

## Update from NRS Reproductive Health and Childbirth Specialty Group June 2020



### CHIEF SCIENTIST OFFICE STATEMENT ON RESTARTING RESEARCH PAUSED DUE TO COVID-19

For full details please visit: <https://www.cso.scot.nhs.uk/news/>

We are entering a new phase of the current pandemic, where the number of new cases of COVID-19 is declining and the time is right to work towards the restoration of a diverse Portfolio of Health and Social Care Research here in Scotland.

The National Institute for Health Research have released information on [Supporting the Restart of Paused NIHR Research Activities](#) which includes a [Framework for restarting research activities](#) to help initiate this process.

The Restart Framework is a guidance document to support local decision-making, it outlines guiding principles for a coordinated restoration of the research portfolio. To note is that the Restart Framework is not directive local operational instruction.

Scotland and the other devolved administrations have been fully involved in its development and are supportive of the guiding principles and prioritisation criteria.

The Chief Scientist Office (CSO) will monitor the restart across Scotland and has established a COVID-19 Restart Operational Group to share best practice and support development of operational processes and guidance to support the resumption of non-COVID research activity across NHS Research Scotland.

The Research Networks will be fully involved and we will keep you updated.

### URGENT PUBLIC HEALTH COVID-19 STUDIES LOOKING FOR NEW SITES IN SOTLAND

**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-C<sup>o</sup>VID

This study focuses on specific questions relating to miscarriage, fetal growth restriction and stillbirth, pre-term delivery and vertical transmission. Please note that midwives and research nurses can be PIs in this study.

Find study information including protocol and **Register your interest** at: <https://pan-covid.org/>

*A number of PIs in Scotland have already registered their interest!*

*Please let us know if your Health Board has registered!*

## NON-COVID 19 RESEARCH

### NEW STUDY SEEKING FOR SITES IN SCOTLAND

**POISE** (Premature Ovarian Insufficiency Study of Effectiveness of hormonal therapy).  
Hormone therapy for premature ovarian insufficiency: randomised trial and long-term evaluation.

**Co-PIs:** 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 and is currently identifying gynaecology clinics to take part. If you are interested in becoming a recruiting site or have any further questions please contact the study team at [poise@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:poise@nottingham.ac.uk).*

*Some Centres in Scotland are on board! Please let us know if you are interested in participating!*

## IRAS SUBMISSIONS AND AMMENDMENTS UPDATES

### New Online booking service for IRAS submissions

A new online booking service went live for IRAS studies on Tuesday 19th May, replacing the Central Booking Service (CBS) telephone line. Applicants submitting research projects through IRAS no longer need to call CBS to book a Research Ethics Committee, or to enable IRAS Form submission. Instead applicants will access the new online booking service via IRAS to book their application for review.

Training and guidance is available [via the IRAS website](#). You can also [watch a short video](#) to see how to use the online booking service.

### New Amendments Process

Online submission of amendments and a new Amendment Tool will be introduced across the UK on Tuesday 2nd June 2020.

The amendment tool is designed to simplify the amendment process for applicants and the ability to submit amendments online means that applicants can track the submission history of amendments.

For details about the new process please visit the [amendment tool and full guidance](#). Training videos: [amendment tool demonstration](#) and [how to complete online submission of amendments](#).

For queries or further information please contact Abha ([abha.maheshwari@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:abha.maheshwari@abdn.ac.uk))

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