



PRIMARY CARE

Supporting Primary Care Research, Scotland-wide

Information for GP and Dental Practices

www.nrs.org.uk/primarycare

Funded by



NRS Primary Care Network

The network facilitates high quality, academic and commercial research studies. We work with GP practices, dental practices and other community sites, to facilitate the involvement of staff and patients in clinical studies.

What are the benefits to the practice and their patients?

Supporting medical research is rewarding and makes a positive contribution to improving services and care for all patients. One Lothian GP commented:

“As a practice, we have undoubtedly benefited from our research activity. Our patients like the fact that they have opportunities to enter research trials, and I know that some have had amazing benefit (for example, 5 out of 6 patients with diabetes are now in remission due to the trial intervention!)”

Practice involvement raises awareness of current research which is relevant to primary care. One Tayside GP explains:

“The practice was more aware of the diversity of research in General Practice and also the quality of research. We were pleased to be awarded ‘Best Recruiting Practice’ and felt we had made a positive contribution to research in Primary Care”

Why do researchers recruit in Primary Care?

For many clinical studies, the vast majority of eligible patients are to be found in primary care rather than secondary care.



How much work is involved and what is the process?

Network staff carry out a search of the practice database for eligible patients, according to the study inclusion and exclusion criteria. **The vast majority of studies only require the practice to approve the eligible patient list.**



Once the list has been approved, network staff will send invitation letters to patients on behalf of the practice (on practice letterhead). The patient contacts the research team directly with any queries. **The whole process is designed to minimise any disruption to the practice.** One Grampian GP comments:

“SPCRN do all the hard work. It feels good to be a small cog in the research network wheel”.



Is there a financial reimbursement for the work involved?

The network are funded by the CSO to reimburse practices for staff time for participation in research studies, ranging from £80 - £400 per study.

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The NRS Primary Care Network covers all of Scotland, with bases in five geographical areas.

Node	Health Board
West	Greater Glasgow & Clyde, Ayrshire & Arran, Lanarkshire, Dumfries and Galloway
East	Tayside, Fife, Forth Valley
North	Highland, Western Isles
North East	Grampian, Orkney, Shetland
South East	Lothian, Borders



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For our full network team listing please visit our website
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