



NHS Research Scotland collaborates with Vital Therapies to accelerate clinical trials of ELAD

A new treatment designed to improve survival in patients with liver failure by providing extracorporeal hepatic support continuously for up to five days.

Vital Therapies, Inc. is a biotherapeutic company developing ELAD®, an extracorporeal human hepatic cell-based liver treatment.



"This is an important study. We believe that use of ELAD allows time for the patient's native liver to recover from an acute decompensation, stabilize, and then potentially regenerate, or to maintain the patient until liver transplantation can occur.

The connected, collaborative and streamlined approach in Scotland has enabled rapid start-up of this study at 2 centres of excellence within a 4 month period that included the Christmas holidays. The sites have proven pedigree in this type of trial having contributed to the UK-wide STOPAH trial. The Vital Therapies study ultimately hopes to translate ELAD into a possible new treatment option for liver failure patients who have a high mortality risk."

*Andrew Henry, VP Clinical Operations,
VITAL THERAPIES Inc*

An efficient and responsive infrastructure, enabled this complex study, with intensive resource requirement, to be set up within 4 months from initial contact

- **NRS feasibility service** identified two sites in Glasgow and Dundee
- Rapid review of study completed via **NRS Permissions Co-ordinating Centre** and negotiation of national **standard contract and budget**
- **Hepatology Clinical Lead** provided national oversight, advice and co-ordinated approach to discussions



“Collaboration and early engagement are critical in complex trials such as VTL-308 and I’ve been delighted to bring this trial to Scotland offering opportunities for patients to access innovative new treatments in liver disease”

*Professor John Dillon,
NRS Hepatology Clinical Lead*

“Scotland is a world leading location for clinical research as evidenced by its well connected life sciences sector, strong research base, talent pool and streamlined, joined up approach to supporting companies.”

Julia Brown, Senior Director, Healthcare Life and Chemical Sciences, Scottish Enterprise.



Further information

To discuss placing a trial in Scotland contact Steven Burke, Industry Liaison Manager
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