

Update from NRS Reproductive Health and Childbirth Specialty Group July 2020



RE-STARTING NON-COVID-RELATED CLINICAL RESEARCH

Approach across NHS Research Scotland.

As a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic, many non-COVID clinical research projects in Scotland have been suspended or had recruitment halted in order to help protect patient safety and support resilience in the NHS. Urgent public health COVID-19 research remains a priority, but as the number of patients affected by COVID-19 begins to decline, the process of re-starting paused research activity is underway.

During this period of re-start, NHS Research Scotland (NRS) will follow the UK principles and prioritisation guidance issued by the [National Institute for Health Research](#) (NIHR), as set out in a statement from the [Chief Scientist Office](#) (CSO). CSO has convened two groups of NRS stakeholders to address re-start issues and agree a common and consistent way forward:

- The [Operational Restart Group](#) whose objective is to share best practice and support development of operational processes and guidance to support the resumption of non-COVID research activity across NRS.
- The Restart Strategic Oversight Group to provide advice, support and guidance on all aspects of non-COVID research re-start across NRS. A key focus of the Strategic Group is the development of enhanced support for decision making around study prioritisation at the NHS Board level.

The NRS Networks are a crucial component of re-start and we are represented across the two groups. In order to inform the Restart Strategic Oversight Group, we are in the process of undertaking an analysis of the Reproductive Health and Childbirth portfolio to identify two broad categories:

- ❖ Projects embedded into clinical practice to the extent that most study participants would be attending for care provision in addition to study-specific interventions.
- ❖ Projects that can be undertaken without the need for participants to attend hospital.

*We are contacting PIs/CIs in the Specialty for your input in this exercise.
Your cooperation is much appreciated!*

COVID-19 URGENT PUBLIC HEALTH (UPH) STUDIES LOOKING FOR SITES IN SCOTLAND

Pregnancy and Neonatal Outcomes in COVID-19. A global registry of women with suspected or confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection in pregnancy and their neonates, understanding natural history to guide treatment and prevention. IRAS 282655, CPMS ID: 45571.

CI: Dr Edward Mullins, Imperial College London. Funder: NIHR/UKRI.

PAN-COVID

This study has HRA Approval in England and the Approval process in Scotland is underway.

Many thanks to all sites that have already registered!

*The study team is very keen to hear from all Health Boards in Scotland
Please find protocol and **Register your interest** at: <https://pan-covid.org/>*

*It will be very helpful if you could let us know if you register and who would be the PI in your Health Board.
The study team hosts a weekly PAN-COVID Live session, to discuss issues, share best practice, updates, etc.
if you haven't received the link and wish to attend please let us know.*

RESEARCH FUNDING



The Health Foundation. New COVID-19 Research Programme.

Call for projects seeking to understand the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in two areas: service change in the health and social care system and health inequalities. Deadline: 30/09/2020. Funding: £100–£200k, for up to 1 year. For further details and application process please [click here](#)

NON-COVID 19 RESEARCH: NEW STUDIES SEEKING SITES IN SCOTLAND

GBS3. The clinical and cost-effectiveness of testing for Group B Streptococcus: a cluster randomised trial with economic and acceptability evaluations. CPMS ID 42782; IRAS 263682. CI: Professor Jane Daniels, University of Nottingham. Funder: NIHR NETSCC.



This study was circulated before but please note that they have now reduced the criteria for births in GBS3 sites to 2500 per annum. To access the protocol and site selection questionnaire <https://nottingham.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/gbs3-site-selection-questionnaire>.

For queries about the GBS3 trial, please contact Sarah Craig at GBS3@nottingham.ac.uk.

Fife, Grampian and Lanarkshire are already on board. Many thanks!

The study team would like to hear from all sites in Scotland.

Please let us know if you are interested and have submitted a questionnaire.

If you have not received a GBS3 newsletter, let us know and will send it to you.

POISE (Premature Ovarian Insufficiency Study of Effectiveness of hormonal therapy).

Hormone therapy for premature ovarian insufficiency: randomised trial and long-term evaluation. Co-Is: Dr Melanie Davies, University College London Hospitals and Professor Jane Daniels, Nottingham Clinical Trials Unit. Funder: NIHR HTA.



This is a new clinical trial to investigate what is the most effective hormone treatment for women with premature ovarian insufficiency (POI) in the short and long term.

The trial plans to open to recruitment in Autumn 2020, if you are interested in participating or have any further questions please contact the study team at poise@nottingham.ac.uk.

Many thanks to Ayrshire & Arran, Grampian, Greater Glasgow & Clyde, Lothian and Tayside for their interest!

NEW FORUM FOR MIDWIFERY RESEARCH

The Midwives Research Collaborative

Dr Cate Bell, Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, has set up an online forum for midwifery research to provide a discussion space for connecting, sharing and developing your research ideas and interests with others.



The group uses Samepage, a free collaboration platform for online teams, you can register at: <https://samepage.io/app/go#!confirm/QJDLknE4keqn7C86>

Once you have set up your free account you can login to the Midwives Research Collaborative.

For queries or further information please contact Abha (abha.maheshwari@abdn.ac.uk) or Txaro (maria.amezaga@nhs.net)