Annex 5

Clinical Research Networks

This annex describes the clinical research networks throughout the UK. It is divided into the following sections:

- The names of networks in specific disease areas throughout the UK
- Centralised processes applicable to all research networks
- Detailed information regarding networks in a specific disease area including its coordination, website address, geographical coverage, network subdivision and representation on UK wide clinical studies groups, or equivalent.

5.1 Network areas throughout the UK

Network area	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Non-topic specific network	National Institute for Health Research Comprehensive Clinical Research Network (NIHR CCRN)	Northern Ireland Clinical Research Network (NICRN)	NRS Infrastructure Support – based on backbone of Clinical Research Facilities	National Institute for Social Care and Health Research (NISCHR) Clinical Research Centre (NISCHR CRC)
Cancer	NIHR Cancer Research Network (NCRN)	Northern Ireland Cancer Trials Network (NICTN)	Scottish Cancer Research Network (SCRN)	Wales Cancer Research Network (WCRNpart of NISCHR CRC) Cancer Registered Research Group
Cardiovascular disease	No specific network – embedded in NIHR CCRN	NICRN (Cardiovascular disease)	No network	Cardiovascular Research Group Cymru (CVRG-C)
Children/ paediatrics	NIHR Medicines for Children Research Network (MCRN) Paediatrics non-medicines – embedded in NIHR CCRN	NICRN (Children)	Scottish Children's Research Network (ScotCRN)	Children & Young People Research Network

Network area	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
	Paediatric Cancer & Leukaemia embedded within NCRN			
Critical Care	No specific network – embedded in NIHR CCRN	NICRN (Critical Care)	No network	No network
Dementia & neuro-degenerative diseases	NIHR Dementia & Neurodegenerative Diseases Research Network (DeNDRoN)	NICRN (Dementia)	Scottish Dementia Clinical Research Network	Dementias and neurodegenerative diseases network Cymru (NEURODEM)
Diabetes	NIHR Diabetes Research Network (DRN)	NICRN (Diabetes)	Scottish Diabetes Research Network (SDRN)	Diabetes Research Network Wales (DRN Wales)
Emergency medicine	No specific network – embedded in NIHR CCRN	No network	No network	Thematic Research Network for Emergency & UnScheduled Treatment (TRUST)
Epilepsy	No specific network – embedded in NIHR CCRN	No network	No network	Wales Epilepsy Research Network (WERN)
Learning disabilities & autism	No specific network – embedded in NIHR CCRN and within MHRN	No network	No network	Learning Disabilities & Autism Network (LDAN)
Mental Health	NIHR Mental Health Research Network (MHRN)	No network	Scottish Mental Health Research Network (SMHRN)	Mental Health Research Network Cymru (MHRN-C)
Older people and ageing	No specific network – embedded in NIHR CCRN	No network	No network	Older People and Ageing Network (OPAN)

Network area	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Primary Care	NIHR Primary Care Research Network (PCRN)	NICRN (Primary Care)	Scottish Primary Care Research Network (SPCRN)	Wales School of Primary Care Research. NISCHR CRC has primary care component of the unified research network
Public Health	No specific network – embedded in NIHR CRN	No network	No network	Public Health Improvement Research Network (PHIRN)
Respiratory disease	No specific network – embedded in NIHR CCRN	NICRN (Respiratory)	No network	Lung Research Wales
Stroke	NIHR Stroke Research Network (SRN)	NICRN (Stroke)	Scottish Stroke Research Network (SSRN)	No separate network, but subgroup of Older People and Aging Network (OPAN)
Vision sciences	No specific network – embedded in NIHR CCRN	NICRN (Vision)	No network	No network

5.2 *Centralised Processes Applicable to All Research Networks*

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Source of funding	Department of Health England	Health and Social Care (HSC) R&D	Chief Scientist Office (Scottish Government)	National Institute for Social Care and Health Research (NISCHR), Welsh Government
Research infrastructure provision	Embedded within NIHR research networks s	Embedded within NICRN, coordinating centre (NICRN CC) and Clinical Nodes	Embedded within research networks	Research Professional Network embedded within NISCHR CRC. Trials Unit functions provided by 4 Trials Units. Additional specialist support (including methodological, health economics, health informatics, Welsh language and equality and diversity support) and 4 Infrastructure Support Groups.
Centralised health service permissions (non commercial studies)	NIHR Coordinated System for gaining NHS Permission (NIHR CSP) http://www.crncc.nihr.ac.uk/about_us/processes/csp	Northern Ireland Integrated Sign-Off Process based on HSC Trust Research Offices and Memorandum of Understanding between the five Trusts	NRS Permissions CC http://nhsgrampian.org/nhsgrampian/nrspcc.jsp?pContentID=7170&p_applic=CCC&p_service=Content.show&	NISCHR Permissions Co-ordinating Process (PCP) http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/page.cfm?orgid=952&pid=54359
Centralised health service permissions (commercial studies)	NIHR Coordinated System for gaining NHS Permission (NIHR CSP)	Lead HSC Trust process in development	NRS Permissions CC http://nhsgrampian.org/nhsgrampian/nrspcc.jsp?pConte	NISCHR Permissions Co-ordinating Process (PCP) http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/page.cfm?

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
	http://www.crncc.nihr.ac.uk/about_us/processes/cspl		ntID=7464&p_applic=CCC&p_service=Content.show&	orgid=952&pid=54359
Industry adoption process	NIHR CRN Industry Study Adoption Process http://www.crncc.nihr.ac.uk/Life+sciences+industry/services Each part of CRN currently has its own specialist adoption committee, following very similar processes	NICRN CC	No formal adoption process – trials will be approved subject to available resources	NIHR CRN Industry Trials Adoption Committee (currently under review)
Reporting structure to the Health Department	NIHR Clinical Research Network Coordinating Centre reports to the Research & Development Directorate, DH	NICRN CC reports to HSC R&D	Scottish networks report to the Chief Scientist Office (CSO) of the Scottish Government	Registered Research Groups (RRGs) and NISCHR CRC report to NISCHR (as do infrastructure support groups and Trials Units). Wales Cancer Research Network is part of NISCHR CRC.
Data set of clinical research conducted in the networks	NIHR Clinical Research Network Portfolio, part of the UKCRN Portfolio	NI Clinical Research Network Portfolio, part of the UKCRN Portfolio	Scottish Clinical Research Portfolio, part of the UKCRN Portfolio Scottish Collaboration for Information – disease-specific databases	NISCHR CRC Clinical Research Portfolio

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Collecting data on performance measures/ metrics agreed by the UKCRC Board	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

5.3 Cancer Research Networks throughout the UK

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Name of Network	NIHR Cancer Research Network (NCRN)	Northern Ireland Cancer Trials Network (NICTN)	Scottish Cancer Research Network (SCRN)	Wales Cancer Research Network (WCRN) Cancer Registered Research Group (with a focus on Palliative Care)
Country coordinating centre	NIHR Cancer Research Network Coordinating Centre (NCRN CC)	NI Cancer Trials Centre (NICTC)	[Chief Scientist Office (CSO)]	NISCHR Coordinating CentreNISCHR CRC
Additional sources of funding	No	Cancer Research UK	Cancer in Scotland and Information Services Division (ISD) Cancer Programme	Cancer Research UK and commercial research partners
Website address	www.ncrn.org.uk/	www.qub.ac.uk/research-centres/nictc/NorthernIrelandCancerTrialsNetwork/	www.cancerinscotland.scot.nhs.uk/pages/SCRN.htm	http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/home.cfm?orgid=464
Geographical coverage	All England in 32 Local Research Networks (LRN)	All NI	All Scotland in 4 regional research networks. SCRN forms one	All Wales in 3 regional networks

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
			LRN of NCRN	
Representation on 22 UK-wide NCRI Clinical Studies Groups (CSGs)	Membership drawn from all 4 UK nations	Membership drawn from all 4 UK nations	Membership drawn from all 4 UK nations	Membership drawn from all 4 UK nations

5.4 *Dementia and Neurodegenerative Diseases Networks throughout the UK*

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Name of network	NIHR Dementia & Neurodegenerative Diseases Research Network (DeNDRoN)	NICRN (Dementia)	Scottish Dementia Clinical Research Network	Dementias and neurodegenerative diseases network Cymru (NEURODEM Cymru)
Nation coordinating centre	DeNDRoN Coordinating Centre (DeNDRoN CC)	NICRN Coordinating Centre (NICRN CC)	NHS Tayside and University of Edinburgh	NEURODEM Cymru Registered Research Group lead has responsibility for research programme/portfolio co-ordination, working within collaborative structures and processes. NISCHR CRC has national responsibility for Research Professional Network (RPN) resource allocation, training, and involving people.
Website address	www.dendron.org.uk/	www.nicrn.hscni.net/	http://www.sdcrn.org.uk/	http://neurodemcymru.org/
Geographical coverage	Eleven Local Research Networks (LRNs): South Coast, South West, South East, North West, East Anglia, North East, Thames Valley, North Thames, Trent, West Midlands & Yorkshire.	All NI	All Scotland	All Wales
Representatio	All	No formal links to	N/A	NEURODEM

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
n on 6 UK-wide CSGs & 2 Special Interest Groups		date		members on four DeNDRoN CSGs
Country-specific CSGs	No	Clinical Management Group	N/A	None to date

5.5 *Diabetes Research Networks throughout the UK*

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Name of Network	NIHR Diabetes Research Network (DRN)	NICRN (Diabetes)	Scottish Diabetes Research Network (SDRN)	Diabetes Research Network Wales (DRN Wales)
Country coordinating centre	DRN Coordination Centre (DRN CC)	NICRN CC	University of Dundee	Registered Research Group lead has responsibility for research programme/portfolio co-ordination, working within collaborative structures and processes. NISCHR CRC has national responsibility for RPN resource allocation, training, and involving people
Website address	www.ukdrn.org/	www.nicrn.hscni.net/	www.sdrn.org.uk/	http://medic.cardiff.ac.uk/archive_subsites/__/_/medic/subsites/drnwales/index.html
Geographical coverage	Eight Local Research Networks (LRNs) in: North East London, South West Peninsula, North East and Cumbria, South East Midlands, Eastern England, North West London, North West, Thames Valley.	All NI	All Scotland	All Wales

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Representation on the UK-wide Clinical Studies Advisory Group (CSAG) and 10 CSAG Writing Groups	All	Two NI representative on CSAG	One Scottish representative on CSAG	No
Country-specific Clinical Studies Group	No	Clinical Management Group	One SDRN CSG. Includes one representative from England	Six Research Development Groups (RDGs) and one further planned

5.6 Children/Paediatrics Research Networks throughout the UK

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Name of Network	NIHR Medicines for Children Research Network (MCRN)	NICRN (Children)	Scottish Children's Research Network (ScotCRN)	Children & Young People Research Network
Country coordinating centre	MCRN Coordinating Centre (MCRN CC)	NICRN CC	University of Aberdeen	Registered Research Group lead has responsibility for research programme/portfolio co-ordination, working within collaborative structures and processes. NISCHR CRC has national responsibility for RPN resource allocation, training, and involving people
Website address	www.mcrn.org.uk/	www.nicrn.hscni.net/	www.scotmcn.org/index.php	http://www.link-wales.org.uk/
Geographical coverage	Nine Local Research Networks (LRNs) in: Cheshire, Merseyside & North Wales; East, Greater Manchester, Lancashire & South Cumbria; London and South East, , East Anglia; South West; North East, South Central and West Midlands.	All NI	All Scotland	All Wales

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Representation on 13 UK-wide CSGs	All	Five NI representatives on four MCRN CSGs	Twelve Scottish representatives on eleven MCRN CSGs	Eight Welsh representation on six MCRN CSGs
Country specific CSGs	No	Clinical Management Group	Scottish paediatric clinical specialty groups	Ten Research Development Groups created

5.7 *Mental Health Research Networks throughout the UK*

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Name of Network	NIHR Mental Health Research Network (MHRN)	No network	Scottish Mental Health Research Network (SMHRN)	Mental Health Research Network Cymru (MHRN-C)
Country coordinating centre	MHRN Coordinating Centre (MHRN CC)	N/A	University of Edinburgh	Registered Research Group lead has responsibility for research programme/portfolio co-ordination. NISCHR CRC has national responsibility for RPN resource allocation, training, and involving people
Website address	http://www.mhrn.info/	N/A	www.smhrn.org.uk/	http://www.mhrnc.org/
Geographical coverage	Eight Hubs in: East Anglia, East Midlands plus South Yorkshire, Heart of England, North East, North London, North West, South London & SE and West	N/A	All Scotland	All Wales
	All	NI representative on one CRG	Nine CRGs have representatives from Scotland	Representation on one CRG, with representation being sought on others
Country specific CRGs	No	N/A	No	Nine Welsh RDGs

5.8 Stroke Research Networks throughout the UK

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Name of Network	NIHR Stroke Research Network (SRN)	NICRN (Stroke)	Scottish Stroke Research Network (SSRN)	No separate thematic network. However, stroke is a key theme of the Older People & Ageing Network (OPAN)
Country coordinating centre	SRN Coordinating Centre (SRN CC)	NICRN CC	University of Glasgow	N/A
Website address	www.uksrn.ac.uk/	www.nicrn.hscni.net/	http://scotland.uksrn.ac.uk/	http://www.opanwales.org.uk/
Geographical coverage	Eight Local Research Networks (LRNs) in: North West, North East, Trent, Yorkshire, South West, Thames, South East, West Midlands	All NI	All Scotland	N/A
Representation on 8 UK wide CSGs	All	Not currently. NI representation under review	Yes	N/A
Country specific CSGs	No	Clinical Management Group	No	OPAN Stroke Research Development Group

5.9 *Primary Care Research Networks throughout the UK*

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Name of Network	NIHR Primary Care Research Network (PCRN)	NICRN (Primary Care)	Scottish Primary Care Research Network (SPCRN)	Wales School of Primary Care Research Also: NISCHR CRC Primary Care component of the unified RPN
Country coordinating centre	NIHR CRN CC	NICRN CC	University of Dundee	NISCHR CRC Primary Care Team for RPN
Website address	http://www.pcrn.org.uk	www.nicrn.hscni.net/	www.sspc.ac.uk/spcrn	http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/wspcr/index.html
Geographical coverage	All England in 8 Local Research Networks (LRNs)	All NI	All Scotland	All Wales
Academic leadership	Professor Paul Wallace, Director Of Primary Care Research Network, Deputy Director NIHR CRN	Clinical Management Group	SPCRN Director sits on PCRN group and SPCRN has group to define strategic direction	Head of Department, General Practice, Cardiff University

5.10 Non Topic-Specific Research Networks throughout the UK

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Name of Network	NIHR Comprehensive Clinical Research Network	Northern Ireland Clinical Research Network (NICRN)	No comprehensive network but activity supported by Scotland's CRF backbone and NRS Infrastructure funding	NISCHR Clinical Research Centre
Coordinating centre	NIHR Clinical Research Network Coordinating Centre	NICRN CC	N/A	NISCHR Clinical Research Centre
Website address	http://www.crncc.nihr.ac.uk/about_us/ccrn	www.nicrn.hscni.net/	NRS website under development	http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/page.cfm?orgid=952&pid=52012
Geographical coverage	All England in 25 Comprehensive Local Research Networks (CLRNs)	All NI	All Scotland	All Wales in 3 regional research networks
Topic/disease expertise and leadership	Specialty Groups in: Age and Ageing; Anaesthesia peri-operative medicine and pain ; Cardiovascular; Critical Care; Dermatology; Ear, Nose & Throat (ENT); Gastroenterology ; Health Services Research; Hepatology;	Topics restricted to the nine Interest Groups: Cardiovascular; Children's; Critical Care; Dementia, Diabetes; Primary Care; Respiratory; Stroke; Vision	CRF Directors provide leadership in their geographical area. Scotland is represented on all NIHR Specialty Groups.	NISCHR CRC Director and Associate Directors

England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
Immunology & Inflammation; Infectious Diseases & Microbiology; Injuries & Emergencies; Metabolic & Endocrine; Musculoskeletal; Nervous System Disorders;			
Non-Malignant Haematology; Ophthalmology; Oral and Dental; Paediatrics (non meds);			
Renal; Reproductive Health & Childbirth; Respiratory; Surgery;			

5.11 Research Networks in other topics

Topic area	Country	Name of network	Coordinating Centre	Website address	Academic leadership
Cardiovascular disease	Northern Ireland	NICRN (Cardiovascular Disease)	NICRN Coordinating Centre (NICRN CC)	www.nicrn.hscni.net/	Clinical Management Group
Respiratory disease	Northern Ireland	NICRN (Respiratory)	NICRN CC	www.nicrn.hscni.net/	Clinical Management Group
Critical Care	Northern Ireland	NICRN (Critical Care)	NICRN CC	www.nicrn.hscni.net/	Clinical Management Group
Vision	Northern Ireland	NICRN (Vision)	NICRN CC	www.nicrn.hscni.net/	Clinical Management Group; associated Recognised Research Group
Older people and aging	Wales	Older People and Aging Network (OPAN) Cymru	Registered Research Group lead has responsibility for research programme/portfolio co-ordination, working within collaborative structures and processes. NISCHR CRC has national responsibility for RPN resource allocation, training, and involving people	http://www.opanwales.org.uk/	Twenty-five Research Development Groups created under direction of RRG Leads

Topic area	Country	Name of network	Coordinating Centre	Website address	Academic leadership
Epilepsy	Wales	Wales Epilepsy Research Network (WERN)	Registered Research Group lead has responsibility for research programme/portfolio co-ordination, working within collaborative structures and processes. NISCHR CRC has national responsibility for RPN resource allocation, training, and involving people	http://www.wern.swan.ac.uk/	Four Research Development Groups created under direction of RRG Lead
Emergency medicine	Wales	Thematic Research Network for Emergency & UnScheduled Treatment (TRUST)	Registered Research Group lead has responsibility for research programme/portfolio co-ordination, working within collaborative structures and processes. NISCHR CRC has national responsibility for RPN resource allocation, training, and involving people	http://www.trustresearch.org.uk/	Twelve Research Development Groups created under the direction of RRG Lead

Topic area	Country	Name of network	Coordinating Centre	Website address	Academic leadership
Learning disabilities & autism	Wales	Learning Disabilities & Autism Network (LDAN)	Registered Research Group lead has responsibility for research programme/portfolio co-ordination, working within collaborative structures and processes. NISCHR CRC has national responsibility for RPN resource allocation, training, and involving people	http://www.ldancymru.org.uk/	Seven Research Activity Groups (RAGs) created under direction of RRG Lead
Public Health	Wales	Public Health Improvement Research Network (PHIRN)	Registered Research Group lead has responsibility for research programme/portfolio co-ordination, working within collaborative structures and processes. NISCHR CRC has national responsibility for RPN resource allocation, training, and involving people	http://www.phirn.org.uk/	One hundred and twelve RDGs created under the direction of RRG Lead
Renal medicine	Wales Wales	All Wales Kidney Research Network (AWKRN)	Registered Research Group lead has responsibility for research programme/portfolio	http://medicine.cf.ac.uk/en/departments/medicine/nephrology/w	Six RDGs under the direction of RRG Lead

Topic area	Country	Name of network	Coordinating Centre	Website address	Academic leadership
			co-ordination, working within collaborative structures and processes. NISCHR CRC has national responsibility for RPN resource allocation, training, and involving people	elsh-renal-network/	
Respiratory medicine	Wales	Lung Research Wales	Registered Research Group lead has responsibility for research programme/portfolio co-ordination, working within collaborative structures and processes. NISCHR CRC has national responsibility for RPN resource allocation, training, and involving people	Not available	Four research groups under the direction of RRG Lead
Infection and translational research	Wales	Microbiology and Infection Translational Research Group (MITReG)	Registered Research Group lead has responsibility for research programme/portfolio co-ordination, working within collaborative structures and processes.	http://www.mitreg.co.uk/	Five RDGs under the direction of RRG Leads

Topic area	Country	Name of network	Coordinating Centre	Website address	Academic leadership
			NISCHR CRC has national responsibility for RPN resource allocation, training, and involving people		
Patient safety	Wales	Patient safety and Healthcare Qualtiy Research Group (PSHQRQ)	Registered Research Group lead has responsibility for research programme/portfolio co-ordination, working within collaborative structures and processes. NISCHR CRC has national responsibility for RPN resource allocation, training, and involving people	Not available	Two RDGs in formative stages, under the direction of RRG Lead
Arthritis research	Wales	Welsh Arthritis Research Network	Registered Research Group lead has responsibility for research programme/portfolio co-ordination, working within collaborative structures and processes. NISCHR CRC has national responsibility for RPN resource allocation, training,	http://medicine.cf.ac.uk/en/departments/medicine/rheumatology/warn/	Three under the direction of RRG Lead

Topic area	Country	Name of network	Coordinating Centre	Website address	Academic leadership
			and involving people		