

Inside RESEARCH

Welcome to the May 2018 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.

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.



Visu Mallayan, Business Intelligence Manager

“Hello, my name is Visu. I am responsible for monitoring the performance management of research studies. I work closely with the University of Leicester, CRN East Midlands, and NIHR to provide reports on our clinical trials. I enjoy presenting ‘wiz’ charts of Research and Innovation data. These charts can provide insight into our performance.”



Martin Maynes, Head of Research Finance

“Hello, my name is Martin. My job is to help manage the Trust’s £18m annual research budget. This includes looking at all new studies to make sure there is enough money to complete the research successfully, doing all of the various finance reports and returns, and advising the senior research team on financial matters.

The part of the job I most enjoy is working with research staff to help them manage the money for their research studies, or helping them with the financial aspects of their grant applications.”

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 **Clinical Trials Unit**.

The Clinical Trials Unit (CTU) has just moved to the Maurice Shock Building on the University of Leicester main campus.

The CTU receives some funding from the [National Institute for Health Research](#) (NIHR). The NIHR is the arm of the NHS that provides funding, facilities and training for clinical research. It is fully registered with the UK Clinical Research Collaboration.



Leicester CTU works with researchers and clinicians to design and deliver high quality clinical research. Its strength is in co-ordinating multi-centre randomised controlled trials and complex studies, as well as studies that need high levels of data management support.

To find out more about Leicester CTU visit www.le.ac.uk/colleges/medbiopsych/research/ctu

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To keep up to date with all the latest news from R&I, follow us on Twitter using the handle @LeicResearch.

In the news

Research helps frail older people in hospital

Leicester scientists and clinicians have devised a 'risk score' to better support frail older people in hospital.



[Read more...](#)

Antimicrobial therapy can prevent sepsis in pneumonia patients

A therapy targeting specific cells in the immune system could prevent sepsis and life-threatening diseases by inhibiting the growth of a bacterium that replicates within these cells.



[Read more...](#)

Leicester researchers identify common biological features of different types of asthma

Using state-of-the-art statistical methods, the team based at the NIHR Leicester BRC identified micro-clusters, which means there are different combinations of active genes in each of the reported subtypes of asthma.



[Read more...](#)

Have your say in heart surgery research!

If you are a health professional that is involved in the care of patients who have had heart surgery, or you have had heart surgery or cared for a friend or relative that has undergone such a procedure, we want to hear from you!

Leicester is leading the National Heart Surgery Priority Setting Partnership (PSP). We are seeking to find out what the 'unanswered questions' in heart surgery are, with the aim of creating an agreed set of research priorities for the UK.

To take part, please complete this short survey:

<https://leicester.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/heart-surgery-priority-setting-partnership-initial-survey>



International Clinical Trials Day 2018

We are very excited to announce that the Research Space will be open to staff and members of the public between **12 noon and 3pm on Wednesday 23 May** to celebrate International Clinical Trials (ICT) day.



One of the reasons we are doing this is to support the NIHR's [I Am](#)

[Research](#) campaign to encourage more people to get involved in clinical trials and to encourage more clinical staff to learn

about and share with colleagues and patients the benefits of taking part.

We have lots of activities going on: perform tasks in the 'ageing suit', get competitive with the 'dexterity test', watch a demonstration of the skin cameras, experience our Virtual Reality headset and other distractions we use with children, meet a research participant... and much, much more!

Find us in Level 0, Balmoral Building, LRI.

Why I'm a Research Champion

Hello, my name is Laura. I am a Staff Nurse working across all three UHL sites as a Bank Nurse. I became a Research Champion in December 2017, to better understand the research currently being done at UHL.



Being a Research Champion, I can learn about the latest research news, and disseminate this to colleagues who are working in the areas which may be affected by the research. To become a Research Champion, I studied

a couple of modules, to help me understand the essential elements of clinical research.

I attended the Leicester's Research Live event in February, a very interesting and informative day, which celebrated the great work that is going on here in Leicester.

