

## **Project selection criteria**

### **Stage 1: Internal assessments/triage**

#### **level 1 - the project must be able to meet at least one of the following criteria:**

- Improve the scientific community's understanding of how the CASK gene works
- Investigate the effectiveness of a drug to treat CASK gene disorders
- Investigate possible treatments for infantile/epileptic spasms
- Investigate gene therapy in a way that could benefit people with CASK gene disorders
- Identify biomarkers for CASK disorders in general and also for the epilepsy associated with CASK.
- Involve the creation of models that will enhance/facilitate the study of CASK.

#### **Level 2**

1. What is the specific unmet clinical need being targeted?
2. How does the project fulfil this need?
3. Is the research underpinned by scientific excellence?

#### **level 3**

1. How will the research help CASK patients?
2. Has the right team been identified?
3. Why is this research needed now?

### **Stage 2: Written peer review (for grants above £25,000)**

Experts from around the world provide written comments on the research application. Where substantial funding is being applied for (in relation to the charity's research spend), at least two written reviews will be sought. Smaller grants may not require this unless we deem it necessary to make an informed decision.

### **Stage 3: Research review committee**

Made up of independent experts, the committee meets on behalf of the charity to discuss each application and the written peer review comments. The research review committee makes independent and impartial funding recommendations to the charity.