

## Research and Development Newsletter

### Spring / Summer 2022

At this time of year, we celebrate International Clinical Trials Day. This remembers the first clinical trial by Dr Lind, where he tested out the theory that sailors would avoid scurvy by eating citrus fruits. Now, clinical trials form the basis of medical advancement throughout the world and are responsible for the treatments that we now see as standard care, improving outcomes for patients but also, in many cases in the UK, making best use of limited resources.

### Celebrating International Clinical Trials Day in 2022

As part of this celebration at UHD, we are highlighting how research is a team effort and, like so many NHS activities, the success is down to how we work together as research nurses, data managers, doctors, pathologists, pharmacists, administrators, accountants, coordinators microbiologists and, of course, the patients who volunteer to participate in these studies. Find out more about the **TrialBlazer Campaign**: <https://bepartofresearch.nihr.ac.uk/trialblazers>

### Local Cutting-Edge Research Changing Lives Internationally

The Critical Care team at the Royal Bournemouth Hospital (RBH) has contributed to a landmark study focusing on patient care after resuscitation. The TTM2 study observed how controlling body temperature is a potential method to prevent brain damage in patients who survive a cardiac arrest and aims to study how to best apply this intervention.

Nigel Chee, consultant in anaesthesia and critical care, was the local principal investigator for the trial alongside Sally Pitts, of the RBH research team, as lead local research nurse. Nigel explains: *"Cardiac arrest and resuscitation has always been a core element of critical care, and it comes at a poignant time when we recognise how it can affect anyone, even elite athletes. Our critical care unit was a part of the TTM2 trial, a landmark international trial, looking at the critical care management after cardiac arrest. It gives us confidence that we are treating people with the best evidence base available."*

Read more at <https://ttm2trial.org/>

### Dorset Clinical Research Centre and Dorset Clinical Trials Unit



April saw the launch of The **Dorset Clinical Research Centre (DCRC)**, which provides dedicated research space within UHD. The DCRC is part of the Dorset Clinical Trials Unit (DCTU), which sits alongside the UHD Research and Development department. The Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership awarded the UHD Research Department approximately £500K to create the DCTU and to improve the research infrastructure and facilities to allow the team to attract and support further ground-breaking research in Dorset.



Based in Royal Bournemouth Hospital, this will encourage more clinical trials to take place in Dorset, bringing cutting edge research within the grasp of the people of Dorset. Eligible patients from Poole and Christchurch, as well as Royal Bournemouth Hospital, will have the opportunity to join clinical trials based in the DCTU as well as within the three UHD hospitals.

### BU-UHD Partnership

UHD is also working on partnership with **Bournemouth University**. This means that UHD clinicians are working with academics, including those involved in orthopaedics, medical imaging, materials science, nursing for long term health care, neuroscience and dementia care.

### Facts and Figures

In the last year, despite Covid restrictions, **clinical trials have still been going ahead**. Over 5,000 participants were involved in clinical trials at UHD. The top five medical areas, by numbers of participants, where this research took place are:

1. Child Health
2. Infection
3. Reproductive Health and Childbirth
4. Cancer
5. Critical Care

Currently, there are 246 research studies open across our hospitals, which have recruited over 14,000 participants since opening here. Behind each study is a team drawing on specialist skills from across the Trust.

You can find out more about research performance on the UHD website ([www.uhd.nhs.uk](http://www.uhd.nhs.uk)) and then search for 'Research Performance'.

### Case Study: Working in the UHD Data Team

Within UHD, following the merger in 2021, the Research & Development team is expanding with job opportunities and advancement available at many levels.

Debbie Neal, the Data Team Leader, said, *'The team plays a key role in the organisation and execution of clinical research data management – we are a friendly, hardworking resilient and dynamic multi-disciplinary team supporting high quality research.'* The Data Team currently consists of a Data Team Leader, six Project Coordinators and ten Data Managers. With an expanding research portfolio at UHD, if you have a keen eye for detail and an interest in health, this may be a **new career opportunity** for you!

If you are interested in working for UHD, within research or other teams, please check out our current vacancies: [www.uhd.nhs.uk/careers](http://www.uhd.nhs.uk/careers)

Follow us on Twitter @UHDResearch to find out more.