI. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: www.ico.org.uk.

If you wish to raise a complaint regarding the service you have received or the conduct of any UKRI staff in relation to your request, please see UKRI's complaints policy: https://www.ukri.org/about-us/policies-and-standards/complaints-policy/

Yours sincerely,

███████

Information Governance
Information Rights Team
UK Research and Innovation
foi@ukri.org | dataprotection@ukri.org