

East Midlands & South Yorkshire



Research Ready Self-accreditation

What is it?

Research Ready is a two-part online self-accreditation process, developed by the Royal College of General Practitioners with the NIHR Clinical Research Network and the Primary Care Research Networks.

It is a basic entry guideline to primary care research in England, which signifies a practice's up-to-date knowledge of the standards needed to undertake research and the physical facilities required to successfully comply with research demands, based on the latest research governance frameworks.

We are now dedicating resources, including backfill, to help you gain accreditation by working closely with your practice manager or research lead to answer any questions you have and to reduce the time the accreditation process can take if you are unfamiliar with it.

What can we do?

We propose to supply you with the information that you need to register your practice.

Once you are registered, you receive login information to complete the accreditation process. At this point, we can meet with you to review, and optionally complete, the self-accreditation questionnaire.

We propose to begin this process by focusing on those practices engaging

in research through the research practice initiative schemes we have running across the network.

Further information about Research Ready can be accessed on www.rcgp.org.uk (follow the Research and Primary Care Research Team Assessment links), or you can call your local PCRN EMSY contact (details on the right).

Co-ordinating Centre

Louise Young

Network Manager

Andrew Wilson

Clinical Lead

Judith Martin

Office Manager

Najma Vayani

Assistant Management
Accountant

Sally Tipper

Information &
Communications Officer

c/o NHS Leicester City, 6th Floor,
St John's House, 30 East Street,
Leicester LE1 6NB

E: judith.martin@emsys.nhs.uk

T: 0116 295 4080

www.pcrn-emsys.org.uk

Research Co-ordinators

Leics, Northants and Rutland

Janice Strand

E: janice.strand@emsys.nhs.uk

T: 0116 295 1589

M: 07825 316269

Trent

Nathalie Bailey-Flitter

E: nathalie.bailey-flitter@nottsptct.nhs.uk

T: 01623 673317

M: 07825 316291

South Yorkshire

Michelle Horspool

E: michelle.horspool@shsc.nhs.uk

T: 0114 271 8804

M: 07814 867370

working
together

Leicestershire
Local Pharmaceutical Committee

Leicestershire

Local Pharmaceutical Committee

One of PCRN EMSY's strategic aims is to work with all primary healthcare providers, and we've recently taken a very large stride towards achieving that aim.

Working with members of the Executive Board from the Leicestershire Local Pharmaceutical Committee (LPC), a group of community pharmacists is supporting the MASCOT study, which tests whether adding salmeterol or montelukast will help children aged six to 14 to control their asthma.

All MASCOT sites across the UK have asked their community pharmacists to hand out study leaflets in children's medication bags, but Leicester is leading the way by asking pharmacists to briefly discuss the study with the child and their parent/carer during a Medication Use Review, and hand out study information sheets. Families are then free to contact the research team.

Support from the LPC is vital, not only because they were able to facilitate contact with pharmacists but also because committee members offered invaluable advice. Sam Hunt, the study's Research Nurse, hosted a training evening in October, during which the study was discussed in detail, as well as how pharmacies can help deliver the study, and how PCRN EMSY can in turn support them.

This is an exciting innovation and we hope the pharmacists will want to support future studies, too.

Nottinghamshire Research Network Link



There is a need to establish links between active research networks in Nottinghamshire. A similar group has been created in Lincolnshire and has proved vital in raising awareness of research in the region. It is acknowledged that members have experienced similar complications and that sharing these issues within the proposed Nottinghamshire Research Network Link would result in speedier, more productive resolution.

Membership can be extended to anyone working in the clinical research area in Nottinghamshire; however, it is anticipated that activities are most likely to be of interest to research network staff and those involved in research governance. Meetings may be opened from time to time to include other healthcare professionals who require information or support.

To find out more about this proposed group, please see www.pcrn-emsy.org.uk/NRNL or email nathalie.bailey-flitter@nottspct.nhs.uk. To read about examples of successful involvement of Nottingham practices in research, please see www.pcrn-emsy.org.uk/bmj-papers.

Lincolnshire Primary Care Research Seminar

January 19th 2010, 1.30pm

Cross O'Cliff, Bracebridge Heath, Lincoln

This free half-day event is aimed at GPs and other healthcare professionals who are interested in involving their patients in research. Speakers will include a GP, a practice nurse and representatives from the Primary Care Research Network, Diabetes Research Network and NHS Lincolnshire. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. For more details and to secure your place, please contact Janice Wiseman on 01522 513355, ext 5485, or janice.wiseman@lpct.nhs.uk.

currently recruiting

This is a selection of the studies running in certain PCTs in the EMSY area. To find out about studies taking place in your region, please contact your local co-ordinator (see front page for details).

The Trent Lung Fibrosis Study

The aim of this study is to develop understanding of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis and determine whether the presence of thrombophilia is a risk factor for developing the condition. Cases will be identified at eight hospitals, and 250 controls will be recruited by six to 10 GP practices in the Trent area.

For more information, please contact Craig Beecroft on 01623 673324 or craig.beecroft2@nottspct.nhs.uk.

Getting out of the House Study

The Getting out of the House Study, known as TOMAS, is a three-year trial of rehabilitation aimed at improving outdoor mobility after a stroke. It aims to investigate the clinical effectiveness of treating mobility limitations after a stroke with targeted rehabilitation therapy intervention versus standard clinical practice. TOMAS needs to recruit 30 practices in Nottingham City, Nottinghamshire County and Lincolnshire.

For more information about this study, please contact David Kelly on 01623 673314 or david.kelly@notts.nhs.uk.

Getting out of the House Study

PANDAs

This study, which is running in Sheffield, Rotherham and Doncaster PCTs, aims to develop a patient decision aid and to evaluate its effectiveness in improving decision quality and health outcomes in Type 2 diabetic patients who are considering starting insulin treatments.

Each practice will identify up to 15 eligible participants and invite them to take part. Study set-up costs and payment per patient recruited are applicable.

REACT

A randomised trial investigating usual care versus computerised CBT for people with depression. The study also aims to establish the clinical and cost-effectiveness of the addition of computerised CBT to usual GP care over a two-year follow-up period. Practices would be expected to identify suitable patients over a period of 20 months, with 10 randomised per practice. £100 is payable for each patient randomised into the study. The study is running in Sheffield and Barnsley PCTs.

For more information about these studies, please contact Michelle Horspool on 0114 271 8804 or michelle.horspool@shsc.nhs.uk.

Pathway 2

Pathway 2 is one of a series of non-commercial studies looking at hypertension and its management. It will investigate how best to treat hypertension in patients where a standard combination of three drugs has not been sufficient to achieve recommended targets. It lasts about a year, with 11 visits to Leicester Royal Infirmary. GPs will be asked to send a letter to suitable patients and there will be facility for reimbursement of costs associated with this.

Lung-Search

Can screening help detect lung cancer at an early and treatable stage?

We are looking to recruit patients in Leicester City and Leicestershire County with mild to moderate COPD with a 20 pack year history, and can give you £250 for taking part. Picking up cancer early may improve patients' prognosis.

For information about these studies, contact Janice Strand on 0116 295 1589 or janice.strand@emsy.nhs.uk.

Claiming payment

Following our move to a new service provider, all invoices must be sent to NHS Leicester City, 5PC Payables 6955, Phoenix House, Topcliffe Lane, Wakefield, WF3 1WE. All invoices should have a contact name or purchase order number to ensure quick processing and prompt payment. For more information, contact Najma Vayani on 0116 295 1119 or najma.vayani@leicestercity.nhs.uk.

Further funding

A new funding stream, called Flexibility and Sustainability Funding, was introduced in 2008. It is allocated to research-active NHS organisations to attract, develop and retain high-quality research, clinical and support staff. In primary care, it is being allocated through the Primary Care Research Networks. In this financial year, our budget has increased from £76,000 to £93,000, and we plan to use it to support the following activities.

As described on page 1, a priority for the network is to encourage practices to become trained and accredited to undertake studies that may be more complex than those they have experience of. The main route is through the RCGP's research ready (RR) scheme. Although accreditation is free, it involves significant preparatory work. We are offering backfill for members of the practice to prepare; typically, this may involve a clinical and administrative member of staff each spending one day on this.

A number of courses are available from NIHR CRN; for example, one-day training on Good Clinical Practice in Research. A full list can be found at www.ukcrn.org.uk. We will offer cover (up to £500/day at usual rates) for GPs and staff to attend and/or take time out to become RR accredited. Travel costs will not be covered and you will be asked to provide evidence of attendance.

However, as the name suggests, this funding can be used flexibly to meet its ends. Please contact us if you feel you could use it to support delivery of portfolio research, either in general practice or elsewhere in primary care. Contact Judy Martin (judith.martin@emsy.nhs.uk) for an application form, and me or Louise Young (louise.young@emsy.nhs.uk) for further information. Funding must be allocated by the end of the financial year, so please apply as soon as possible.

Andrew Wilson, Clinical Lead
aw7@le.ac.uk



new recruits

Margaret Clarke

margaret.clarke@rotherham.nhs.uk

Clinical Studies Development Officer for Rotherham PCT

Katy Melton

kathryn.melton@derbyshirecountypct.nhs.uk

Clinical Studies Officer for Derby City PCT and Derbyshire County PCT

Najma Vayani

najma.vayani@leicestercity.nhs.uk

Assistant Management Accountant

Karen Beardsley

karen.beardsley@nottspct.nhs.uk

Research Networks Secretary

For more information about PCRN EMSY, our research portfolio and our staff, please visit our website, www.pcrn-emsy.org.uk.

We wish you all a very merry Christmas and a successful 2010.