

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.

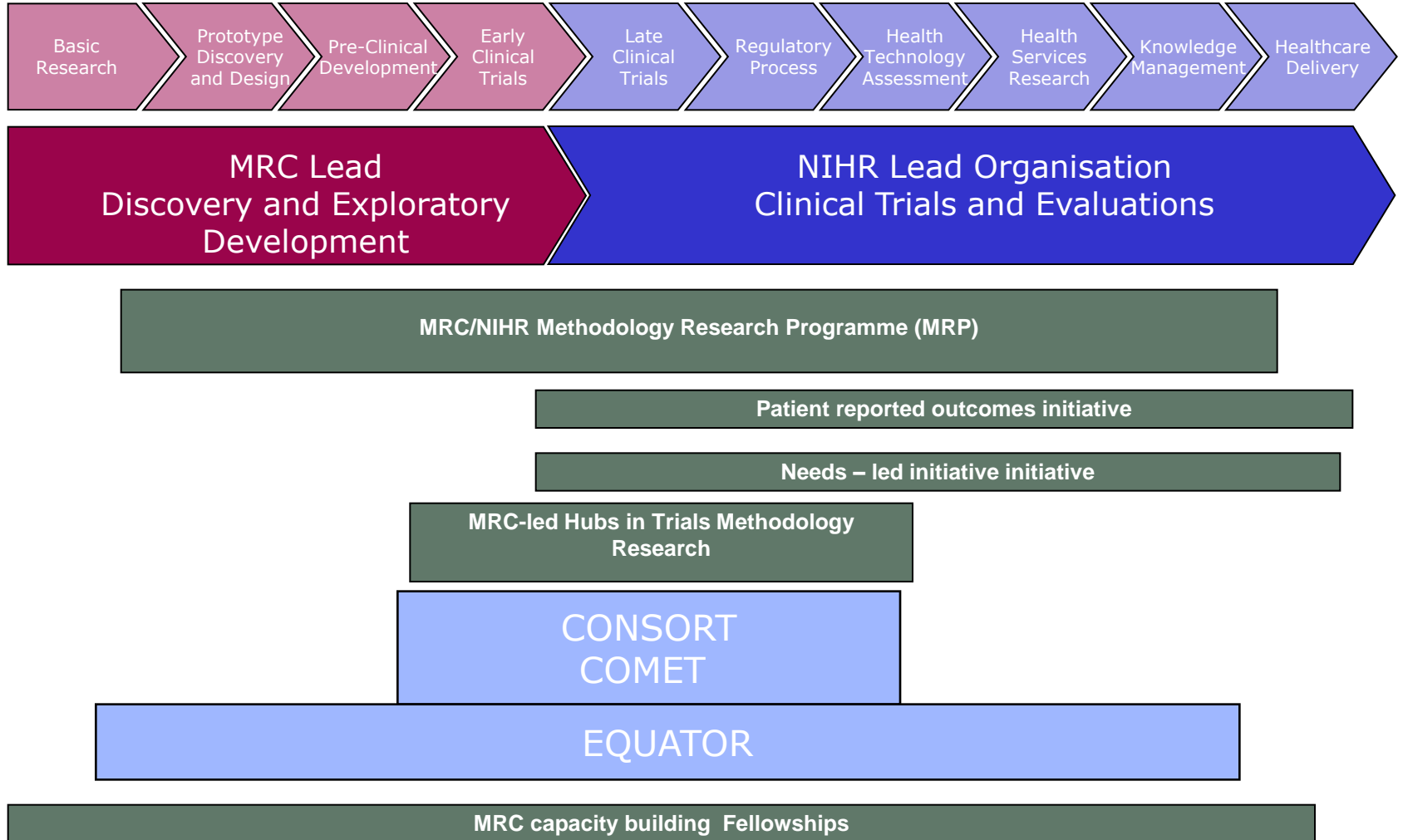


MRC Facts and Figures

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:

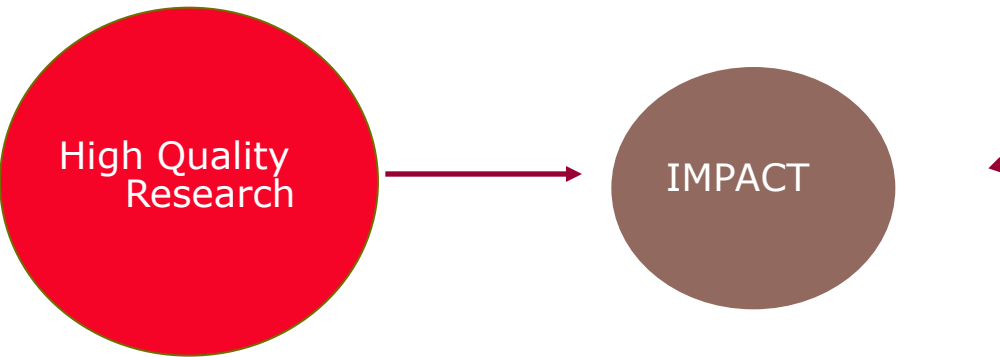
- **Research methods** in disciplines underpinning health research including: biomedical, behavioural and social science, experimental medicine, randomised trials, cohorts and other research designs investigating health, healthcare, health services and health policy
 - for evaluative research
 - for 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

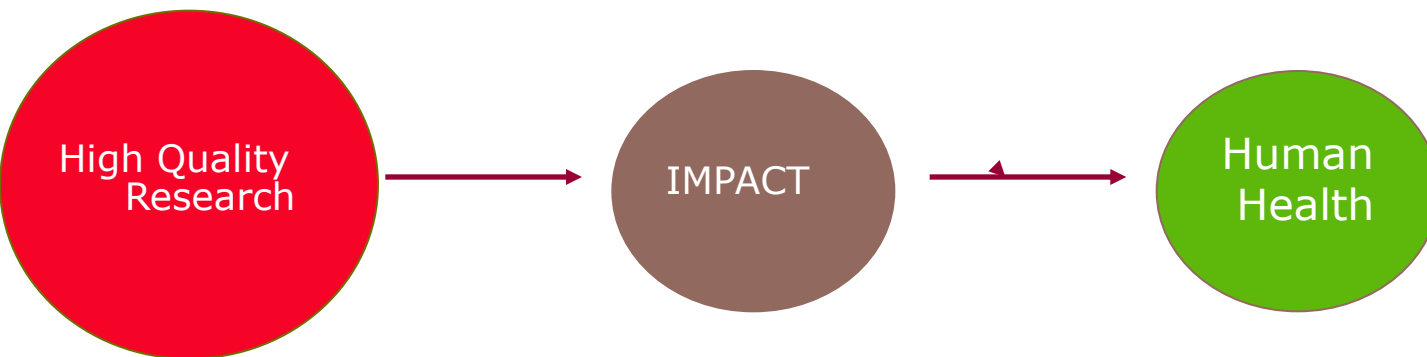


High Quality
Research

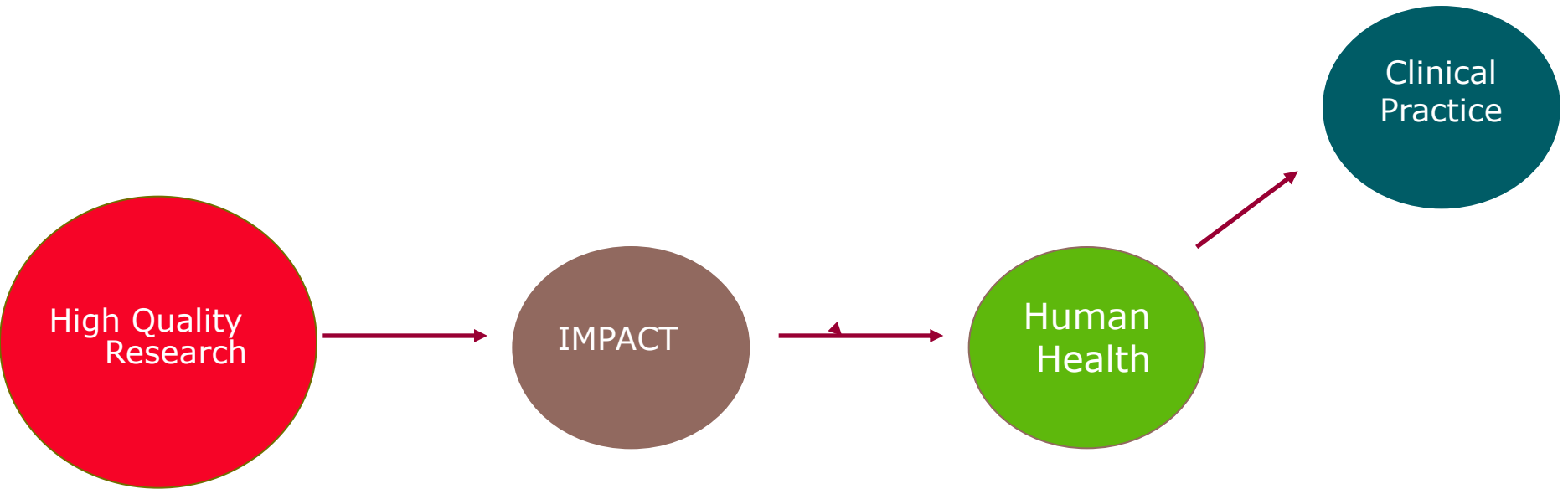
Responsibilities of funding organisations



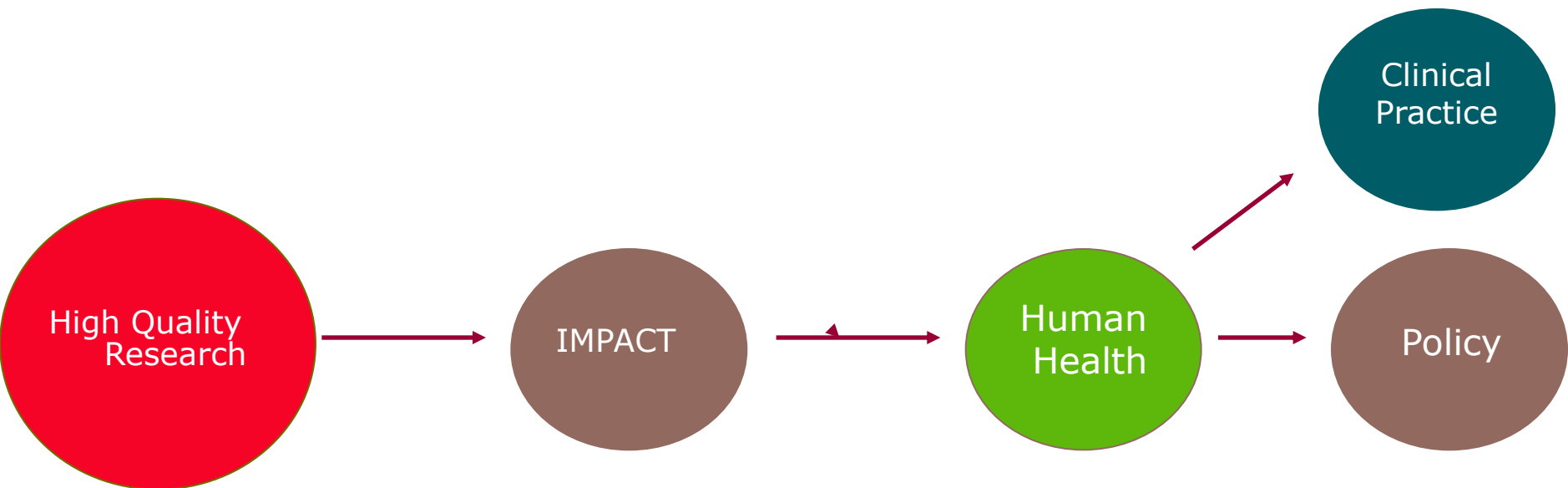
Responsibilities of funding organisations



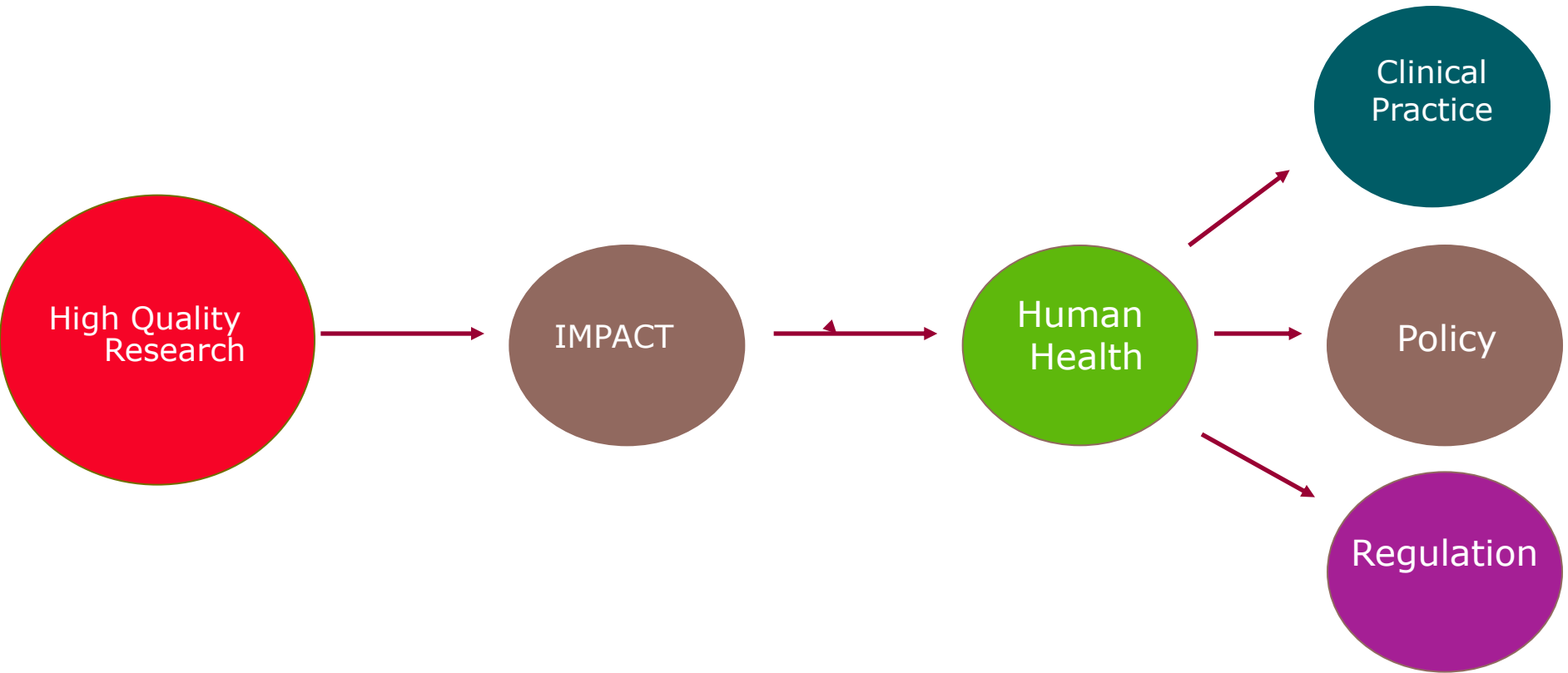
Responsibilities of funding organisations



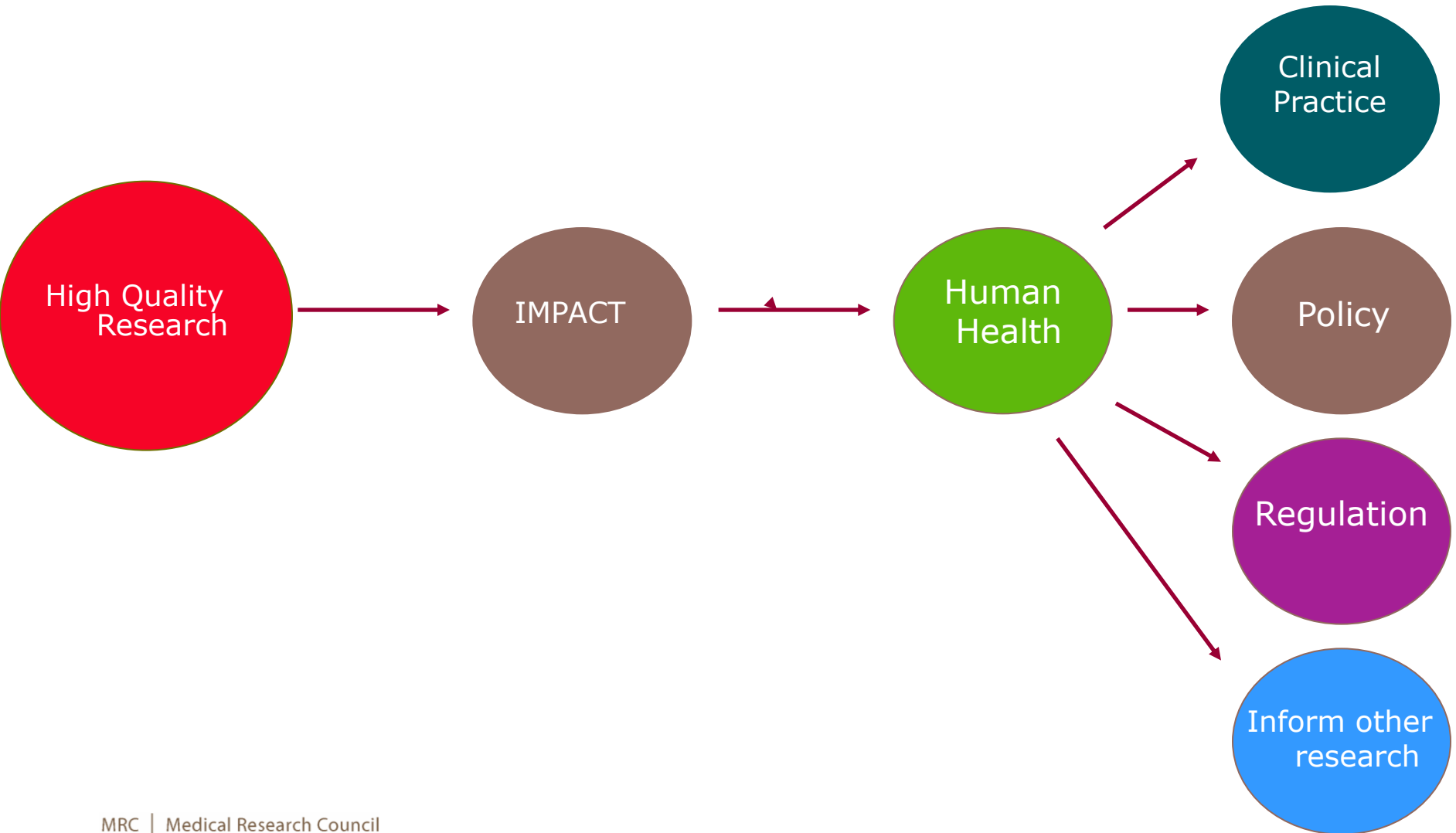
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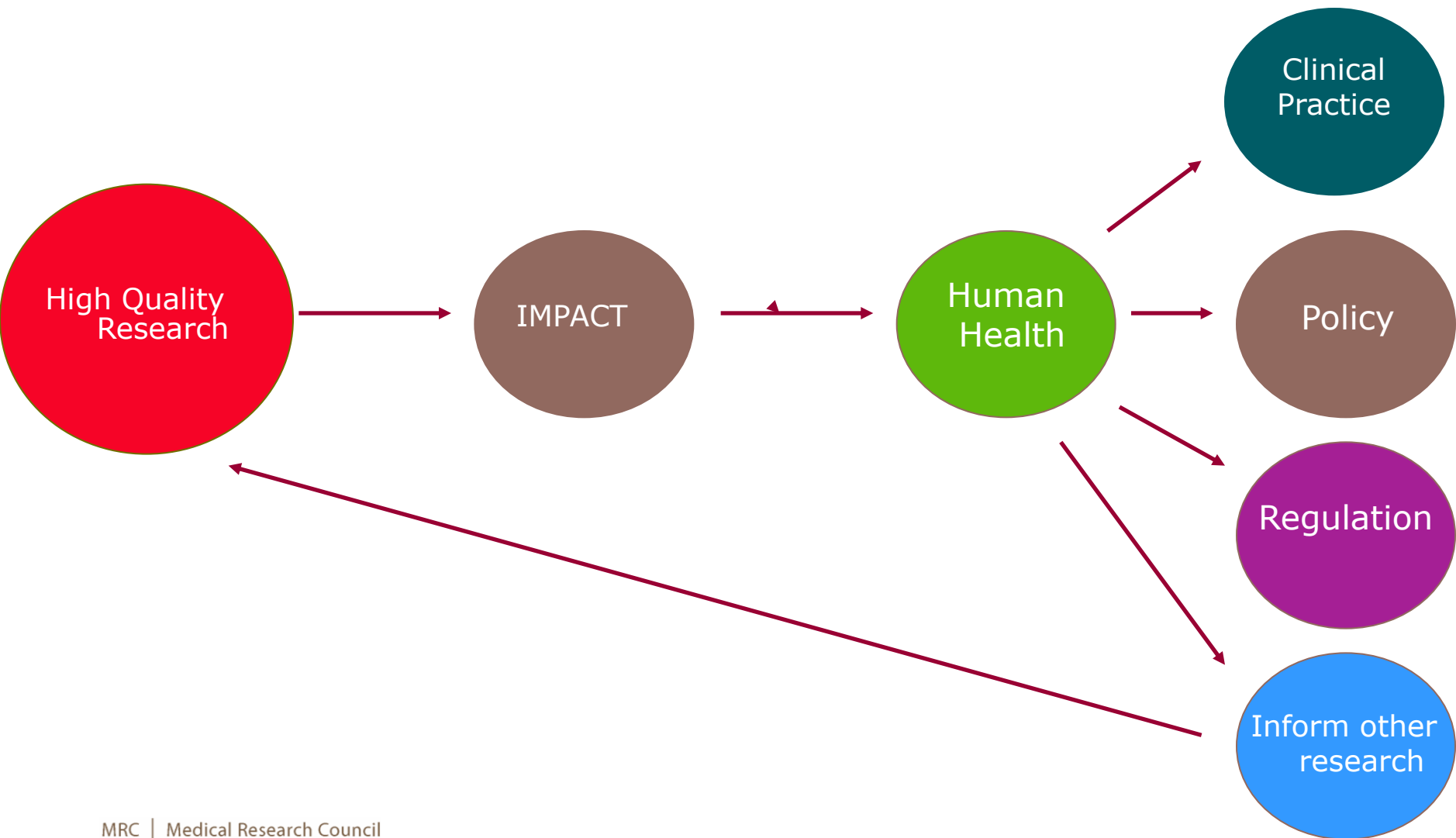
Responsibilities of funding organisations



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