

## March 2017

Welcome to this edition of the R&I monthly e-bulletin. If you have an item to add to the next bulletin, please [email us](#) by Wed 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

As we approach spring, our thoughts turn to the new financial year for which we have been making plans with the Local Clinical Research Network. The LCRN is developing its annual plan to submit to the central NIHR team, and we have had the opportunity to input via partner organisation plans. Next year we will continue to focus on improving our recruitment to time and target. The CRN high level objective is to increase the proportion of studies in the NIHR CRN portfolio delivering recruitment to time and target, with a goal of 80% for both commercial and non-commercial studies. This is a tough target to meet, particularly in a specialist trust. We've made great strides this year, and would like to continue this work by supporting you in identifying appropriate new trials to open and working on robust feasibility to set challenging, yet achievable targets. I'd also like to thank those of you that have been working with Jess on setting specialty recruitment targets for the year ahead. We will be finalising that work over the next couple of weeks, so could I ask you to support her in her requests for information via unit leads. As always, I'd like to thank you for your work in making research available to our patients and in raising the awareness of research across the trust.



*This month's message from*  
**Diana Benton**  
**Head of Research & Innovation**

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## 1. News

### Standard Operating Procedures

Please note the new and updated Research & Innovation procedures:

- **Safety Reporting SOP** (v9.0 06/01/17) – Major revision to existing SOP
- **Managing Breaches SOP** (v1.0 12/01/17) – New SOP

To access up to date SOPs and template documents (including support department proformas) refer to the [R&I website](#).

### Research Design Service South West e-bulletin

Latest e-bulletin – [click here](#)

Previous bulletins and more information – [click here](#)

## NIHR News and Research

News and Research – March 2017 edition – [click here](#)



## CLAHRC West news

Latest news – [click here](#)



## NIHR Bristol Nutrition BRU

Latest news – [click here](#)



## Bristol Health Partners

BHP news – [click here](#)



## West of England AHSN

News and views – [click here](#)



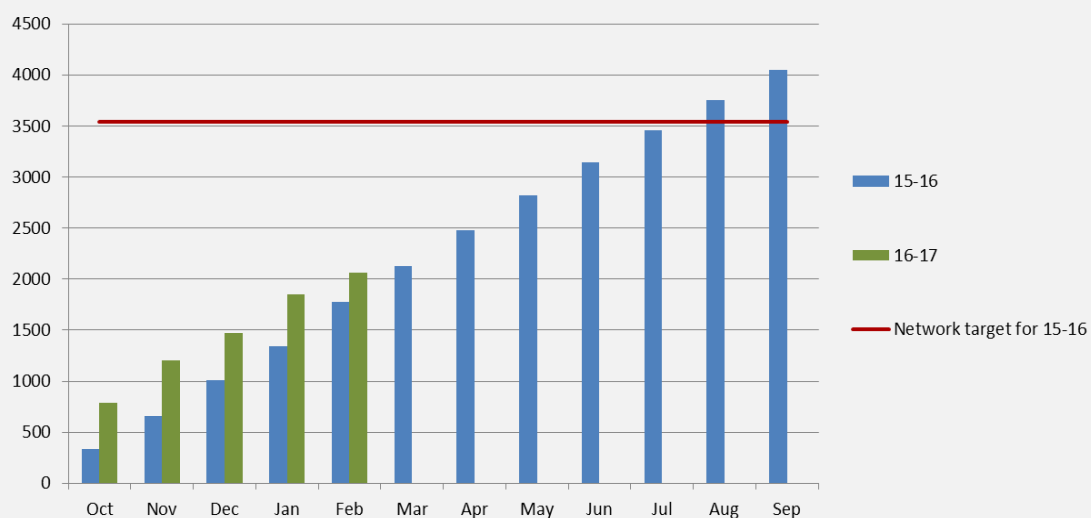
## People & Research West of England (PHWE)

Latest newsflash – [click here](#)



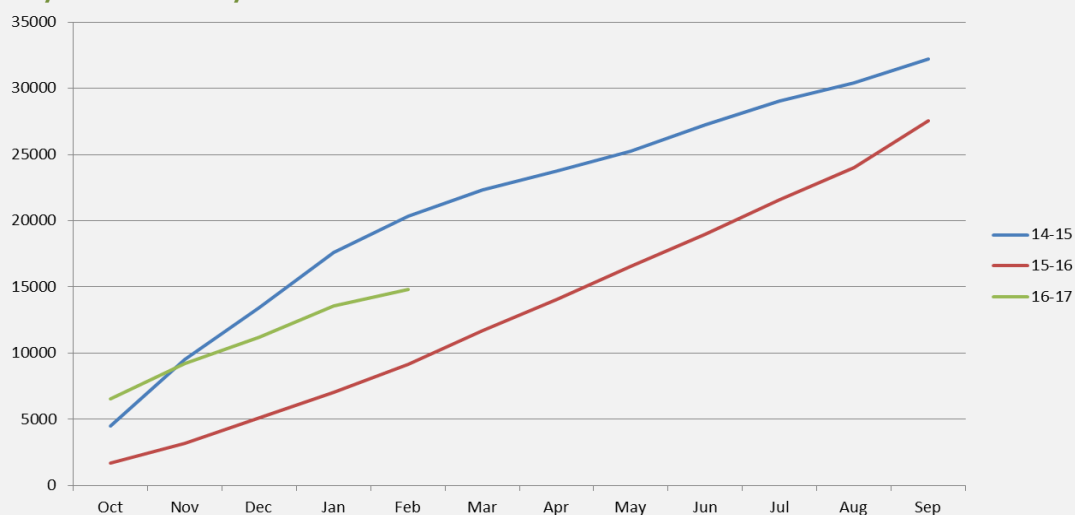
## 2. UHBristol Performance

### Cumulative Recruitment in Commercial and Non Commercial NIHR studies



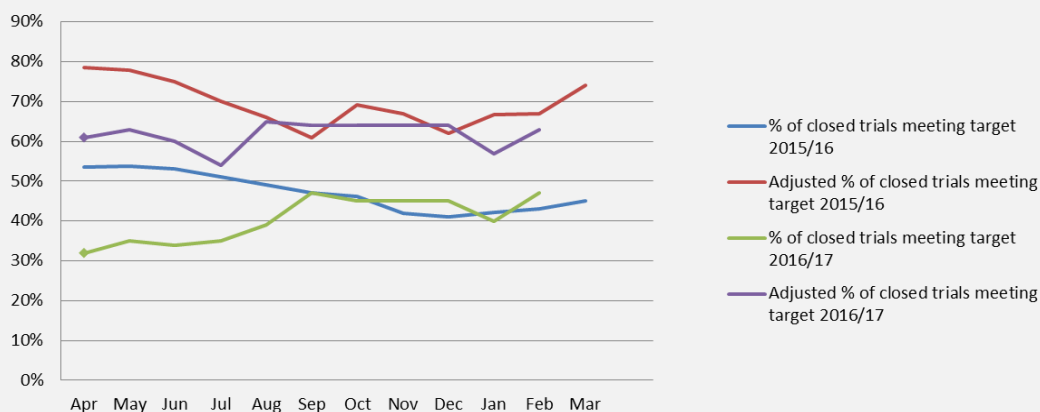
The above is taken from the CPMS which is issued with a 4 week lag of data.

## Cumulative Weighted Recruitment to date 16/17 compared to 15/16 and 14/15



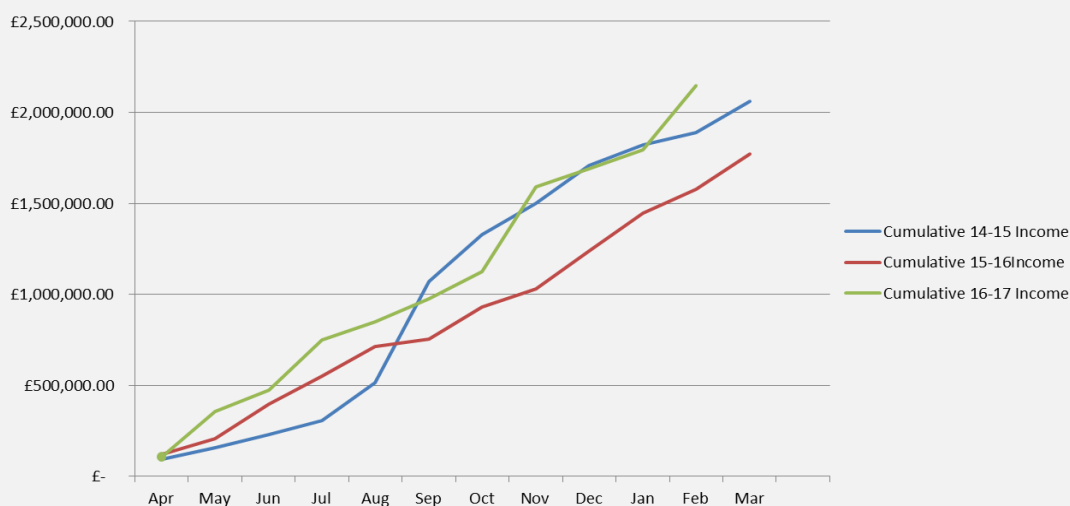
This data is extracted from the NIHR portfolio report which issued with a 4 week lag of data.

## Percentage of commercial clinical trials closed to recruitment during the reporting period meeting time to target



This data is taken from EDGE on a rolling 12 months basis. Latest figures therefore show number of clinical trials closed to recruitment in reporting period between 01/03/2016 and 28/02/2017 meeting time to target (i.e. the preceding 12 months). The adjusted line excludes trials where recruitment to target is cannot be influenced locally (e.g. very rare patient group where we may not see any patients at all or follow-on/extension trials) and where the defined recruitment window was closed earlier than the date provided in the contract.

## Monthly Commercial Research Income



Actual income data derived from monthly reports provided by finance on value of invoices raised.

## 3. Celebrating Successes

### Surgical Research team

The Surgical Research Team has randomised the 1<sup>st</sup> patient to the OTO phase III study. This is a commercial clinical trial that studies the efficacy and safety of OTO-104 given as a single intratympanic injection in patients with unilateral Meniere's disease.

Congratulations to the Research Nurses Louise Flintoff and Rebecca Houlihan and the study Co-ordinators Sofia Athanatou and Katy Tucker for that achievement.



## 4. Grants & Upcoming Awards

### The Spring 2017 joint call for University Hospitals Bristol Research Capability Funding and Above and Beyond grants is now open

#### UHBristol Research Capability Funding (RCF)

Research Capability Funding (RCF) is awarded annually to UHBristol by the NIHR based on our NIHR grant income. RCF is used to help NHS organisations attract, develop and retain high quality research active staff. The call is now open for UHBristol RCF funded grants, of up to £20,000, that can be used to:

- a) Fund Research Sessions/PAs (for medical and non-medical staff) to allow time to prepare NIHR research grant applications; and/or
- b) Fund the generation of preliminary or underpinning data to support an NIHR application; a "pump-priming" grant.

#### Above and Beyond

Above and Beyond generously allocate funds to research in UHBristol, and the call is now open for Above and Beyond research grants (up to £20,000). These grants aim to promote high quality biomedical research in UHBristol. Applications are welcomed from any medical or non-medical UHBristol employee, or university academic (Universities of Bristol and the West of England) holding an honorary contract with UHBristol.

PLEASE NOTE: FOR THE 2017 GRANT CALLS, THE EMPHASIS WILL BE ON PUMP-PRIMING NIHR GRANTS

Application forms and full guidance notes for both RCF and Above and Beyond grants are available on our [website](#).

Deadline: **09:00, Thursday, 13 April 2017**

Please read the guidance and then contact Caroline Nash or Elinor Griffiths: 0117 342 0228/0585 Email: [funding@uhbristol.nhs.uk](mailto:funding@uhbristol.nhs.uk)



### Are you planning to submit a grant application to NIHR?

The Research Design Service is holding one-day events aimed at helping you to improve your chances of success. These will be held on:

**Thursday 27 April 2017** - University of Bristol  
**Wednesday 28 June 2017** - Bournemouth University

Research Design Service  
South West



The **morning seminar session** is open to anyone to come and hear Simon Goodwin, RfPB Programme Manager for the South West, and RDS advisers give presentations on what makes a good grant proposal.

The **afternoon support session** of one-to-one appointments is for those who would like to discuss their own proposal with Simon and/or an RDS adviser.

Registration is **FREE** and lunch will be provided. **Places are limited** and will be allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis. [Find out more and register](#)

## NIHR – Opportunities to influence health research in the UK

Our boards and panels select the most important research questions to commission, and make funding recommendations on applications.

We are looking for additional expertise for the boards/panels of the following programmes:

- EME
- HS&DR
- HTA
- PHR

Applications close on **21 April 2017** at **1pm**. Further details are available [on our website](#).

We also have a number of Panel Chair vacancies for the HS&DR and HTA Programmes. See our [vacancies page](#) for more information.



## Residential grant writing retreat

Monday **4 September** to Friday **8 September 2017**  
Dillington House – near Ilminster, Somerset

The Research Design Services South West (RDS SW) and South Central (RDS SC) are delighted to offer a unique opportunity to researchers in health and social care across their regions. The Residential Grant Writing Retreat provides an opportunity for research teams to make rapid progress over a relatively short period of time toward high quality research proposals suitable for submission to national peer-reviewed funding streams. Participating teams will enjoy protected time dedicated to the development of their research proposals away from the distractions of their workplace, expert help and support from RDS adviser staff and the experience of working as part of a professional research team.

The Retreat is open to health, public health and social care practitioners and academic partners working within the areas covered by RDS SW and RDS SC.

Researchers who have attended this retreat have gone on to have notable success. Further information can be found here: <http://www.rds-sw.nihr.ac.uk/rgwr.htm>



## Funding Finder

The West of England Academic Health Science Network Innovation Funding Bulletin  
For funding opportunities [click here](#)



## Research for Health Challenge Elizabeth Blackwell Institute launches challenge call

Do you work with patients? Have you got a healthcare challenge that you think could be solved through research?



Elizabeth Blackwell Institute

This is a challenge led scheme where we consult with healthcare workers, managers & commissioners to collect information about problems they encounter in their practice that could potentially be solved via innovative research at University of Bristol.

Deadline for challenges is **9am on 24 May**.

More information – [click here](#)

If you would like to register your interest in the scheme please email [Lisa.King@Bristol.ac.uk](mailto:Lisa.King@Bristol.ac.uk) or call Lisa on 07875 077715 to find out more.

## 5. Events

### International Clinical Trials Day 2017 (ICT Day)

15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> May 2017

ICT Day takes place on or around **20<sup>th</sup> May** every year. This year **UHBristol** will celebrate International Clinical Trials Day, with a week of research unit led events taking place all over the Trust. There will be displays held at various sites in the hospitals, providing patients, visitors and staff with information about the Research taking place in those specialty areas.

Look out for more details in next month's April e-bulletin and on [our website](#).

The **NIHR campaign** objectives this year are:

- Raise awareness and understanding among healthcare professionals and patients of the importance of research in everyday care
- Increase traffic to a range of opportunities to get involved in research (e.g. UKCTG website)
- Encourage patients and the public to ask about taking part in clinical research
- Encourage healthcare professionals to promote research opportunities
- Highlight how easy it is to find out about and take part in healthcare research, from speaking to your doctor or nurse, signing up to Join Dementia Research, reviewing a topic that will help shape clinical studies, and finding out about trials in your area of interest on the UK Clinical Trials Gateway (UKCTG)

  
University Hospitals Bristol  
NHS Foundation Trust

  
National Institute for  
Health Research

### Integrating Research into Clinical Care Symposium

5 April 2017, 10am – 4pm, Hinchingsbrooke House, Huntingdon

Integrating research into clinical care is a key step in delivering effective rewarding research in the NHS. Distinguished guest speakers and delegates at this national conference will explore novel approaches to meeting this longstanding NHS objective. The event is open to all cadres of healthcare professionals involved in NHS research, including nurses, doctors, allied health professions, managers and patient research ambassadors.

Key subject areas:

- Novel approaches to engaging doctors and specialist nurses in clinical research
- Patient engagement in promoting, designing and delivering research
- Guidance on distribution of research funds to ensure research delivery
- UK Clinical Trials Gateway
- Engaging Allied health professionals and bridging the primary/secondary care interface
- Demonstrating research leadership in clinical settings

Key speakers include:

Professor Margaret Johnson: Academic Vice President of Royal College of Physicians  
Professor Simon Denegri: Chair of INVOLVE

  
National Institute for  
Health Research

Susan Hamer: Director of Nursing, NIHR  
Claire Whitehouse: Lead Research Nurse at James Paget Hospital  
Anthea Mould: NIHR Head of AHP  
Fiona Durban: COO CRN Eastern

Including a variety of workshops and Poster Competition!

**Places for this event are limited so early booking is advisable.**

For information and booking contact [heather.pearman@nhs.net](mailto:heather.pearman@nhs.net) tel: 01480 847511

## 6. Training & Employment Opportunities

### Research and Development Forum



The Forum offers a range of training courses all designed and delivered by experienced Forum members and trainers.

We are excited about future courses we have in development, including master classes for more detailed subject-specific training. If you have particular training needs you would like the Forum training group to consider then please do get in touch.

Courses we currently run are:

- Archiving Master Class – **Wed 29<sup>th</sup> March**, Exeter
- A Practical Application of Monitoring in a Health Care Setting
- Research the Basics
- Regulatory Inspection Ready

More information – [click here](#)

### CLAHRC West training courses available



- Critical appraisal for healthcare professionals
- Realist evaluation: an introduction
- Improving your searching skills
- Understanding evidence for local authorities
- How to win at Twitter

More information – [click here](#)

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