

# Inside RESEARCH

## Welcome to the November 2017 edition of *Inside Research*

This newsletter is for Research Champions and non-research staff working at Leicester's Hospitals. We hope that you find the content informative and share it among your colleagues. Why? Because the evidence is clear that research active Trusts have better patient outcomes, so all staff have a part to play in ensuring that high quality research is delivered and we can live up to our mission statement of providing Caring at its Best.

If you would like to provide feedback on the newsletter, please contact our Research Communications Manager, [Rachael Dowling](#) or call extension 4971.

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### Meet the Research and Innovation team

In each edition of the newsletter, we will introduce some of the key people in the Research and Innovation team and explain a little bit about their role.



*Professor Nigel Brunskill,  
Director of Research and  
Innovation*

“Hello, my name is Nigel and I am responsible for development and delivery of the Research and Innovation strategy at Leicester’s Hospitals. I want to ensure that as many of our patients and staff as possible have the opportunity to contribute to research studies.

“Working closely with individual researchers, the Trust Executive and senior management, and University of Leicester I aim to provide an environment that is supportive to researchers and responsive to their needs.”



*Rachael Dowling, Research  
Communications Manager*

“Hello, my name is Rachael and I manage the communications for all the research that is happening at Leicester’s Hospitals. This involves making sure as many people as possible know about all the exciting research we are doing - through TV, newspapers, radio, Twitter, websites, the intranet, newsletters, and by presenting at conferences and events.”

## What is that?!

The structure of research in Leicester can be confusing, so to help you understand it better we will be focusing on one area at a time. In this edition, we look at the **NIHR Leicester Biomedical Research Centre (BRC)**.

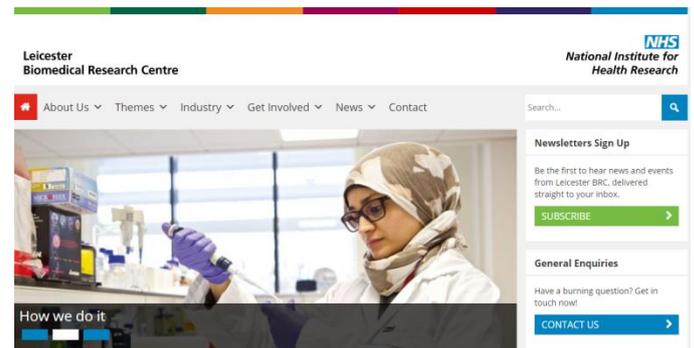
The BRC is a partnership between Leicester's Hospitals, the University of Leicester and Loughborough University, bringing together clinicians and academics. Its purpose is to take scientific breakthroughs and convert these into diagnostic tests, treatments and preventions for our patients as rapidly as possible.

Our BRC is funded by an £11.6 million grant from the [National Institute for Health Research](https://www.nihr.ac.uk/) (NIHR). The NIHR is the arm of the NHS that provides funding, facilities and training for clinical research. However, additional funding is brought in through matched grants from charities, funding bodies and industry partnerships.

We host one of only 20 BRCs in England and our facilities are based at the Glenfield Hospital, Leicester General Hospital and in the National Centre for Sport and Exercise Medicine (NCSEM) at Loughborough University.

Each BRC has key themes. Our themes are respiratory disease, cardiovascular disease, lifestyle (including type 2 diabetes and the consequences of inactivity) and precision medicine. Precision medicine is also known as personalised medicine and is concerned with how an individual presents their symptoms based not just on their condition but also their genes and environment. For example, we are exploring how and why this set of circumstances means that two individuals with the same condition can react differently to the same treatment programme.

You can find out more about our latest research by visiting our new website at [www.leicesterbrc.nihr.ac.uk](http://www.leicesterbrc.nihr.ac.uk)



## New! Dedicated children's research facility in Research Space

Thanks to support from Leicester Hospitals Charity and other donations, a new £0.5 million children's research facility has been created in the Research Space. Our facilities include:

- Patient waiting area with interactive floor projection
- Staffed reception and dedicated, trained research staff
- Fully equipped consultation rooms
- Large children's treatment room, complete with a 3D interactive distraction unit
- Soft-furnished consent room for recruitment and consent discussions, complete with sensory lighting equipment



[Research Space](#) also has adult clinical areas, a meeting/seminar room and laboratories with remotely monitored sample storage facilities. Find us in Level 0, Balmoral Building, LRI.

## Leicester's Research Live: Celebrating Our Success 27 February 2018

The Research and Innovation team will be holding a researcher early next year – and you're invited!

The day will include talks, panel Q&As and workshops on a range of subjects – from the digital transformation of health research to what success looks like when you have great public and patient involvement. Sally Batham may even ask some of you to help deliver a workshop on Research Champions. Watch this space!

Details of how to register will be distributed at the beginning of December. For more information about location and times, visit our [website](#).

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## In the news

### Man with lung condition speaks out ahead of national campaign



An ex-smoker forced to give-up work because of a chronic lung condition has spoken of his experience testing a "life-changing" new gadget, unveiled by scientists in Leicester.

[Read more...](#)

### Cervical cancer research receives important boost

A prospective research programme in Leicester to improve the lives of women who have undergone treatment for cervical cancer has received a cash injection.

John Boulger, Director of Crowndale Foods in Wigston organised a team of swimmers – including staff, family, friends and Leicester singer Jersey Budd – to

raise £10,000 in an effort to get the research up and running. [Read more...](#)



### New treatment offers hope for patients with heart failure

Leicester's first His bundle pacemaker, a pioneering new technique, has been implanted at Leicester's Hospitals.

The procedure was carried out as part of the HOPE-HF clinical trial and was performed by consultant cardiologists, Professor Andre Ng from the University of Leicester and Dr Ravi Pathmanathan from Leicester's Hospitals. [Read more...](#)

### Leicester holds first EMBER industry symposium

The first forum for academics, industry leaders, charities and doctors to explore a potentially revolutionary method of diagnosing heart and lung disease from a patient's breath sample was held in Leicester last week (1st November).

[Read more...](#)

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## Over to you...

We hope you have found this newsletter useful. We would like to feature you in our future editions, so please contact us and tell us why you became Research Champions!