

Transforming healthcare through research and collaboration

The future of health and social care depends on today's research. Increased demand, new patterns of care and more complex and chronic disease means opportunities from new treatment and technology advances are critical to improve quality, efficiency and sustainability of our health service.



Poster author: NHS Research Scotland (NRS) – Central Management Team

AIM

To ensure NHS Scotland remains at the forefront of clinical and translational research, NHS Research Scotland aims to:

- Contribute towards a thriving life sciences sector
- Support the NHS to deliver world-class health outcomes
- Help patients gain access to breakthrough/innovative new treatments
- Ensure NHS Scotland provides the best environment to support clinical research
- Train and develop researchers to keep the nation at the forefront of international research
- Work collaboratively across academia, the life sciences sector and charities to harness resources, talents and accelerate the development of new treatments.

METHODS

NHS Research Scotland (NRS) established as a collaboration between all Health Boards in Scotland and the Chief Scientist Office (CSO). Formation of the Central Management Team in 2015 provided centralised support infrastructure to:

- Streamline research processes in Scotland
- Deliver trials to time and target
- Provide advice, support and performance monitoring.

REFERENCES

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www.cso.scot.nhs.uk
www.mariecurie.org.uk/
www.stroke.org.uk/

Scottish Government, Health and Social Care Research Strategy, October 2015
Scottish Government, Realising Realistic Medicine: Chief Medical Officer's Annual Report 2015-16, February 2017
Scottish Enterprise, Life Sciences Strategy for Scotland 2025 Vision: Accelerating Growth, Driving Innovation, February 2017

“The dual role of the NHS in supporting the health and wealth of the population has never been more apparent or important. Health research is one of this country's key strengths, and it is essential that we utilise this national resource to the fullest”

*Shona Robison, Cabinet Secretary
Health and Sport, Health and Social
Care Research Strategy, p.5*



RESULTS

- During 2015/16, over 1000 clinical research studies took place in Scotland, with over 37,000 patients participating.
- Collaborated on a range of European and international trials, including studies across cancer, rare diseases and cardiovascular
- Over 30% more of UK public research funding attracted to Scotland than the population would suggest.
- Positive collaboration with a range of research charities, including joint delivery of trials and studies, investment in research facilities, or funding research fellowships to advance understanding and treatment of key diseases
- Participation in the Industry Partnership Forum and Commercial Clinical Operations Group to collaborate across industry and UK nations.
- Training and development opportunities in the form of CSO/NRS funded and supported Clinical Fellowships
- Collaborative working with Scottish Enterprise and SDI to promote Scotland as a world-class research site.

CONCLUSION

Scotland operates a centralised system to support clinical research in Scotland and improve quality, efficiency and co-ordination. Working on a pan-Scotland basis, NHS Research Scotland has implemented a responsive infrastructure to encourage researchers to bring studies to Scotland and ensure we remain at the forefront of international clinical and translational research.

