



Supporting research – a funders perspective

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The Medical Research Council

Supports research from molecular level science to public health medicine and understanding of the human body in health and disease.

MRC mission

- Encourage and support high-quality research with the aim of improving human health.
- Produce skilled researchers.
- Advance and disseminate knowledge and technology to improve the quality of life and economic competitiveness in the UK and worldwide.
- Promote dialogue with the public about medical research.

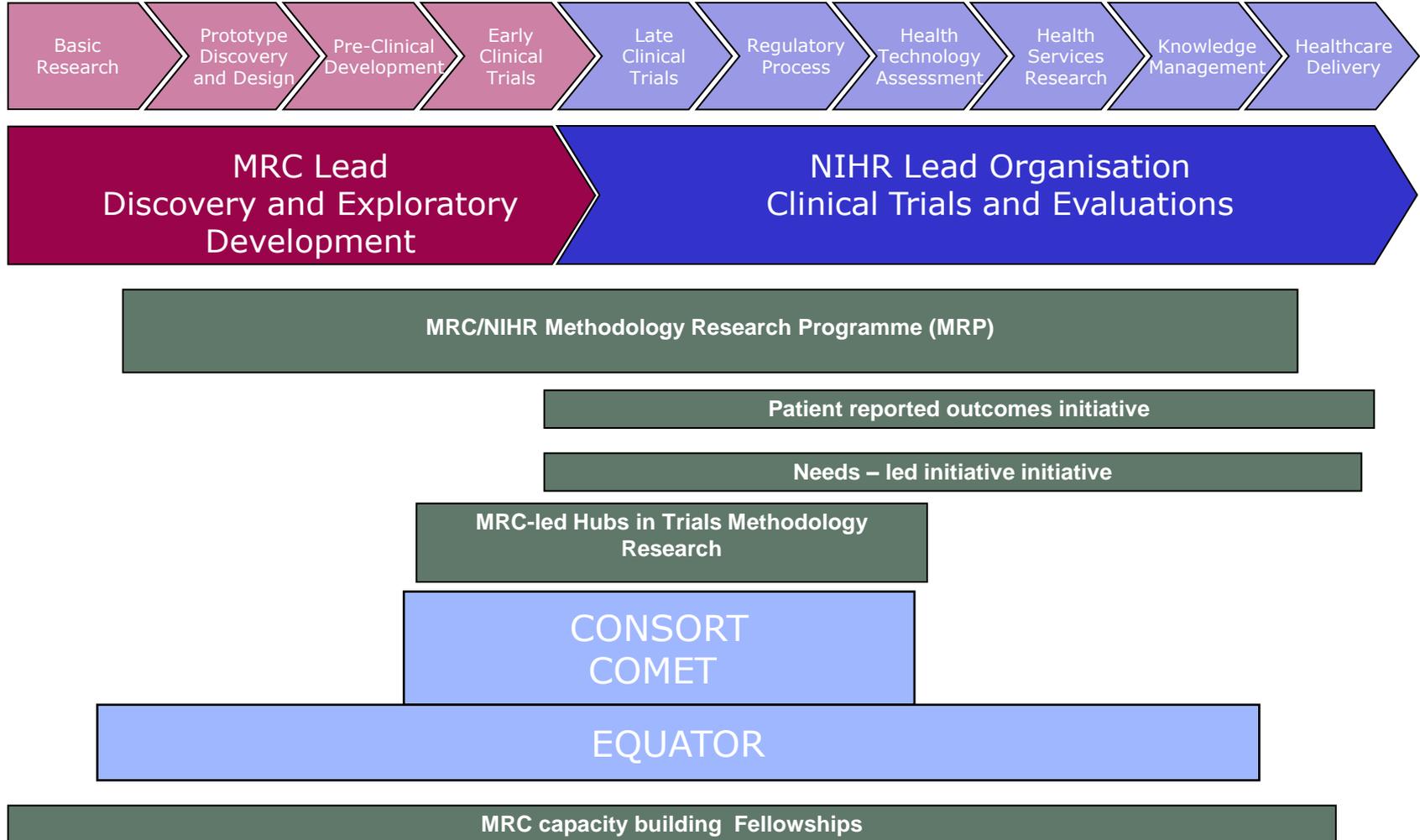


MRC Facts and Figures

In 2011/12

- The MRC's gross research expenditure was **£759.4m**
- **£309.9m** on 1,100 grants to researchers in universities, medical schools and research institutes.
- **£354.6m** on 440 programmes within the MRC's own research, units and institutes.
- **£86.0m** on studentships and fellowships, including those in MRC's own units and institutes. There were **1,900** postgraduate students and **400** fellows in March 2012.

Methodology work stream activities



MRP/NIHR Methodology Research Programme - Remit

The programme includes:

- methods development, with methodological outputs that are applicable beyond a specific case study, to underpin the biomedical sciences, and;
- 'methods in research' for developing methods and their implementation in research standards with the aim of improving quality and consistency in practice, for example, consensus statements

MRP/NIHR Methodology Research Programme - Remit

More specifically, it includes:

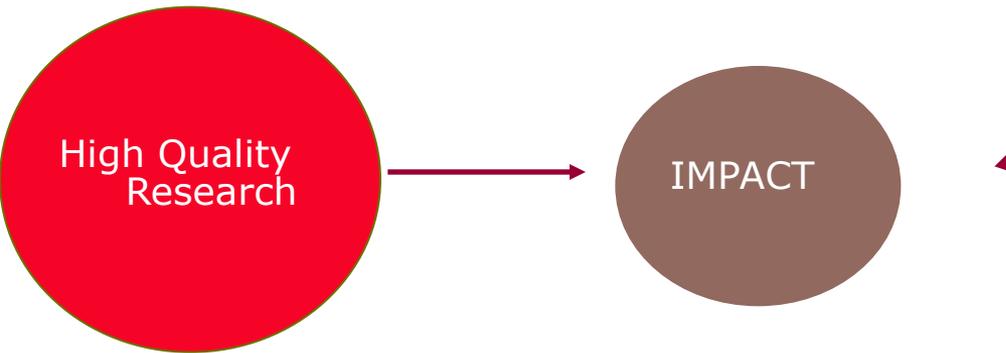
- **Research methods** in disciplines underpinning health research including: biomedical, behavioural and social science, experimental medicine, randomised trials, cohorts and other research designs investigating health, healthcare, health services and health policy
 - for evaluative research
 - for non-evaluative research.
- **Developing and evaluating** relevant theory and models
- Methods for effective **regulation** (including indices for decision making), approval, adaptation and reporting of new interventions (including behaviour).
- Research methods for valid **measures of health**, e.g. health outcomes, exposure and risk (including behaviour, cognition and emotion) and well being.

Responsibilities of funding organisations

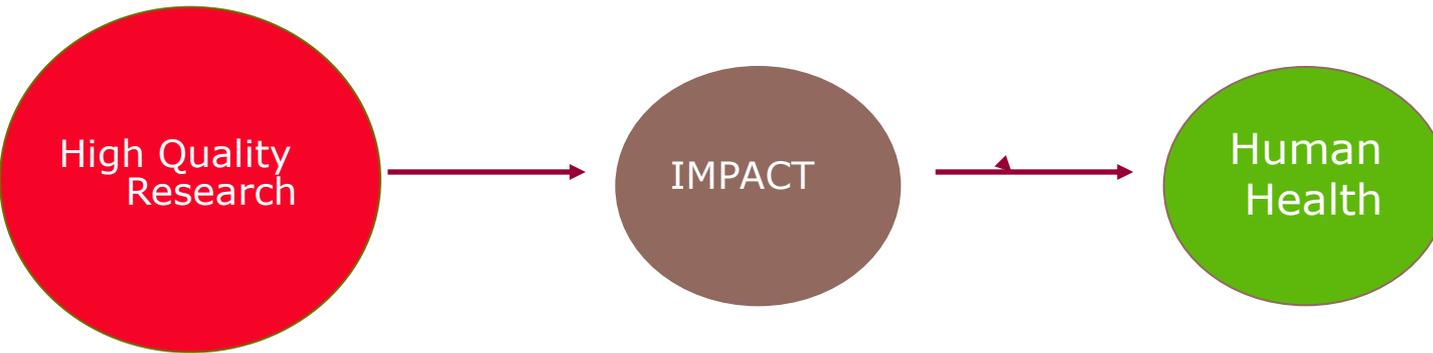


High Quality
Research

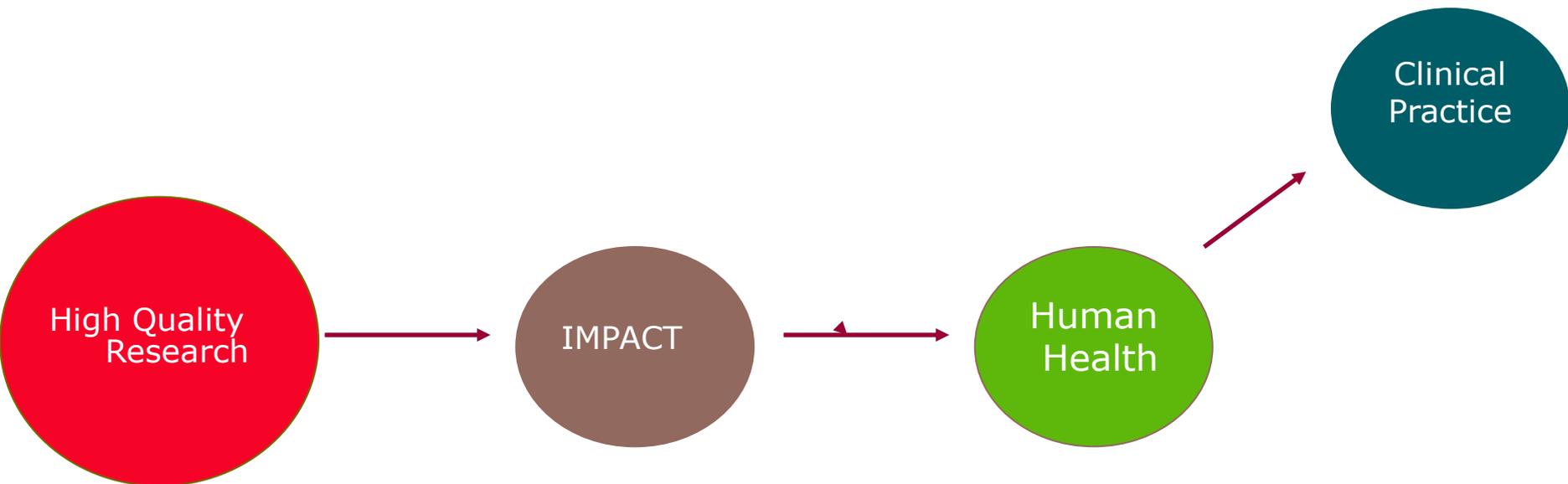
Responsibilities of funding organisations



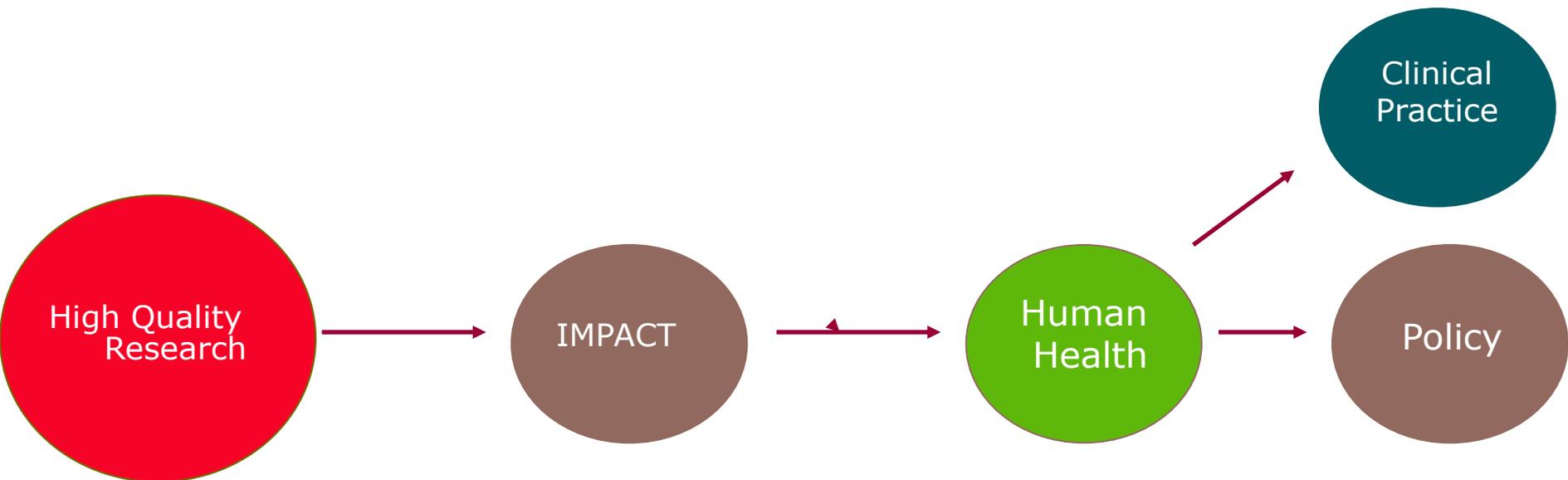
Responsibilities of funding organisations



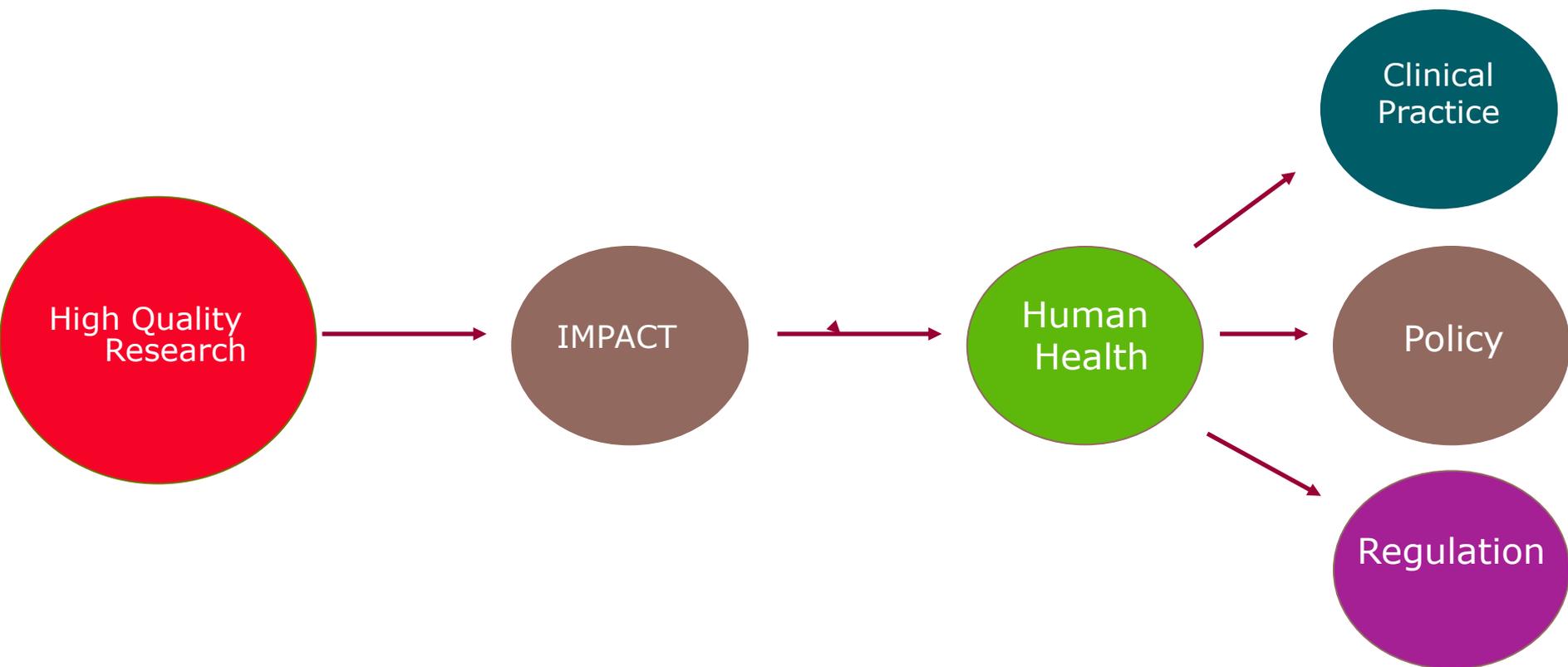
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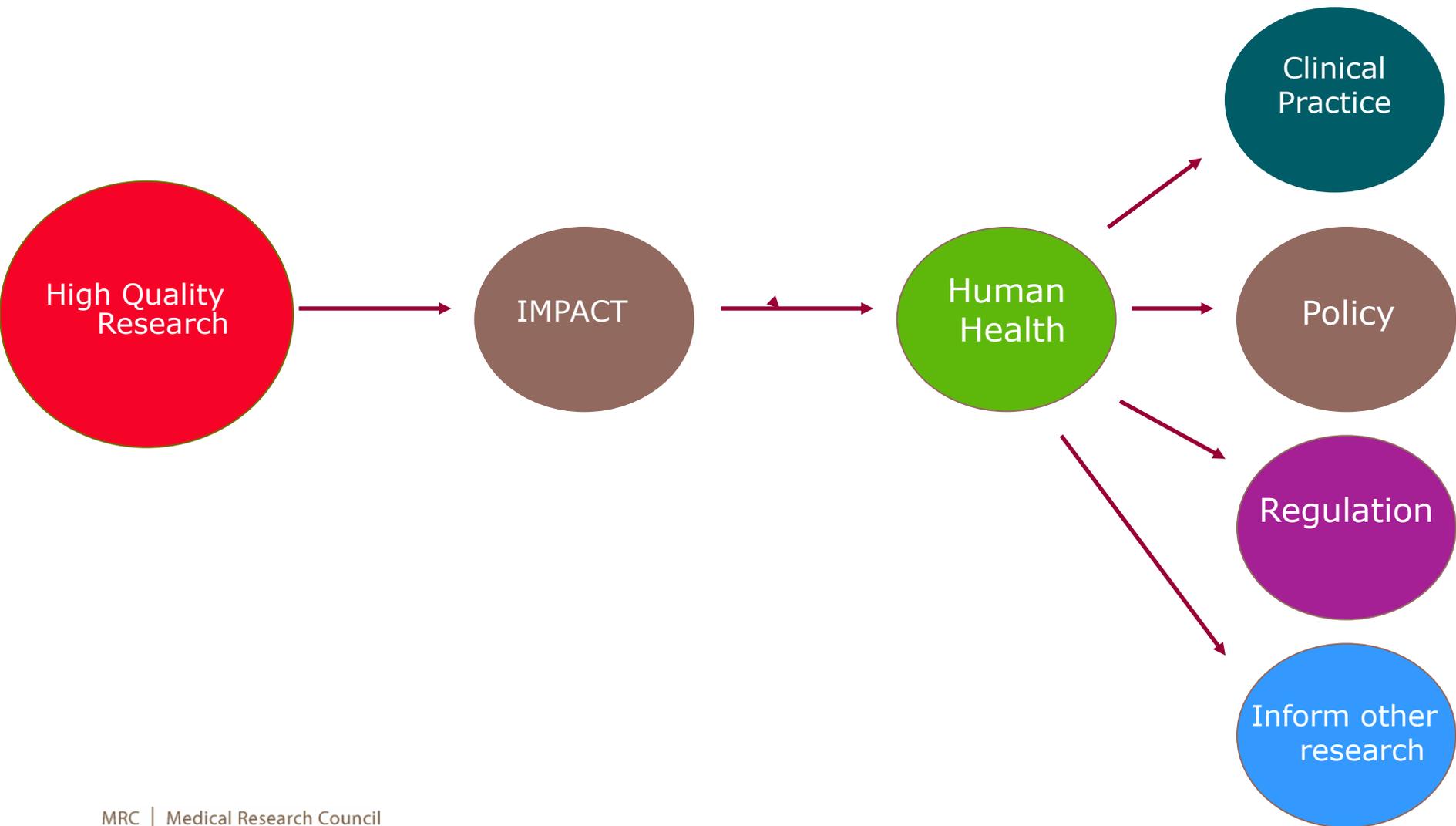
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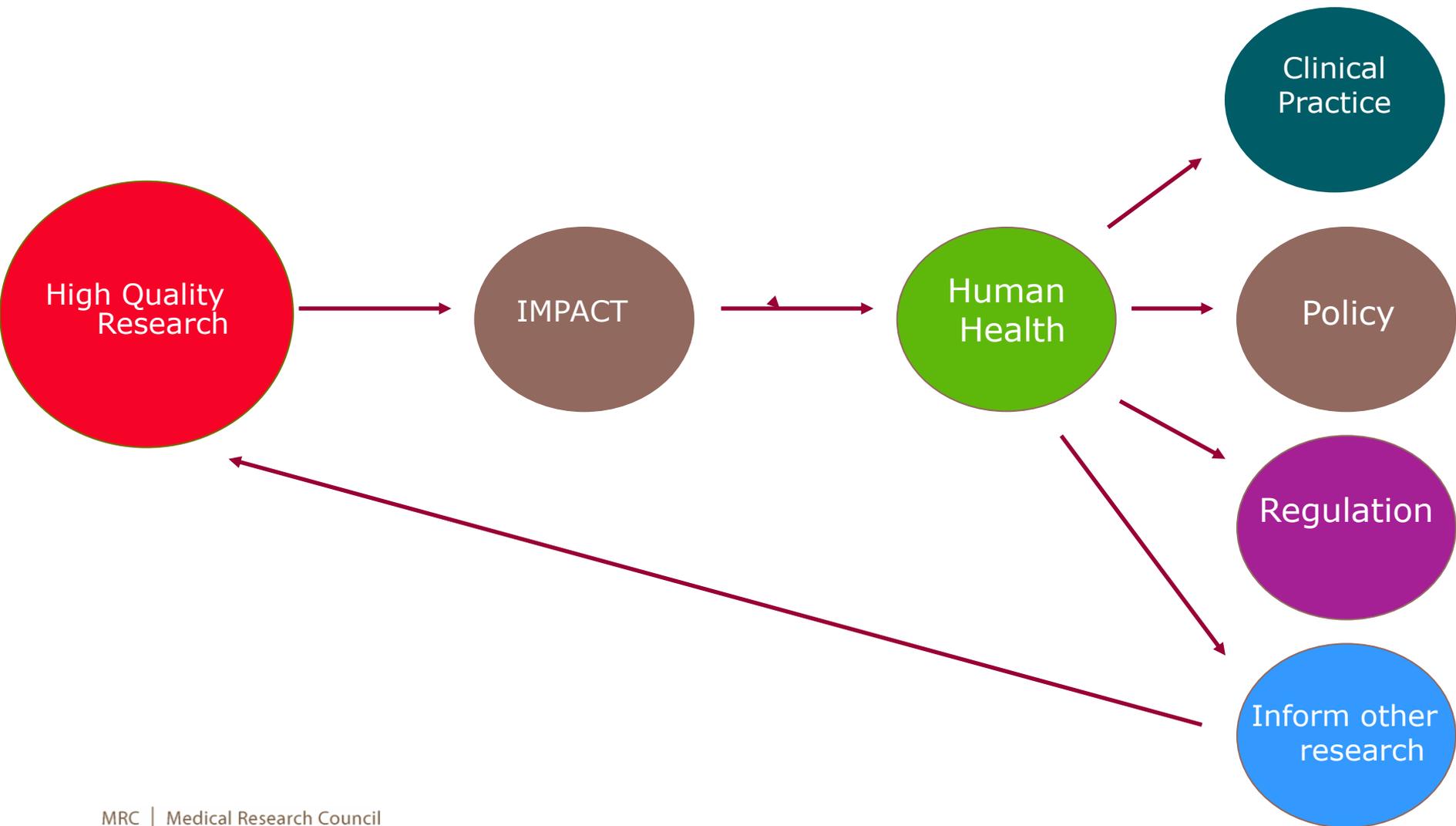
Responsibilities of funding organisations



Responsibilities of funding organisations



Responsibilities of funding organisations



Funding Lifecycle



Summary

- Funders are more proactive in following up awards
- Should funders wave a stick?
- Can funders help with guidelines?
- Shared responsibility
- Quite a number of scientists do an excellent job