



National Institute for Health Research

COMMISSIONED RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

Introduction

The vision of the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) is to improve the health and wealth of the nation through research.

This document sets out how the NIHR's commissioned research programmes contribute to this vision.

Overview

The NIHR's commissioned research programmes offer a focused source of funding for researchers within the NHS in England, with the aim of improving patient health and care by providing evidence to inform clinical professionals, NHS managers and where appropriate, policy makers.

The NIHR Commissioned Research Programmes are a major component of the NIHR's national programmes, which also include response mode programmes. Information about these programmes can be found in the briefing document 3.2 *Response mode research programmes*.

Aim

- To ensure that clinical researchers from all parts of England, and from all areas of healthcare, are able to access appropriate funding to undertake clinical and applied health and social care research.
- To unify and streamline administrative procedures associated with regulation, governance, reporting, and approvals.
- To streamline research management processes, including the interface with ethics committee review, thus reducing the burden on researchers and the NHS while ensuring that studies are managed to consistently high standards.

Structure

The NIHR's commissioned research programmes operate an open and transparent, peer reviewed funding system to identify and support high quality research in the NHS.

The NIHR's commissioned research programmes generate evidence to inform action across clinical practice, social care, health services and public health; guide interventions; and identify the most efficient ways of providing NHS services.

The NIHR has established the following commissioned research programmes:

- **Health Technology Assessment (HTA)** – research information about the effectiveness, costs and broader impact of healthcare treatments and tests for those who plan, provide or receive care in the NHS.
- **Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation** – research information about the effectiveness, costs and broader impact of healthcare treatments and tests for those who plan, provide or receive care in the NHS.
- **Public Health Research** – research that evaluates public health interventions, providing new knowledge on the benefits, costs, acceptability and wider impact of non-NHS interventions intended to improve the health of the public and reduce inequalities in health.
- **Health Service and Delivery Research** – The HS&DR programme aims to produce rigorous and relevant evidence on the quality, access and organisation of health services, including costs and outcomes in order to improve health and health services. This research will include patient safety, patient experience and effectiveness of care.

Further Information

Further information on the above programmes is available on the [NIHR website](#).

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