

RESEARCH ^{*} changes lives

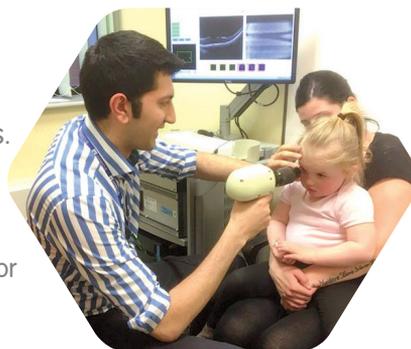
Staff guide to supporting clinical trials at Leicester's Hospitals

Introduction

Leicester's Hospitals are research active. This means we run lots of clinical trials on all our hospital sites and in many of our satellite centres.

Clinical trials are carefully controlled tests for new medicines, medical devices and care pathways. They give us the latest information about what does and doesn't work, helping us to develop better care for our patients. We also conduct surveys, where we ask patients and families about their experiences, and observational studies, where we monitor a process or set of data, rather than actively intervene in a patient's treatment.

We conduct research in all specialisms, with world-renowned expertise in heart, lung and kidney disease, diabetes and cancer.



Why do we do it?

- Evidence shows that patients treated in hospitals where research takes place have better outcomes, even if they are not part of a clinical trial
- By taking part in clinical trials, our patients can have access to treatments that are not yet available on the NHS
- Patients cared for in research active trusts report higher levels of satisfaction with their care
- Research gives staff opportunities to gain new skills and use state-of-the-art equipment

What does that mean for me?

Under the NHS Constitution, all staff have a duty to support patients to access clinical trials

How do I support patients to access clinical trials?

Knowledge: Find out about our research, particularly if there are trials recruiting in your ward or department, by asking your research champion, visiting www.leicestersresearch.nhs.uk, coming to one of our open days, and following us on **Twitter @LeicResearch**

Training: Check out the modules about clinical research on HELM, which is UHL's eLearning system

Get involved! Look out for opportunities to take part in research as a participant. Alternatively, why not become a research champion?

What do I do if a patient asks about clinical trials?

You can:

1 Encourage patients to ask their clinician

It's OK for patients to ask about clinical trials they may be able to take part in.

2 Show your research noticeboard

Your research champion should keep this updated. If there are leaflets that patients wish to take away, offer to photocopy them or allow them to take a picture on their smartphone or tablet.

3 Refer to www.bepartofresearch.uk

This is a national database of all the clinical trials happening in the UK. It can be searched by disease area and location of trial.

4 Give out Research and Innovation contact details

The Research and Innovation (R&I) service will be happy to answer any queries from patients, carers, members of the public and referrers (such as GPs).

Call: 0116 258 8351

Email: riadmin@uhl-tr.nhs.uk

Web: www.leicestersresearch.nhs.uk/getinvolved

What are research champions?

Are you interested in and enthusiastic about clinical research?
Would you like to share this with staff, patients and their carers?
If the answer to these questions is yes, then join us!

'Research champions' can improve communication and collaboration between research teams and clinical practitioners so we can build research capacity in the NHS and work as one team.

For more information,
contact Sally Batham on 0116 258 7558
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