

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group

Research and Development

INTRODUCTION

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough CCG employ a small primary care Research & Development (R&D) Team that sit in the Improving Outcomes Team. The R&D Team support the following primary care and public health research-related functions:

- We administer National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) grants in partnership with local academia;
- We administer research capability funding to sustain and increase future research capability
- We nurture links between commissioners, academics and front-line primary care
- We also provide an NIHR funded research management and governance service to Clinical Research Network: Eastern, CRN: Eastern primary care and community care.

LOCAL RESEARCH CONTEXT

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group is one of the largest CCGs in England covering a population of over 930,000 across 105 GP practices. The CCG serves a diverse, ageing population with significant health inequalities. The population is increasing and growing older, there are significant levels of deprivation and lifestyle choices have a bearing on ill health and mortality.

The local health economy has vibrant NHS and academic research across sectors. This includes support from Clinical Research Network: Eastern, the Eastern Academic Health Science Network, and the East of England Collaboration for Leadership in Applied Health Research & Care.

We support researchers with high quality research ideas:

- to secure NIHR income,
- to work effectively with NIHR and Clinical Research Networks
- to work successfully across interfaces

VISION

Support the CCG priorities through the development and delivery of high quality primary care and public health NIHR research to improve patient outcomes

Facilitate service engagement in primary care and public health research at ideas stage

Encourage strong and productive NHS-academic primary care and public health partnerships and sustain and increase research capability

Provide excellent primary care and public health R&D services over the research lifecycle

Foster clinical leadership for primary care research. Dr Amrit Takhar (Wansford practice) provides clinical leadership for primary care research and is also involved in the proactive care and prevention work stream with a special interest in cardiovascular disease.

R&D FUNCTIONS

1. Primary Care and Public Health R&D services (Cambridgeshire and Peterborough)

- Hosting NIHR grants and Sponsorship of hosted grants
- Chief investigator and principle investigator support
- Funding research capacity in relation to future NIHR and other non-commercial research grants
- Facilitating researcher –commissioner and primary care conversations at ideas stage

2. Regional Research Management and Governance services to primary and community care (with colleagues from Norfolk):

- Early discussions with investigators on study planning and mitigation of risks
- Support for research submissions, support with IRAS submissions and general research support
- Working to national target timelines for processing assurances on research projects and amendments
- Setting up HR arrangements
- Signposting NIHR and Clinical Research Network support
- Regulatory advice to researchers and primary care

LOCAL ACADEMIC PARTNER UNITS

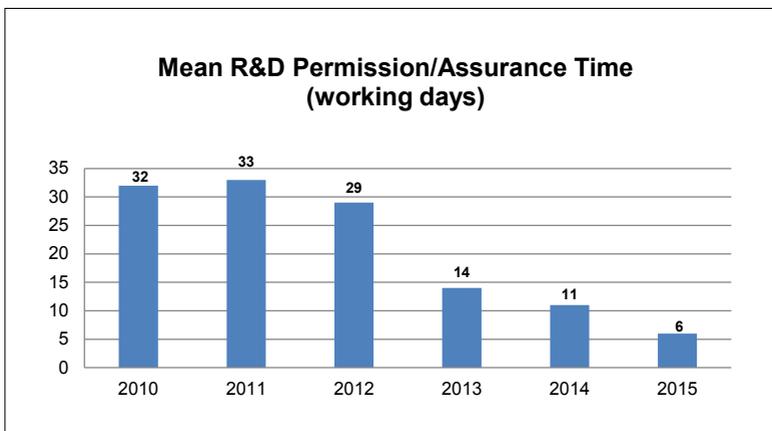
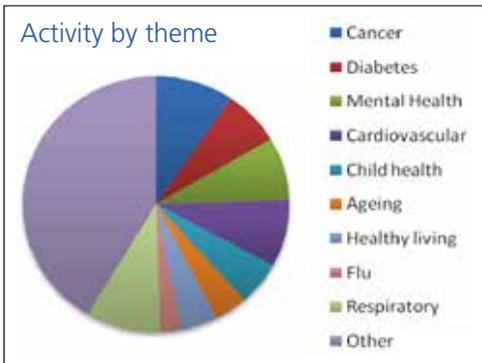
- Primary Care Unit University of Cambridge
<http://www.phpc.cam.ac.uk/pcu/research> themes include
 - Behaviour and Health
 - Cancer
 - Cardiovascular disease and diabetes
 - Health Services Research
 - End of Life Care
- The Department of Public Health and Primary Care, University of Cambridge
<http://www.phpc.cam.ac.uk/public-health-ageing-and-the-brain/>
- MRC Epidemiology Unit, University of Cambridge
<http://www.mrc-epid.cam.ac.uk/research/studies>
- The Centre for Diet and Activity Research (CEDAR)
<http://www.cedar.iph.cam.ac.uk/research/>

RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough - Primary Care Research Themes

Our portfolio of studies expands across a wide range of clinical areas. Primary care is very research active and work closely with local academic partner units

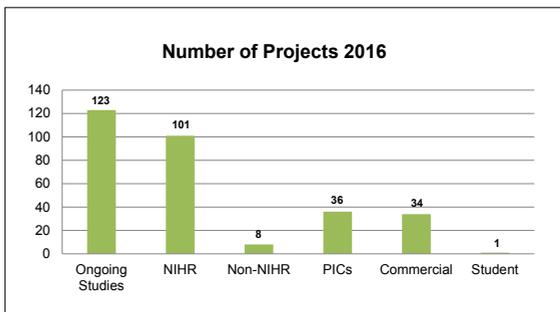
Other topics include, for example, reproductive health, skin, musculoskeletal, neurological, oral & gastrointestinal, sexual health, vaccination, metabolic & endocrine research



We provide support to a mixture of different studies throughout the lifecycle of research – including: interventional, medicines / devices, observational studies and a small number of student projects.

We work with a variety of sponsors - NHS, universities, charities and pharmaceutical companies. For Participant identification centre studies primary care helps to identify participants for research in other sectors

Numbers of ongoing primary care projects:



WORK STREAMS

ENGAGEMENT

Commissioner and primary care engagement with grants in the pipeline

CCG - nurturing links with commissioners, academics and primary care

Research-related opportunities advertised to commissioners and primary care

Clinical research leadership through Dr Armit Takhar

COLLABORATIVE WORKING

Sustaining research capability with partner academic units

Coordinated working with CRN: Eastern research delivery staff and NIHR Research Design Service

COMMUNICATIONS

Research coordinator newsletter

Investigator updates

Working with NIHR factsheet

Updates via CCG i-Connect and CCG communications

Updates via CRN newsletters and CRN: Eastern GP fora

R&D GRANTS

Top tips for grant writers

NIHR grant flowchart

Non NIHR grant flowchart

RESEARCH MANAGEMENT

Researcher and student research packs available on our website

Flowcharts for submissions (NIHR studies, non-NIHR studies and student projects) available on our website

Two national cases on “Faster Easier research”
<http://www.nihr.ac.uk/policy-and-standards/nhs-colleagues-improvement-stories.htm>

Meeting NIHR metrics for RMG confirmation of capacity and capability for primary care

R&D HIGHLIGHTS

From strength to strength

2nd highest CCG research capability funding award in England in 2016



46 NIHR grant and NIHR fellowship submissions supported since 2008



104

Academics, health care professionals and staff supported through research capability funding since 2008

Clinical Research Network: Eastern

81

out of 105 GP practices were research active in NHS year 2016

29,964

people recruited into NIHR studies in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough primary care since 2008

LOCAL NIHR GRANTS

Research themes and academic leads

- **Improving patient experience in primary care (GP Patient Survey)** - Professor Martin Roland
- **Development and evaluation of very brief physical activity intervention to increase physical activity in primary care** - Professor Stephen Sutton
- **Community care pathways at the end of life** - Dr Stephen Barclay
- **Developing a primary care model for stroke survivors** - Professor Jonathan Mant
- **Telefirst - Telephone triage as an alternative to face to face contact in general practice** - Professor Martin Roland
- **Medication adherence for patients' support: a feasibility study of a highly tailored text and voice messaging interventions for patients with hypertension or diabetes** - Professor Stephen Sutton

For description please visit our website

Example locally led studies

ECASS study - Evaluation of a computer aid for assessing stomach symptoms

<http://www.phpc.cam.ac.uk/pcu/research>

MRC Cognitive Function and Ageing study (CFAS) II, a longitudinal multi-centre study of ageing with research hubs throughout the country <http://www.cfas.ac.uk/>

Improving patient experience in primary care

<http://www.cchsr.iph.cam.ac.uk/research/improving-patient-experience-in-primary-care>

Does a 'polypill' have a role in secondary prevention of stroke in older people?

<http://www.phpc.cam.ac.uk/pcu/research/research-projects-list/polypill/>

Development and evaluation of very brief interventions to increase physical activity in primary care

<http://www.phpc.cam.ac.uk/pcu/research/research-projects-list/vbi/>

Melatoools Programme: GP and patient interventions to improve early diagnosis of malignant melanoma in primary care

<http://www.melatoools.org>

ADDITION studies <http://www.mrc-epid.cam.ac.uk/Research/Studies/ADDITION>

HOW TO ENGAGE WITH THE PRIMARY CARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH AGENDA AT IDEAS STAGE

How might early engagement with clinical research at idea stage benefit you?

There are a number of options for engagement, for example you can:

- express an early interest in locally led research which is at ideas stage, this will increase local service ownership and mean the local health economy benefits from implementing the new ideas
- network with academic leaders and e.g. suggest a topic or come along to discuss clinical questions where opinion leaders may be able to help; or suggest areas where there is unmet need that may be worthy of research. Researchers can help formulate research questions which may inform future grants
- hear about up-and-coming grants
- gain from professional development by e.g. joining grant steering groups to provide a frontline perspective, (your time can be reimbursed)

If you would like to know more or to be added to circulation lists please contact Viv Shaw 01223 725466 v.shaw@nhs.net

How does clinical research benefit primary care more generally?

- Patients can benefit from research-related opportunities particularly if studies help meet unmet clinical needs
- The Clinical Research Network provides funding and infrastructure to support research activities
- The Clinical Research Network provides research training and professional development opportunities
- There is added value from contributing to and being involved in research e.g. the value of learning a different perspective and new skills
- Research is a proxy for service quality and improves patient outcomes
- An excellent practice research profile can help with recruitment & retention of health care professionals

COORDINATED SERVICES

The R&D Team work closely with:

- CRN: Eastern primary care research delivery services
- The NIHR Research Design Service for the East of England (Cambridgeshire and Bedfordshire Hub) <http://www.rds-ee.nihr.ac.uk/>

GETTING INVOLVED IN RESEARCH

If you are interested in making links with locally led primary care or public health research or have ideas on unmet clinical needs that may contribute to research questions, please get in touch with the R&D team for support and advice.

If you would like to discuss the options on getting involved or to be included on circulation lists please get in touch

Where do I begin if I would like to develop a research study?

Please contact the R&D Team and we will support you through all the stages of your research study, whether you are a student or whether you hope to secure external funding.

Vivienne Shaw, R&D manager Tel 01223 725466 Email: CAPCCG.RandDoffice@nhs.net

RMG Office, NHS Cambridgeshire and Peterborough CCG, Lockton House, Clarendon Road, Cambridge, CB2 8FH

website: <https://sites.google.com/a/nihr.ac.uk/camstrad/>

GLOSSARY

NIHR: National Institute for Health Research

CRN: Clinical Research Network

CCG Clinical Commissioning Group

NIHR RDS: Research Design Service

PIC: Participant Identification Centre

RMG: Research Management & Governance

