



THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TRIAL COORDINATOR NETWORK

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The Trial Coordinator Network (TCN) was established in 2012 to encourage, facilitate and support effective research management within Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

Purpose:

- to disseminate National, Trust and Divisional matters which contribute to increased knowledge
- facilitate a general awareness of any significant changes with reference to national and local priorities
- facilitate a platform for open discussions aimed to improve understanding and quality of research governance and delivery
- create opportunities to learn, generate fresh perspectives, address issues, maintain and nurture close links to encourage collaboration.

60 Members:

- Clinical Trial Managers
- Clinical Trials Coordinators
- Clinical Trials Administrators
- Clinical Trials Assistants
- Clinical Research Practitioners

Members of Divisional Management, Research Nursing and Trust's Research Office also attend.

A sub-committee also provides a forum for discussing the strategic direction of the network.

TCN Achievements:

- Improvement in initiation and delivery of NIHR research
- Implementation of non-clinical competency framework
- Finalists in national awards
- Dedicated GCP facilitators and Equality and Diversity advocates
- Representatives at Senior Nurses' meetings, Safeguarding and Medical Device committee meetings
- A research buddy system for new starters
- Streamline the induction process for new employees
- Development of standardised templates for Trust projects
- Establishment of annual development days
- Dedicated trainers for the Trust Moving and Handling programme.

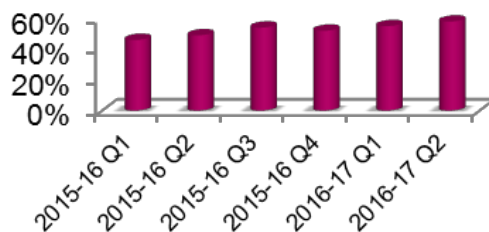


Members' feedback

Team Practices	Dimension definition	1	2	3	4	5
Team communication	The extent to which team members communicate effectively about the team task.				4.0	
Team focus on quality	The degree to which team members are focused on high quality client outcome.				4.0	
Team innovation	The extent to which the team implements new and improved ways of working.				3.8	
Team reflexivity	The degree to which the team collectively reflects upon their immediate and long term objectives, processes and strategies and adapts these as required.				3.7	
Lack of team conflict	The degree to which team members feel that there is little destructive conflict within the team.				4.0	
Inter-team working	The degree to which the team engages in effective, co-operative working with other relevant teams.				3.8	

Outcome of Aston Real Team Profile completed by members in January 2017. As a result, a development day was established focusing on communication.

NIHR Recruitment to Time and Target



Since the launch of the TCN there has been an improvement in NIHR recruitment to time and target.

"Being able to obtain support and advice from the right person... The TCN is a key component in enabling us to provide a high quality service."

HTA and Biobank Manager

"Information and training can be delivered to staff as a group"
Clinical Trials Pharmacist

The TCN encourages working as a collective to make a meaningful contribution to research and innovation.

