



Recruitment is the enrolment of an individual person meeting specific inclusion criteria into a research study.

Each study participant who has both provided **informed consent** to join a study and is taking part in the study (i.e. participants who **count towards the sample size** of the study as set out in the study protocol), should be recorded as a participant in the Portfolio Database.

## Find out more

Visit our website for more information:  
[www.crnc.nihr.ac.uk/portfolio](http://www.crnc.nihr.ac.uk/portfolio)

NIHR CRN Portfolio recruitment data:  
[www.crnc.nihr.ac.uk/recruitment\\_data](http://www.crnc.nihr.ac.uk/recruitment_data)

NIHR CRN Portfolio eligibility:  
[www.crnc.nihr.ac.uk/portfolio\\_eligibility](http://www.crnc.nihr.ac.uk/portfolio_eligibility)

Contact the Portfolio Helpdesk (general enquiries):  
[portfolio.helpdesk@nihr.ac.uk](mailto:portfolio.helpdesk@nihr.ac.uk)

Find a Network contact:  
[www.crnc.nihr.ac.uk/portfolio\\_help](http://www.crnc.nihr.ac.uk/portfolio_help)

For commercial studies contact the appropriate Network directly or submit a Portfolio Application Form. Find out more at:  
[www.supportmystudy.nihr.ac.uk](http://www.supportmystudy.nihr.ac.uk)



**National Institute for  
Health Research**

**Clinical Research Network**

NIHR Clinical Research  
Network Portfolio

**Recruitment data  
for non-commercial  
studies**



## Recruitment data relate to:

Patients recruited to a treatment regime

Staff members who have completed questionnaire(s) or been interviewed in research

Individual members of focus groups

The collection of tissue or blood samples during research

Participants who have answered questions during research



## Why collect recruitment data?

Two of the key objectives of the Clinical Research Network (CRN) are:

- increasing NHS engagement and
- improving clinical research infrastructure in England

### Recruitment data:

- are used to monitor and improve the work of the Clinical Research Network
- are used to demonstrate the success of the Clinical Research Network by showing the level of recruitment into NIHR CRN Portfolio studies and the spread of recruitment and level of engagement across the nation
- feed into the process of allocating funding which ensures that the CRN's resources are directed effectively for the greatest patient benefit
- are used to monitor studies to ensure they meet their recruitment targets on time

## What data are collected?

- Information about each participant who is recruited to a study, is collected
- Data collected include:

Data are anonymised so that individual participants cannot be identified

- the **recruitment site** which is where consent is given

- the **recruitment date** which is when consent is given
- whether the participant was **registered or randomised** (depending on the type of study being conducted)
- whether the participant was a **healthy control or suffering from the disease** being studied

- Site specific information allows recruitment to be mapped around the UK, assisting the allocation of funding to NIHR Comprehensive Local Research Networks

## How are recruitment data collected?

- Submitting monthly recruitment data is a requirement for all studies included in the NIHR CRN Portfolio

It is the responsibility of the study team to upload recruitment data on a monthly basis and this is a condition for continued support from the Clinical Research Network and inclusion in the NIHR CRN Portfolio

- Data are submitted using a secure online tool, by uploading an Excel spreadsheet in the prescribed format. (The template is available from the Clinical Research Network)

» **Recruitment** used to be referred to as **Accrual**. This term is being phased out, but may still appear on some NIHR sites.