

The Role of the Research Nurse

Emma Levell Clinical Research Nurse

Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust



Disclosures

None

Question:

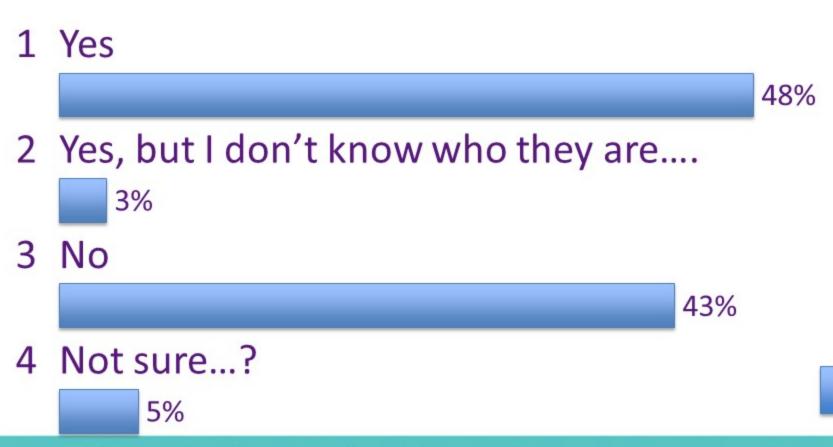
Do you currently have a research nurse at your Trust who specialises in IBD studies?

- 1 Yes
- 2 Yes, but I don't know who they are....
- 3 No

4 Not sure...?

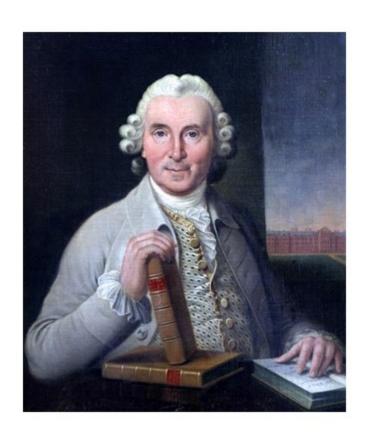
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A bit of history...



James Lind

Surgeon on board HMS Salisbury

His 1747 experiment for the prevention of scurvy on board was one of the first reported, controlled, clinical experiments using control groups.

International Clinical Trials Day 20th May

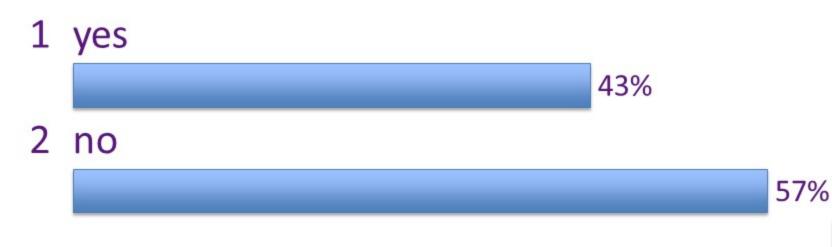
Question: Is this research?

You want to do a questionnaire with your patients, to find out how they are experiencing the telephone service you provide? Is this research?

- 1 yes
- 2 no

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Research is.....

Aiming to create generalisable new knowledge about treatments, services or conditions.

Can involve a change/intervention to care or treatment, and randomisation to a treatment arm.

Often involves collecting additional data or samples qualitatative research has a clearly defined question, aim or objective.



HRA Decision Making Tool

http://www.hra-

decisiontools.org.uk/research/docs/DefiningResearchTable_Oct2017-1.pdf



My Role: What is a Clinical Research Nurse?

- Not a nurse researcher
- Role is often funded by the NIHR/CRN, and employed by the Trust.
- usually working within a speciality team, within a wider research team.
- Identify/recruit patients who meet inclusion criteria
- Collect, input, and clarify data as requested by the researchers
- Administer interventions
- Collect samples
- Manage study paperwork
- Caseload of patients (often overlaps with CNS team)
- Identify and assess feasibility for new studies



Inflammatory Bowel Disease

- Approx IBD 3000 pts HHFT
- Approx 30 studies across the two sites
- Mixture of interventional and observational studies
- Most of our consultants are involved
- 6 IBD nurses working across 2 sites + 1 gastro pharmacist



Typical Daily activities

- Screen the inpatients, IBD Advice line logs, check emails for urgent items
- Link in with IBD nurses about patients
- Rush! Surprise prescription to get dispensed.
- Print some emails and site file documents that need filing.
- Complete a CRF and enter into online database.
- Collect data on screening and approaches for a study for return to data manager
- Discussion with a PI re a patient's eligibility
- Liaised with IBD CNS, assisted with venepuncture for urgent bloods
- Arrange for trial equipment to be PAT tested.
- Reviewed feasibility of a study with research facilitator, and checked costings.
- Review trial supplies with lab tech, and find somewhere to store them(!)
- Track down notes in the medical records library
- Learn to spin and aliquot samples
- Create a spreadsheet with automatic highlighting and dates



Research infrastructure in The UK

NIHR (England)
 (<u>http://www.nihr.ac.uk</u>)



Clinical Research Facilities (23 funded by NIHR) Biomedical Research Centres (11)

- Health and Care Research Wales (https://www.healthandcareresearch.gov.wales)
- NHS Research Scotland https://www.nhsresearchscotland.org.uk/
- Health and Social Care Research and Development (HSC R&D) Division (Northern Ireland) (https://research.hscni.net/)



Regulation

- EU Clinical Trials Directive (as transposed into UK law by UK Medicines for Human Use (Clinical Trials) Regulations 2004).
- HRA (a single UK wide approval includes ethics) since 2016
- MRHA need a clinical trials authorisation for a CTIMP
- UK Policy Framework for Health and Social Care Research (2017)
- Good Clinical Practice



Why be involved in research?

- Every patient has the right to be involved in research (NHS Constitution)
- It can offer our patients more options, or quicker access to new/varied treatments
- Patients cared for in research active institutions have better outcomes
- It can produce income for the trust to fund internal projects
- Research is a core activity for improving care









Clinical research now to be included in the well-led domain

- Research equity
- Research facilitation
- Research awareness



What sort of research?

Commercial Non-commercial Portfolio

CTIMPs (Clinical Trial of an Investigational Medicinal Product)
Interventional - device studies
Observational studies / registries

Investigator initiated



How do we get involved in a project?



- NIHR Portfolio
- CRN meetings of specialities
- Personal approach

- Capacity
- Capability
- Patient group
- Competition

- Contracts or agreements
- Target setting



In detail – some examples

IBD BioResource: Can recruit across both sites
Wide inclusion criteria — enables patient participation

- Biobank for current research
- Identification of patients by genotype for future projects
- 25,000 patients across the UK.



PROFILE (RHCH, Basingstoke)

- Aim is to demonstrate a
 biomarker can be used to
 personalise Crohn's
 treatment in newly
 diagnosed patients
- Open across both sites, so a pool of resources and experience.
 2 x Pl's



What is a commercial study like?

- Intense workload
- A lot of support from the sponsor and CROs
- Supplies and equipment provided
- Contracts and targets
- Frequent patient visits
- Involvement of many departments e.g. imaging, endoscopy, infusion unit, pharmacy and labs.

Question: What's your involvement in research?

- 1 I've had a major role in study delivery
- 2 I've been involved with data collection or documentation

- 3 I signpost to appropriate research studies
- 4 I've been a research subject

Question: What's your involvement in research?

1 I've had a major role in study delivery

24%

2 I've been involved with data collection or documentation

36%

3 I signpost to appropriate research studies

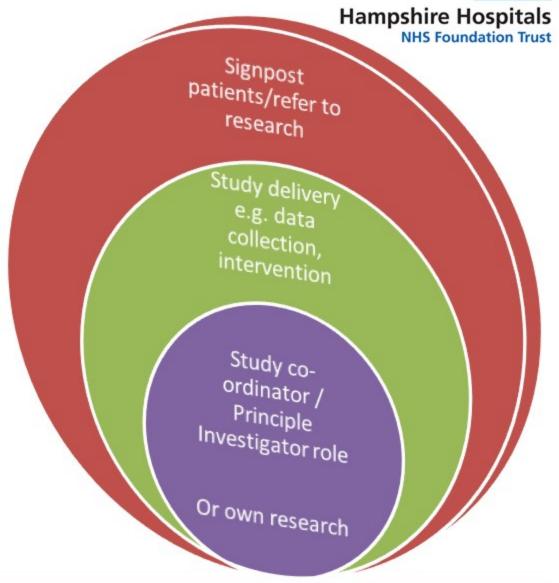
39%

4 I've been a research subject



NHS

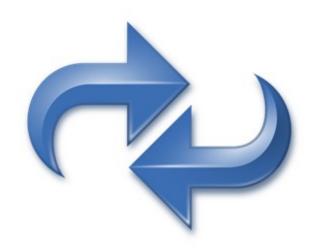
Levels of involvement





Engaging with the Wider Team

- Integrate attend MDT, nurse meetings etc.
- Align common clinical processes
- Communicate about trials open for recruitment
- Advise about current care/protocols
- Support with identifying patients





Top Tips from my IBD Team

- Do a face-to-face GCP course
- Keep in contact and work together
- Ask for information



My top tips

- Involve your research nurse
- Documentation be precise
- Safety reporting
- Changing treatment check first!
- Align your procedures if possible
- Be patient with questions!
- Review your capabilities and capacity to support research activity as part of your clinical role



IMPACT – translating results into practice

