

Research Strategy 2016 – 2019 – Progress made in Year 1

Enhancing patient experience and outcome through research opportunity and innovation for all patients and all staff

Introduction

Developing a research-active culture can bring a host of benefits for patients, clinicians and the NHS, driving innovation, giving rise to better and more cost-effective treatments, and creating opportunities for staff development.



National context

The NHS Constitution commits to innovation and to the promotion and conduct of research to improve the current and future health and care of the population.

The Trust is part of the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) which has a vision "To improve the health and wealth of the nation through research".

NHS policy frameworks and guidelines place a duty on the Trust to protect and exploit innovation / intellectual property for the benefit of patients and the wider health care community.

Key contacts for further information

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Local perspective

Our vision is *to be amongst the best*

The Trust has four hospital sites. Three of these, the Lister, new QEII and Hertford County provide a large acute secondary care service to a population of 600,000. In addition there is a sub-regional Renal Unit which provides Renal Services to 1.4 million people in Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire and Essex.

The Trust also manages the internationally recognised Mount Vernon Cancer Centre which provides a tertiary service for a population of over 2,000,000.



The Trust has a long history of being research active with particular strengths in Cancer, Renal, Cardiovascular Disease and Diabetes.

The research activity at the Trust is a mixture of studies which staff have gained through external funding via grants, studies that are commercially-funded and also participation of studies funded via national and local charities.

The Trust is a member of the **National Institute for Health Research**, fully supports the Health Research Authority and is committed to fully implementing the UK Policy Framework for Health and Social Care Research.

2,715 **Research Participants in 2016/7**

The Trust's Research Strategy 2016-2019

The Trust to be an internationally recognised centre of excellence for research and patient outcome		
Research is embedded into the planning and delivery of routine patient care for all patients	Enhancing patient experience and outcome by offering research opportunity and innovation for all patients and all staff	Patients and public to be engaged with, participate in, and benefit from research and innovation
Research is well governed, managed and supported so studies are delivered, as promised		Research is funded via external grant applications, from Industry and with the support of Charities

Public and patient engagement and involvement

- **International clinical trials day 20th May 2016:** Numerous events were held to raise awareness to staff, patients and members of the public.
- **Public Trust AGM 12th July 2016:** Research was a major theme to the whole event.
- **Public and patient engagement events:** These were held in September 2016 to explain our research priorities, to discuss these with members of the public and to identify future ways of engagement. Feedback was very positive.
- **Research participation surveys:** 100 research participants gave us their views. When asked "Overall, how would you rate your experience of taking part in research on a scale of 1 to 10 – with 1 being very poor and 10 excellent?" 69 responded with a score of 10, 29 responded with a score of 9 and the remainder responded with 7 or more.
 - "I am happy to take part in the research so that the study can help future treatments. I am completely satisfied with the care and support provided to me by the staff."
 - "Research staff would answer questions, often finding out the answers and getting straight back to me. This was very important to me to know what is going on."
 - "The nurses were absolutely lovely, they listened and explained everything to me and also gave very good advice on caring for myself."



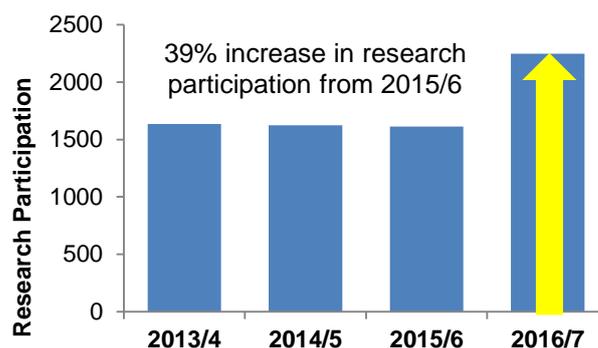
Public and patient event co-designed with University of Hertfordshire

Strategic progress made in 2016/7

The Trust has 'University Status' through a formal partnership with the University of Hertfordshire and has a number of joint professorships and posts such as the Florence Nightingale Foundation Chair in Clinical Nursing Practice Research.

Aim 1 "The Trust to be an internationally recognised centre of excellence for research and patient outcome". At least 199 publications in peer-reviewed journals were published in 2016.

Aim 2 "Patients and public to be engaged with, participate in, and benefit from research and innovation". Research participation has increased.



Aim 3 "Research is funded via external grant applications, from industry and with the support of charities". The Trust has been successful with a number of external research grant applications and is developing much closer links with local industry. The Trust is very grateful for the support in 2016/17 from local charities including the Cancer Treatment and Research Trust, the Marie Curie Research Wing and local fundraising for the Trust Charity support to the Lee Haynes Research Institute at the Lister Hospital.

Aim 4 "Research is embedded into the planning and delivery of routine patient care for all patients". All the Trust Divisions are research active and research is proactively managed.

Aim 5 "Research is well governed, managed and supported so studies are delivered, as promised". In 2016/7 the Trust entered the 'first global patient' to an international study investigating a new additional treatment for patients with acute heart failure.

Direct patient benefit from research

- The Renal Team has established a shared care space in haemodialysis.
- The Respiratory Team contributed to the Cancer Diagnosis in the Acute Setting Research Study, leading to earlier diagnosis.
- Patients who have Robot Assisted Radical Prostatectomy have better treatment.
- Innovation to develop a device for the delivery of high dose radiation in prostate cancer treatment.