

UHL Research and Innovation: Quarterly Trust Board Report April 2017

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Trust Board paper M

Executive Summary

Context

UHL is a Trust active in Research and Innovation (R&I). This report describes current R&I performance against metrics, projects under development, new challenges and potential threats.

Questions

1. Is UHL performing well in the delivery of quality research at expected volume?
2. Are large projects planned with appropriate partners and managed appropriately?
3. Are upcoming challenges understood?

Conclusion

1. UHL performs well in delivering high quality research as judged by NIHR and LCRN data.
2. A larger number of large projects are in development, some being close to start date. There is a wide range of NHS and Academic partner engagement.
3. A number of challenges are recognised and planning is in place to mitigate risks.

Input Sought

Report is presented for information.

For Reference

Edit as appropriate:

1. The following objectives were considered when preparing this report:

Safe, high quality, patient centred healthcare	[Yes]
Effective, integrated emergency care	[Yes]
Consistently meeting national access standards	[Not applicable]
Integrated care in partnership with others	[Yes]
Enhanced delivery in research, innovation & ed'	[Yes]
A caring, professional, engaged workforce	[Yes]
Clinically sustainable services with excellent facilities	[Yes]
Financially sustainable NHS organisation	[Yes]
Enabled by excellent IM&T	[Yes]

2. This matter relates to the following governance initiatives:

Organisational Risk Register	[Yes]
Board Assurance Framework	[Yes]

3. Related Patient and Public Involvement actions taken, or to be taken: [Insert here]

4. Results of any Equality Impact Assessment, relating to this matter: n/a

5. Scheduled date for the next paper on this topic: [TB 6.7.17]

6. Executive Summaries should not exceed 1page. [My paper does / does not comply]

7. Papers should not exceed 7 pages. [My paper does comply]

UHL R&I Quarterly Trust Board Report April 2017

1. Introduction

This report describes current R&I performance against metrics, projects under development, new challenges and potential threats.

2. Research Performance

The activity of UHL in initiating and delivering clinical research is performance monitored by both the NIHR Central Commissioning Facility (NIHR CCF) and the East Midlands Clinical Research Network (EM CRN). In turn the UHL R&I Office reports research CMG level activity and performance to each CMG via the R&I Executive Committee.

2.1 NIHR CCF.

NIHR league tables (<http://www.nihr.ac.uk/research-and-impact/nhs-research-performance/league-tables/>) published in The Guardian show that for 15/16 UHL was the 6th highest recruiting trust in England.

In Q1 16/17 UHL initiated 104 clinical trials. These figures confirm a stable level of activity. Q2 figures – confirmation of data awaited from NIHR.

Table 1: UHL Performance in initiating clinical research trials

	Number of Trials Initiated		
	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Q1	91	107	104
Q2	79	107	Not yet available
Q3	82	116	
Q4	95	99	

UHL is also judged by its performance in recruiting patients into initiated trials within 70 days. In Q1 2016/17 this figure was >90% and represents a sustained improvement. Overall in terms of both initiating and delivering research UHL remains ranked in League 1 (of 7) by NIHR.

2.2. EM CRN.

Table 2: Cumulative Recruitment Numbers of Patients into UHL Studies 2015/16 and 16/17

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Cumulative Recruitment 15/16	1078	1946	3112	4112	4972	5961	7477	9327	10112	10923	12546	13479
Cumulative Recruitment 16/17	1037	1953	3037	3894	4709	5459	6079	7044	7562	8198	8729	

Recruitment into portfolio clinical trials so far for 16/17 is approximately 28% lower than the same period in 15/16. This is mirrored across the EM CRN and nationally. UHL R&I has agreed a series of actions with CRN ensure maximisation of recruitment:

- Sharing studies across CRN
- Targeted investment to support clinical areas with potential to grow recruitment
- UHL CRN funding tied more closely to performance

3. New Projects Underway

3.1 NIHR Leicester BRC, NIHR Leicester CRF and Experimental Cancer Medicine Centre (ECMC).

These major elements of NIHR funded infrastructure will commence their new activities from 1st April 2017. A new UHL structure chaired by Director of R&I – NIHR Integrated Operations Group (NIOG) – will support the efficient functioning of all elements of NIHR infrastructure at UHL.

3.2 100,000 Genomes Project

UHL is recruiting on trajectory to rare diseases and cancer. Leicester hosted a successful national Genomics conference in March 2017 to explore challenges and solutions for mainstreaming genomics into medical care.

4. Projects in Development

4.1. Bioinformatics

UHL has supported a University of Leicester bid to become a substantive site of the UK Farr Institute for Health & Biomedical Informatics research.

4.2. Biobanking

UHL is a supporting partner in a bid to MRC led by University of Leicester to establish the East Midlands Bioresource Partnership (EMBIOP).

5. UHL Research Strategy

The development of a new 5 year research strategy is a supporting objective to the UHL Quality Commitment. Therefore we will develop a new 5 Year Research Strategy with the University of Leicester in order to maximise the effectiveness of our research partnership. The two organisations will work together to develop this.

6. Innovation/Enterprise Activities

We are working with Leicester Precision Medicine Institute and the Healthcare Innovation Hub Medipex to commercialise the Stent Project and NeedleGuide – a device for safe placement of needles and cannulae.

7. New/Existing Challenges

7.1. Delivery of 100,000 Genome Project.

Recruitment remains under close scrutiny. Pathology is a pressure point. Genomics team working with relevant clinical specialities to facilitate recruitment.

7.2. Study Recruitment

Work with CRN team to maintain and increase delivery of recruitment into NIHR portfolio studies.

7.3. Hope Unit at Glenfield

Efforts continue to identify suitable space for Hope Unit at Glenfield Hospital