



**National Institute for
Health Research**

BEST RESEARCH FOR BEST HEALTH

**IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 3.1
(established)**

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH RESEARCH FACULTY

*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 NIHR Faculty.

This plan covered the first year of NIHR Faculty implementation and has been superseded by Implementation Plans 3.2a to 3.5.

Gateway Reference: 6050

Version: 7 (final)

Issue date: August 2007

Aim

- Attract, develop and retain the best research professionals to conduct and support people-based research.
- Focus the talents of faculty members on health research that meets the current and future needs of patients and the public.
- Value both leaders and collaborators in health research.
- Provide ongoing support to the academic training paths of all healthcare professionals and other key disciplines involved in health and social care research, including mentoring.
- To support the appointment and retention of key staff undertaking people based research.

Faculty Membership

- The Faculty encompasses research, clinical and support staff from all relevant professional backgrounds

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

- There will be four categories of Faculty Member:
 - NIHR Investigators
 - NIHR Senior Investigators
 - NIHR Associates
 - NIHR Trainees.
- Faculty members are those individuals:
 - who conduct or support patient- or people-based research; and
 - whose salary is funded, in part or in whole, from NIHR funding and/or DH Policy Research Programme (PRP) funding; and
 - who are employed by an NHS organisation or by a University.
- The NIHR/PRP funding which supports a faculty member's salary may be paid directly to their employer, or may be paid to a partner organisation, which then makes a funding transfer to the faculty member's employer.
- Honorary Faculty membership will be offered to individuals employed by partner organisations including Industry who are not Faculty members; and who are conducting or supporting people- or patient-based research.
- Implementation Plan 3.3 sets out how membership is to be implemented.

Establishment

- The Department of Health will continue to work closely with key partners to ensure the successful establishment and operation of the Faculty.
- The first year of implementation was supported by the NIHR Faculty Implementation Group, which met five times. The last meeting of this group was on 15 January 2007. The membership of the Faculty Implementation Group is shown at Annex A.
- A stakeholder consultation workshop was held on 20 June 2006, papers from which are available on the NIHR website at http://www.nihr.ac.uk/faculty/pages/faculty_implementation_group.aspx.
- Further advice on implementation will come from the NIHR Advisory Board and from sub-groups of the board delegated for specific advice.
- Establishment of the Faculty commenced in April 2007.
- The first competition to appoint a cohort of NIHR Senior Investigators has now closed and appointments will be from 1 April 2008.

Department of Health Lead:

Head of NHS Research and Development Workforce

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Annex A**NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH RESEARCH FACULTY
IMPLEMENTATION GROUP****Membership**

Ron Kerr, United Bristol Healthcare NHS Trust (Chair)
Stuart Bell, South London and Maudsley NHS Trust
Dr Mike Burrows, Salford Primary Care Trust
Professor Steve Smith Principal, Academy of Medical Sciences (AMS)
Professor Kate Gerrish, Royal College of Nursing (RCN) Research Society
Dr Russell Hamilton, Department of Health
Professor Kevin O'Brien, School of Dentistry, University of Manchester
Professor Peter Selby, UK Clinical Research Network (UKCRC)
Dr John Williams, Wellcome Trust
Professor Adrian Newland, Academy of Medical Royal Colleges, President, Royal College of Pathologists
Neil Chapman, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
Professor Michael Rees, British Medical Association
Professor Ian Lauder, Academy of Medical Sciences (AMS)
Professor Gareth Williams, Dean, Bristol University (CHMS)
Paul Turner, Council of Deans
Professor Sally Davies, DH
Professor Sue Hill, DH
Professor Nigel Mathers, Sheffield University
Professor Jackie Campbell, Chair Research Forum for AHPs
Dr Paul Hubbard, HEFCE
Mike Farrar, West Yorkshire HA
Professor Shirley Pearce, Loughborough University
Dr Gareth Goodier, Addenbrooke's Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Dr Mark Walport, Wellcome Trust
Professor Dame Jill Macleod Clarke, Council of Deans
Cally Palmer, Royal Marsden NHS Trust
Sian Thomas, Deputy Director, NHS Employers
Rachel Green, Department for Education and Skills
Professor Rod Griffiths CBE, President, Faculty of Public Health

Secretariat

Sarah Fox, Department of Health
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