Introduction to Good Clinical Practice (GCP) in General Dental Practice e-learning:
A practical guide to ethical and scientific quality standards in clinical research

Aims and duration

This course is designed to provide an introduction to Good Clinical Practice (GCP), the EU Directives, UK Regulations and Research Governance Framework requirements covering clinical trials and other NIHR Portfolio studies conducted within the NHS. This course provides an introduction to GCP in a general dental practice setting. There are also options to explore the consent process requirements in a paediatric setting and with adults lacking capacity, though these are not required.

The e-learning course has a practical focus, with the key aim that participants know what to do to practise excellent GCP when they return to their workplace to ensure the rights, safety and wellbeing of patients and the quality of the research data.

You should expect the course to take you half a day, approximately four hours. The course can be completed in several sittings, and your progress will be saved.

Expected learning outcomes

Following the course, participants will have a demonstrable understanding of the background and practical implications of GCP. This understanding is intended to be a foundation for action, bridging the gap between theory and practice in their places of work. Following the course participants should be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of the interwoven laws, frameworks and guidelines which govern the set up and conduct of clinical research
- Demonstrate an understanding of the roles and responsibilities of different individuals and organisations in clinical research
- Understand the regulatory applications required before clinical research can be started in the UK
- Identify a range of essential documents and the purpose of maintaining a trial master file
- Understand the process of receiving informed consent and the roles and responsibilities of those involved in this process
- Demonstrate the ability to correctly and accurately complete case report forms and other relevant documentation and understand the process for data query resolution
- Demonstrate an awareness of the correct safety reporting requirements that ensure patient safety
- Know where to go for further advice and support and how to keep updated.