NHS Research Scotland
Delivering Research Excellence
NHS Research Scotland promotes and supports excellence in clinical and translational research in Scotland so that patients can benefit from new and better treatments.

Formed through a partnership of Scottish NHS Boards and the Chief Scientist Office (CSO) of Scottish Government, we work to ensure that NHS Scotland provides the best environment to support clinical research.

Scotland - a global centre of excellence for clinical research

- A single unified health system
- Nationwide clinical research infrastructure
- Some of the best health data in the world
- World class multicentre study approval times
- Internationally-competitive universities
- Strong collaboration between NHS, academia and industry

Our Vision

To place Scotland at the international forefront of clinical research.

Our Mission

To support and promote excellence in clinical research in NHS Scotland, that will make a positive difference to patients’ health within Scotland, the UK and internationally.

Our Role

- Help deliver high quality studies in the NHS across a spectrum of disease and clinical need
- Provide a solid infrastructure to deliver trials to time and target
- Work across Scotland supporting all NHS boards
- Connect NHS, industry and academia to accelerate the development of new treatments, devices and diagnostics to tackle complex healthcare needs
- Help involve patients and the public in research
- Provide advice, support and performance monitoring
Supporting Research in Scotland

Strong infrastructure and world class clinical and academic expertise creates a vibrant research environment in Scotland with clinical research embedded within our NHS.

World Class clinical and academic expertise in key therapeutic areas

NHS Boards
NHS boards are active in clinical research with co-ordinated systems to facilitate delivery on a regional basis. Local delivery, development and governance is achieved through four regional nodes.

North includes NHS Grampian and NHS Highland

East includes NHS Tayside, NHS Forth Valley and NHS Fife

South East includes NHS Lothian and NHS Borders

West includes NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, NHS National Waiting Times, NHS Lanarkshire, NHS Ayrshire & Arran and NHS Dumfries and Galloway.

Our NHS boards also work closely with associated medical schools to foster collaborative approaches to clinical research.
NRS Network
Delivery of high quality studies across a spectrum of disease is provided through the NRS Network. The Network supports the development, set up and completion of clinical research studies across Scotland by providing advice on study design and feasibility, identifying potential sites, facilitating access to resources and monitoring recruitment in specialist disease areas.

NRS Permissions Co-ordinating Centre (PCC)
An efficient R&D permission process across Scotland, for commercial and non-commercial multicentre research projects is delivered by the PCC. This provides a single point of contact for industry and investigators, centralised project co-ordination and faster approvals.

Clinical Research Facilities
Located in Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Fife, Glasgow and Highland these facilities provide support in the provision of trained research staff, dedicated clinical research space and expertise in the conduct of clinical trials.

Data Safe Havens
Available in each NRS node, providing a platform for the use of NHS electronic data in research feasibility, delivery and pharmacovigilance.

Biorepositories
Each NRS node hosts a biorepository and holds responsibility for tissue governance for their partner board. This national system linking all Scottish health boards is designed to encourage the use of tissue in research and boost the availability of tissue.

SHARE
An expanding confidential register of people interested in participating in health research who agree to allow SHARE to use the coded data in their NHS computer records to check whether they may be eligible to participate in research. SHARE helps researchers identify participants for health research studies.
Research and clinical trials are an everyday part of work done in the NHS. Their aim is to find better ways of looking after and keeping people healthy.

Join the SHARE register to take part in research activity

www.registerforshare.org