

# Interested ?

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Whether you would like to incorporate clinical research into your current role or are interested in learning more about a career in Research nursing with the CRF you can find resources, links and information on the NIHR Sheffield Clinical Research Facility website

[www.sheffield.crf.nihr.ac.uk](http://www.sheffield.crf.nihr.ac.uk)

If you would like to visit the CRF to see the facility for yourself contact [karen.french@sth.nhs.uk](mailto:karen.french@sth.nhs.uk)

If you have a smartphone QR code reader, you can scan the code below to go straight to the website



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# CLINICAL RESEARCH

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## What it is and what it isn't

  
National Institute for  
Health Research

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Sheffield Clinical Research Facility



## Research is separate to nursing isn't it?

Clinical research is carried out by lots of different people for lots of reasons. All clinical research studies are reviewed and approved by an ethics committee before they are allowed to start. This is to be certain that the study is ethical and appropriate.

## Aren't they just drug studies run by the pharmaceutical industry?

A study might set out to collect information to prove that drug A is safer or more effective than drug B, or that a new drug is effective in situations where there is no current treatment, but so many more kinds of clinical research exist..

A study might compare different interventions in the same way, as a drug study compares drugs to find out if one is more efficient or safer than the other. It could take the form of a questionnaire, blood or tissue sample or controlled observation over time which leads to a service improvement for patients or a reduced stay in hospital.

## Ok, so I understand that research happens, but don't we have Research Nurses who come in to do research with our patients?

Sheffield Teaching hospitals Foundation Trust has a dedicated Clinical Research Facility (CRF), at both the Northern General and Royal Hallamshire hospitals. The research team consists of nurses of all grades and administrative staff to support directorate research.

Our nurses can see patients in out patient clinics, on the wards, in the emergency department or in the CRF, depending on the nature of the study. You may have seen them whilst you are working.

You might support your directorate's research by recognizing potentially suitable patients on admission and letting the research team know so that study assessments can begin.



## How does this benefit my patients that I am caring for?

**Your patients think that clinical research is important.** 97% of people surveyed in Sheffield said that it was important to them that the NHS carries out clinical research and 90% would be willing to take part. Over 10,000 people took part in clinical research in south Yorkshire in 2013 which aims to improve the diagnosis, treatment and care of patients in the NHS. Why would you want to deny your patients this opportunity? The patients you are caring for now are experiencing the best and most effective treatments and healthcare because of research outcomes. Have you worked with the Waterlow score? Research has proved that this is the best way to care for your patients. As a healthcare provider the care you give, not just the medication you give, is a result of research.

As the patient advocate you want to be assured that your practice is offering the best to your patients.

Some patients may experience direct benefit as a result of participation in a clinical trial. They may experience an improvement in symptoms, receive more efficient care or have to come for hospital

## Want to know more?

If you would like talk to someone about how you can engage with clinical research in your directorate you can speak with your Directorate Research Coordinator if you have one, or find out where your nearest research café is. The CRF also offers a rolling programme of training and education seminars. You can follow us on Twitter too (see over)