



Department for
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Dear NIHR and Clinical Research Staff,

I am writing to express our sincere gratitude for your extraordinary efforts in supporting the search for Covid-19 vaccines. Through your work to deliver vaccine trials and research, you are making an immense contribution to the Covid-19 effort and have helped to cement the UK's position at the forefront of global vaccine R&D. As a participant in a clinical trial, I have seen first-hand the huge amount of work required to run these trials.

In a short period of time, we have created a world class clinical asset in the NHS Citizen Registry for rapid trial enrolment, which has now gained over 360,000 signatories. The Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine study was the first study globally to begin recruitment and rapidly enrolled over 10,000 participants. In November, we met our target to enrol 15,000 volunteers in the UK Phase III trial for Novavax's Covid-19 vaccine, an important milestone to have reached.

On behalf of the Vaccine Taskforce, I wanted to communicate my gratitude for the work you have done at pace to accelerate processes and delivery timelines during this pandemic. I know that a lot has been asked of you throughout this year and that your commitment to delivering a rapid response has been crucial. You are playing an important part in supporting the essential programme to secure successful vaccines that will tackle this disease and restore economic growth. We have much more still to do to enable a vaccine to be delivered to people in the UK and in other countries as soon as possible. Thank you for your continued endeavours to make this possible.

Yours sincerely,

Kate Bingham

Chair, UK Vaccine Taskforce