



*National Institute for
Health Research*

Clinical Research Network
Coordinating Centre

Working together to support industry



What Are The Issues in The UK?

- Unreliable delivery of studies to target and time
- Variable costing across Trusts for commercial research
- Slow set up times, especially R&D approvals
- Perceived/real lack of engagement of the 'NHS'



Aims of NIHR CRN

- To develop England-wide infrastructure embedded within the NHS to support high quality research across all areas of health and clinical need funded by both commercial and non-commercial funders
- Ensure that patients and healthcare professionals from all parts of the country are able to participate in and benefit from clinical research
- Integrate health research and patient care
- Improve the quality, speed and coordination of clinical research by removing the barriers to research in the NHS
- **Strengthen research collaboration with industry and ensure that the NHS can meet the health research needs of industry**



NIHR CRN & Industry

- Feasibility and Adoption
- Performance management
- Standard Agreements & Contracts
- Costing commercial studies
- Research Management & Governance in NHS



Benefits

Opportunities Pre-adoption

- Access to key opinion leaders for rapid feasibility
- Additional study insight from the network coordinating centre, based on previous experience
- Knowledge of competing UK trials
- Network staff will support investigators to provide sound feasibility



Benefits

Opportunities Post Adoption

- Access to new investigators and therefore patient populations
- Single point of contact for the company
- Delivery support from the network coordinating centres for the company
- Trained research staff available to support the investigator for screening or to perform study procedures
- Adopted Industry studies can access NIHR CSP
- Support with costing negotiations by CLRNs, using consistent template



Benefits for Trusts/Investigators

- Access to CLRN infrastructure:
 - CLRN funded research staff time e.g. research nurses, pharmacists
 - NIHR CSP and local Research Management and Governance expertise to provide more rapid and consistent site approvals
 - A dedicated CLRN Industry Manager to facilitate site set up and support network delivery of recruitment targets
 - NIHR CRN training for study personnel (e.g., GCP training)
 - Sign posting and cross network referrals
 - Support in undertaking robust feasibility assessments and in setting recruitment plans, and contingency planning/trouble shooting where study recruitment plans are not being met



Benefits for Trusts/Investigators

- Active involvement in local clinical research Specialty Groups
- Involvement as expert reviewers on industry adoption panels, ensuring commercial studies are high quality and badged as high priority NIHR CRN adopted studies
- Opportunities to become involved with new companies and in trials presented directly by industry to the CCRN Coordinating Centre
- ...



Why should the NHS Engage with Industry?

- The current UK environment is challenging
 - Improve the process and delivery or there will be less or no trials to participate in
- Opportunities for patients and clinicians to access latest treatments and technologies
- Cost savings/Income to Trusts
- Commercial research will count towards Operating Framework ambition to double number of participants in clinical trials over next 5 years
- Increased opportunities for collaborative projects as well as gaining transferable training and experience

