What is the guide “Best Patient Care, Clinical Research and You”?

This short presentation introduces you to a new tool to help NHS Trust staff understand how their role impacts on research activity in their Trust. It provides links to further information.

This online guide is for *all* NHS Trust staff. It is designed for NHS Trusts to host on their staff intranets or sites.

Content and guidance was produced through a collaboration of organisations involved in delivering research in the NHS: The NHS R&D Forum, UKRD, NHS England/Improvement and the NIHR Clinical Research Network.

The guide is designed to be localised, following a set of key principles for Trusts:

* The guide has core messages for each staff group to help them understand how their role can impact on research in their Trust
* It needs to be accessible, quick to use, easy to navigate, and relevant to staff in your Trust
* For staff to engage with it it needs to be incorporated into your mainstream staff information/development/communications material, typically the Trust staff intranet. Using local pictures and visual material is encouraged.
* It aims to create a pathway to further information which is Trust based, local, as well as offering national options.
* Local information can be built onto the required core content and navigation adjusted to suit Trust platforms whilst being made as easy as possible to use.

The toolkit to set up the guide, which includes content and navigation proformas, [links to a mock up site](https://sites.google.com/nihr.ac.uk/bestpatientcareclinicalresearc/home), an SOP and top tips, was published on the NHS R&D Forum website in July 2021 with the support of the collaboration.

The guide addresses staff in a wide range of categories typical of an NHS Trust:

Clinical staff

Clinical management

Trust chair, executives and senior management

Corporate services e.g. finance, IT, HR etc.

Communications

Other patient contact roles e.g. Trust reception

This means that busy Trust staff can quickly click onto their category and find out in just a few words how their role can impact on research. If they want to know more there are links to more information.

It also contains key messages widely applicable, such as this one:

The guide supports the CQC's strategy and Well Led Inspection Framework, the NHS Long Term Plan and the recent DHSC strategy 'Saving and Improving Lives: The Future of UK Clinical Research Delivery'.

It is up to Trusts whether they use the guide or not. However, it is recommended by NHS England/Improvement.

## How was the guide developed?

Led by the NIHR CRNCC, the guide was shaped and written in collaboration with a group of individuals representing the NHS R&D Forum, UKRD and NHSE/I. Progress was later hampered by the height of the COVID 19 response, however, latterly it relevance following the main impact of the pandemic has been underlined. Set up and localisation of the guide was piloted by 12 Trusts which were brought together to form a user group. The challenges and opportunities encountered during the pilot phase informed advice on approach. Following this it was decided in the Spring of 2021 that it was timely to launch the guide for use by all NHS Trusts.

## Contacts:

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