



**National Institute for
Health Research**

Coventry and Warwickshire

Clinical Research Facility

**Patient and Public Involvement and
Engagement Strategy**

2017 – 2022



Our Vision

What do we want to do?

The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Coventry and Warwickshire Clinical Research Facility (CRF) want to work together with patients and the public to provide world-class facilities for world-class research. We want to actively involve patients and members of the public in all stages of research and in advancing research in the CRF, whilst ensuring the research we conduct is relevant to patients and the public.

These activities will be undertaken in partnership with the University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust (UHCW) Patient Insight and Involvement Team and Research & Development (R&D) Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement (PPIE) Team.

Background

What is the NIHR Coventry and Warwickshire CRF?

The NIHR Coventry and Warwickshire CRF is based at UHCW. The CRF Team support experimental medicine studies conducted in purpose-built, dedicated research areas of the Trust and in other areas of the Trust.

One of the objectives of UHCW is 'To be a Research Based Healthcare Organisation' and one of the Trusts core values is 'Learn' with education, research and learning being central to improvement.

A key requirement for the NIHR is that the CRF develops a full PPIE strategy which is made publically available. This strategy is intended to support the Trust's existing Patient and Public Involvement Policy by putting patients and the public at the centre of research.



The Clinical Research Treatment Centre at UHCW

What is Patient and Public Involvement (PPI)?

INVOLVE is a national advisory group established by the NIHR that promotes and supports active public involvement in NHS, public health and social care research. INVOLVE describes public involvement in research as **research being carried out 'with' or 'by' members of the public rather than 'to', 'about' or 'for' them.**

More information about INVOLVE can be found at <http://www.invo.org.uk/>

PPI can take place in a variety of ways and with a number of intended outcomes, some examples of PPI are when patients or members of the public:

- Review research materials and comment on them; either as a group or individually
- Offer advice as a member of a study steering committee
- Give input to funders to prioritise research
- Propose their own research projects

What is Patient and Public Engagement (PPE)?

INVOLVE define engagement as **where information and knowledge about research is provided and disseminated.**

PPE can also take place in a variety of ways, some examples of PPE are:

- Open days where patients and members of the public are invited to find out about research
- Promoting research through the media (e.g. television, newspapers) and social media
- Disseminating the findings of a study to research participants or members of the public



UHCW Research Open Day

Whilst engagement activities are separate from involvement they are linked. Engagement and interest in research can lead to further involvement from patients and members of the public.

Why is Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement (PPIE) Important?

An essential part of being a research based healthcare organisation is ensuring that patients and the public are involved in the various stages of the research process. The 'Going the Extra Mile' report was published in 2015, following a review of public involvement by the NIHR, and details the strategy for increasing public involvement in research over the next 10 years. The vision of the strategy is that all people using health and social care, and increasing numbers of the public, are to be aware of and choosing to contribute to research by 2025.

The Going the Extra Mile report can be found at
<https://www.nihr.ac.uk/news/going-the-extra-mile-a-strategic-review-of-public-involvement-in-the-national-institute-for-health-research/2739>

The knowledge and experience a researcher has will be different to the experience of someone who is living with, or caring for someone with, a health condition. PPI gives researchers the opportunity to work in partnership with patients and members of the public throughout the research process. Patients and members of the public can use their personal experiences and perspectives to guide the design and delivery of research.

PPI initiatives can result in several benefits for researchers, patients and the public, including:

- Ensuring research conducted is relevant to patients and the public
- Improving the quality of research and the credibility of the results
- Enabling patients to determine what and how research is prioritised, designed, commissioned, undertaken, disseminated and utilised

Our Strategy

How will we achieve our vision?

There is a nominated PPIE Lead for the NIHR Coventry and Warwickshire CRF; however, all staff within the CRF have a responsibility to work in a way that facilitates the involvement of patients and members of the public in the research process.

To work towards our vision in the short term (2017 – 2019), the NIHR Coventry and Warwickshire CRF will:

1. **Promote patient and public involvement in research** and the opportunities for patients and the public to 'get involved' by engaging with them regularly, both within the Trust and outside in the local community.
2. **Establish new PPI initiatives** with patients and the public at all levels to ensure that:
 - PPI is available at each stage of the research process
 - Research conducted in the CRF is relevant to patients, the public and to the NHS
 - All patient facing research materials used within the CRF are reviewed and approved by patients and / or members of the public
3. **Develop a network** of patients and members of the public who are interested in being involved with PPI initiatives.
4. **Establish new PPE initiatives** to improve patient and public awareness of research, research activities in the CRF and research outcomes.
5. **Support existing PPIE activities within the Trust**, including:
 - The Patient in Pregnancy Research (PIPR) group
 - Human Metabolism Research Unit Participation Questionnaire
 - Trust-wide research open day's
 - Celebrating International Clinical Trials Day
 - An online presence via the Trust website and social media
6. **Listen to patients and the public** and use this information to identify what areas in the CRF can be improved and strive to improve them.
7. **Recruit and support a group of Patient Research Ambassadors** who are enthusiastic about research and work with them to promote research undertaken in the CRF to patients, the public and healthcare professionals.

These activities will be undertaken in conjunction with the Trust's Patient and Public Involvement Policy and the R&D Strategy.

To achieve and to continue to develop our vision in the long term (2019 – 2022), the NIHR Coventry and Warwickshire CRF will:

1. Enable and empower patients and members of the public participating in PPI by offering relevant and stimulating training and support.
2. Identify what PPI CRF researchers would feel beneficial to their research and encourage researchers to ensure PPI is planned and utilised in all of their research.
3. Ensure that PPI activity adds value to research undertaken by the CRF.
4. Ensure that the diverse communities within Coventry and Warwickshire are represented within the PPI initiatives established by the CRF.
5. Work with regional and national patient and public involvement groups to share ideas and best practice and to utilise the skills of groups already established.
6. Develop a communication strategy to improve patient and public awareness of research and research outcomes.

Monitoring Progress

How will we know if we're achieving our vision?

To ensure that the NIHR Coventry and Warwickshire CRF is on track to achieving our vision we will need to monitor the progress of our PPIE initiatives, including capturing examples of impact of PPIE.

An implementation plan will be developed to monitor progression of the strategy to ensure that we are working towards our vision. The PPIE implementation plan will be reviewed regularly at the monthly CRF Operational Group Meeting and the progress reported to the PPI Research Steering Group on a quarterly basis.

The strategy and implementation plan will be reviewed annually and any necessary amendments to the strategy made; the revised strategy will then be made public.