

BEST RESEARCH FOR BEST HEALTH

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 1.1

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH RESEARCH (NIHR)

*Best Research for Best Health*¹ set out a 5-year Research and Development Strategy for the NHS in England. This Implementation Plan provides more details on one of the key components of that strategy: the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR). This document will be regularly updated. The latest version should be used.

Version: 11

Issue date: January 2010

Planned revision & re-issue date: July 2010

Aim

- To provide the framework through which the Department of Health can position, maintain and manage the health research systems including, research staff and research infrastructure of the NHS in England as a national research facility.
- To enable the NHS to become an organisation that supports outstanding individuals (both leaders and collaborators), working in world-class facilities (both NHS and University), conducting leading-edge research focused on the needs of patients and the public.
- To develop the reputation of the NHS as a world-class environment for collaborative research in the public interest and preferred host for multi-centre clinical research in partnership with and for industry, as outlined in the Government's 10-year Science and Innovation Investment Framework², in order to benefit patients, society, the NHS and all our stakeholders.

¹ *Best Research for Best Health: A New National Health Research Strategy*. The NHS contribution to health research in England. Department of Health. 2006.

www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_4127127

² Science & Innovation Investment Framework 2004-2014, Department for Education and Skills, Department of Trade and Industry and HM Treasury. London: HMSO. July 2004. www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/spending_sr04_science.htm

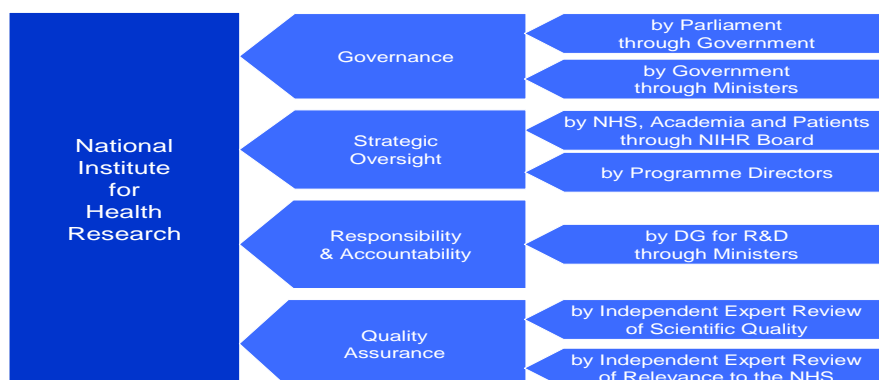
Purpose

- The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) provides the NHS in England with the support and infrastructure it needs to conduct first-class research funded by Government and our partners alongside high-quality patient care, education and training.

Structure, Governance and Relationships

- In its current form, the National Institute for Health Research is not a new body - rather it is a new identity, a new set of programmes and a new way of working for the different elements of NHS and Department of Health funded and supported research.
- The NIHR is directed by the DH Director General of R&D and has an Advisory Board that provides strategic advice on the development, implementation and programme review (Terms of Reference at Annex A).
- The governance arrangements are indicated here:

Governance and Accountability



- The strategic direction for NIHR is set in the context of the new Office for Strategic Coordination of Health Research (OSCHR), established following the Cooksey Review.
- The NIHR and the Medical Research Council work closely with OSCHR, to ensure their research strategies are coordinated.
- DH and NIHR are represented on the OSCHR Board.
- The NIHR will work with key partners including other funders, academia and industry, bilaterally as well as collectively, through the UKCRC.

Funding

The work of NIHR was given a real boost in the 2007 Comprehensive Spending Review announcement. The Government confirmed its commitment with the largest ever increase in its funding for health research (to £1.7 billion), and ring-fenced funding for the National Institute for Health Research through the Department of Health (of £1 billion by 2010-11).

Architecture

- The Institute is conducting its activities in four main blocks:
 - NIHR Faculty
 - NIHR Programmes
 - NIHR Infrastructure
 - NIHR Systems.

- An overview of these is provided in *Best Research for Best Health*¹.
- More details are provided in the other Implementation Plans available from the NIHR website ³.

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³ http://www.nihr.ac.uk/pages/about_implementation_plans.aspx

Annex A

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH RESEARCH ADVISORY BOARD TERMS OF REFERENCE

Purpose

To advise and support the Director General of Research and Development on:

- The strategic development and evaluation of the Government's Research Strategy: *Best Research for Best Health*.
- The strategic development of NIHR, including co-ordination with MRC and OSCHR.

Way of working

Board members will play an ambassadorial role and the Board will work to ensure optimal partnerships with the public and service users, the academic sector, social care and local government and industry.

The Board will, in the context of the ambition and values set out in *Best Research for Best Health*, advise on:

- Strategic matters relating to the management of NIHR including priorities for allocation of funds between infrastructure, capacity development and programmes or between health groupings.
- The strategic development of incentives for research in the NHS.
- The development of a research and innovation culture in the NHS.
- Any other matters relating to Research and Development remitted to the Board by the Director General of R&D.

Membership

Chairman:	Candy Morris, Chief Executive, South East Coast SHA
DH Director General of R&D	Professor Dame Sally C. Davies
Patient Representatives	Angela Barnard Peter Beresford
	Simon Denegri Assoc'n Medical Research Charities
NHS: NHS Trust Chief Executive PCT Chief Executive DGH Chief Executive Mental Health Trust Chief Executive Nurse NHS R&D Director NHS Medical Director GP	Malcolm Lowe-Lauri, Univ Hospitals of Leicester Kathy Doran, Wirral PCT David Loughton, Royal Wolverhampton Hospitals Mike Cooke, Nottinghamshire Healthcare Hilary Scholefield, Sheffield Univ Hospital FT Stephen Smye, Leeds Teaching Hospitals Jonathan Sheffield, United Bristol HCT Michael Moore, Salisbury
NHS Confederation	Nigel Edwards
Association of University Hospitals (Chair)	Ron Kerr, Guy's and St Thomas's FT
Universities UK	Sir Andy Haines, LSHTM
Medical Schools Council (Chair)	Sir John Tooke, UCL
Academy of Medical Sciences	Patrick Maxwell, Imperial College
Care Quality Commission	Danny Keenan
Social Care	Liam Hughes, IDEA
Chief Nursing Officer for England	Professor Dame Christine Beasley
DH Medical Director	Sir Bruce Keogh
DH Director of R&D	Russell Hamilton