

Research Strategy 2016 – 2019 – Progress made in Year 3

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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Website <http://www.enherts-tr.nhs.uk/about-the-trust/research-development-and-innovation/>

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.

3,336 Research participants

* Including 3,076 participants for studies adopted to the National Institute for Health portfolio.

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

Patients are actively involved with developing our research and our research culture. Examples include:

- International Clinical Trials day 20th May 2019.
- Public and patient engagement events, drawing on expertise from a pool of over 3,000 members.
- Patients as co-applicants for grant applications.
- Use of social media @enhertresearch
- Research highlighted public AGM 17th July 2019.

Research Participant Surveys carried out annually. Comments included:

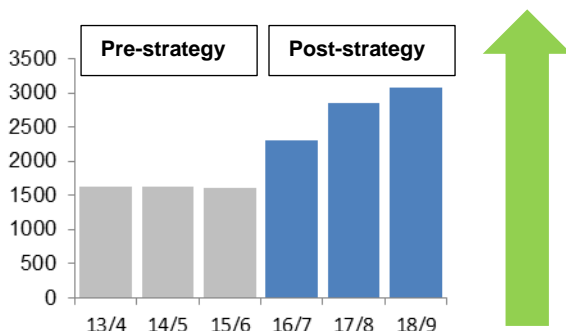
"I am very happy with the care and treatment that I have received over the last few years. Both doctors and nurse have been brilliant".

"I was happy to take part in this trial/research study, in the hope that it will help others and myself".

"I have been extremely satisfied with all aspects of my care and treatment".

Some Highlights

- **Care Quality Commission (CQC)** - From a research perspective it was great to see that research at the Mount Vernon Cancer Centre (MVCC) was regarded as **outstanding practice**.
- The Trust has been ranked again in the **top 50 acute trusts for research**, this time for both the number of research studies and the number of participants taking part.
- The Trust continues to support **academic partnership working** with the University of Hertfordshire, with UCLH and other Universities including Brunel University London.
- **Annual Research participation has increased by 89%** since the implementation of the strategy.



Research enhances patient care

MVCC recruits first national patient to a landmark study into brain cancer - Dr Paul Mulholland is the Chief Investigator for a study called "A Phase II, Open Label, Randomised Study of Ipilimumab with Temozolomide versus Temozolomide alone after surgery and chemoradiotherapy in patients with recently diagnosed glioblastoma".

- **Renal peer support service now up and running as a result of local research with benefits for patients** The SELFMADE research study, with Prof Ken Farrington led to the development of shared care in our Renal Units. Patients are encouraged and trained to put themselves on and take themselves off dialysis.
- The Trust has recruited the highest number of patients in England to a national study (ELATION) looking at whether a **new ultrasound method will help reduce the number of patients needing a diagnostic operation**. The study was led by Mr George Mochloulis and Dr Kanchana Rajaguru.
- Prof Diana Gorog gained external funding for a research project that seeks to answer "**can very low dose rivaroxaban in addition to Dual Antiplatelet Therapy improve thrombotic status in Acute Coronary Syndrome?**"
- Mount Vernon Cancer Team are leading the way in **international testicular cancer research** and Dr Anand Sharma and Dr Marcia Hall were invited to present a poster at the 2018 Genitourinary Cancers Symposium in San Francisco.
- Systemic Therapy for Advanced or Metastatic Prostate cancer: Evaluation of Drug Efficacy (STAMPEDE) This study is being run by our Urology Cancer Research Team and the Trust has recruited 36 patients to the study. This research has found that **additional radiotherapy can improve survival for some patient groups**.
- Members of the Trust's gastroenterology team have been major contributors to the national Aspect study, the results of which have just been published in the prestigious Lancet Journal. The research aimed to **improve outcomes in patients with Barrett's oesophagus**.
- Mr Nikhil Vasdev, consultant urological surgeon **leads an international collaboration between 19 centres across Europe, America and Canada** looking at the impact of initial pathology and response rates following chemotherapy and surgery.
- Trust oncology consultant Dr Paul Nathan was invited to present the results of two trials at the 2019 American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Annual Meeting in Chicago in June 2019 - **the largest oncology conference in the world with 35,000 attendees**.