



Research

We are a research practice and take part in the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR). The NIHR is funded by the Department of Health and is the research arm of the NHS, part of the Clinical Research Network (CRN) North East and Cumbria and provide data for patients from a primary care perspective.

The research is used to try and find the causes of diseases and to find better treatments and services for those diseases and improve patient care – in other words to try and find better ways of looking after patients and keeping people healthy.

The funding for our research activity is via the CRN so does not come out of the practice's own budget and therefore does not affect our patients' services.

A key requirement for anyone involved in the conduct of clinical research is Good Clinical Practice for research (GCP) training. GCP is the guideline and standard to which all NHS research is conducted.

What is Primary Care Research?

The CRN Primary Care speciality works in collaboration with researchers and primary care practitioners such as GP's, practice nurses, pharmacists and dentists to promote the successful delivery of research studies in the NHS. A wide range of research studies are supported which look at:

- Promoting a healthier lifestyle
- Disease diagnosis and prevention
- Management of long-term illnesses such as diabetes or hypertension
- Prevention of future ill-health
- Treating common conditions such as tonsillitis or influenza

What are the Benefits of GP practices taking part in Research?

- It offers patients access to new treatments
- It brings new dimension to practice and added skills to those involved
- It provides national gold standard training for research
- It offers mentorship and support to those involved in research within practice

How can you help and take part?



- You may be sent information through the post if we feel you may be a suitable participant to become involved in studies

All clinical research carried out is thoroughly checked and approved by ethical committees thus ensuring it is appropriate and safe to perform.

Your participation is entirely voluntary and can be withdrawn by yourself at any time without any explanation required.

You are under no obligation to participate in any research project.

Your care and your relationship with your doctor or nurse will not be affected in any way if you decided not to take part in a research study

You will always receive clear information about what taking part in a research study would involve. You will have the opportunity to ask questions and obtain further details about a study.

If you do agree to take part in a study you will be asked to sign a consent form. This will clearly state which parts of your notes (if any) may be looked at for the purposes of the research study. Nobody from outside this practice will be given your contact details or have access to your medical records without your prior consent.

By visiting the [National Institute for Health Research](#) website you will find more information about research in primary care.

There is also information about research for patients on the [NHS Choices](#) website and we would encourage patients to become involved in the future.