

January 2018

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 Wednesday 14th February 2018.

Happy New Year from everyone in R&I! For the first e-bulletin of 2018, we are looking back at what we've achieved over the last 12 months as a research community at UH Bristol.

In 2017...

- 210 members of our staff supported our investigators to deliver research in the Trust
- we approved 172 new research studies
- 6,811 patients agreed to take part in research
- 460 studies were open to recruitment



Just some of the staff involved in research at UH Bristol in 2017.

As always, a huge thank you goes out to all our investigators, research teams and staff supporting research across the Trust, for their continued hard work and commitment in making UH Bristol an organisation where research can thrive and can be considered part of the Trust's core business. As we are all aware the NHS is under increasing pressure and our performance, including research, is under closer scrutiny, so your efforts are always appreciated. We're all looking forward to building on the past 12 months and a successful 2018.



This month's message from

Diana Benton
Head of Research & Innovation

Contents List

1. [News](#)
2. [UHBristol performance](#)
3. [Celebrating Successes](#)
4. [Grants & Upcoming Awards](#)
5. [Events, Training and Employment](#)

1. News

Research Matron – news

At the end of March we will be seeing some changes to our senior team in the R&I department.

We will be very sorry to see Paula Tacchi leaving us, and at the same time we welcome Valentino Oriolo into the team.

Paula will be taking up a secondment until the end of March 2019. Her new post is Nurse Consultant working in the Clinical Research Network West of England core team. Our loss is the gain of the network as a whole, and I am pleased to say that we will continue to have close contact with Paula in her new role.

Coming into the team to take up the post of Research Matron until March 2019, Valentino will join us from the cardiology department. He will bring his substantial clinical knowledge, along with experience of carrying out his own research, and a wealth of relationships built up across the trust over a number of years.

I am sure you will join me in welcoming Valentino and wishing Paula success in her new role.

Research Design Service South West e-bulletin

Bulletins and more information – [click here](#)

NIHR – CRN West of England

Latest news – [click here](#)

CLAHRC West news

Latest news – [click here](#)

Bristol Health Partners

BHP latest news – [click here](#)

West of England AHSN

News and views – [click here](#)

People in Health West of England (PHWE)

Latest newsflash – [click here](#)

Elizabeth Blackwell Institute

Latest news – [click here](#)

Centre for Health and Clinical Research

Latest news [click here](#) and for the CHCR home page [click here](#)



Research Design Service
South West

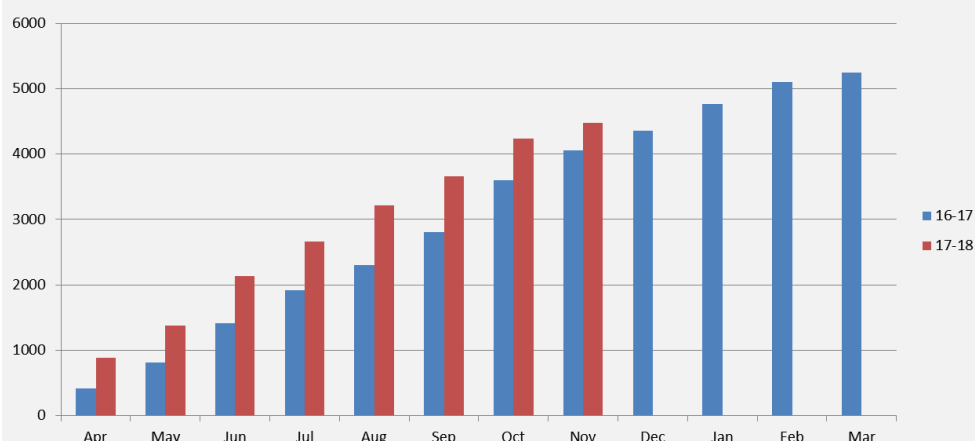


CLAHRC West
Collaboration for Leadership in Applied Health
Research and Care West



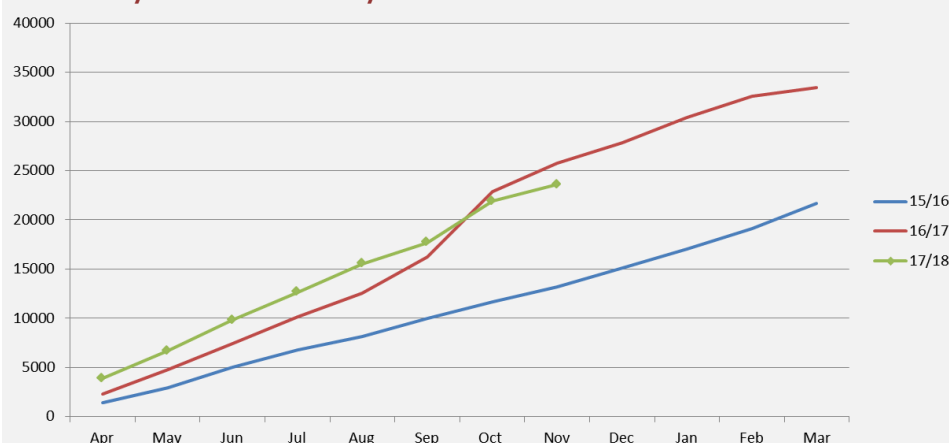
2. UHBristol Performance

Cumulative Recruitment in Commercial and Non-Commercial NIHR studies



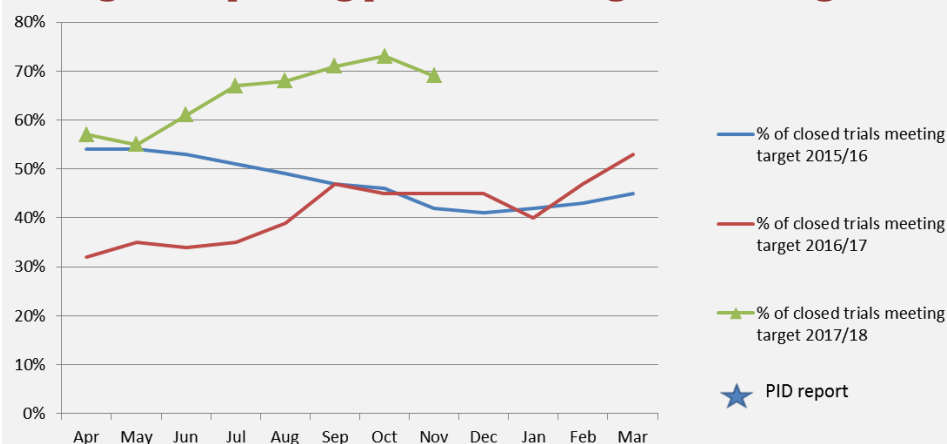
The above is taken from the NIHR portfolio report which is issued with a 4 week lag of data.

Cumulative Weighted Recruitment to date 2017/18 compared to 2016/17 and 2015/16



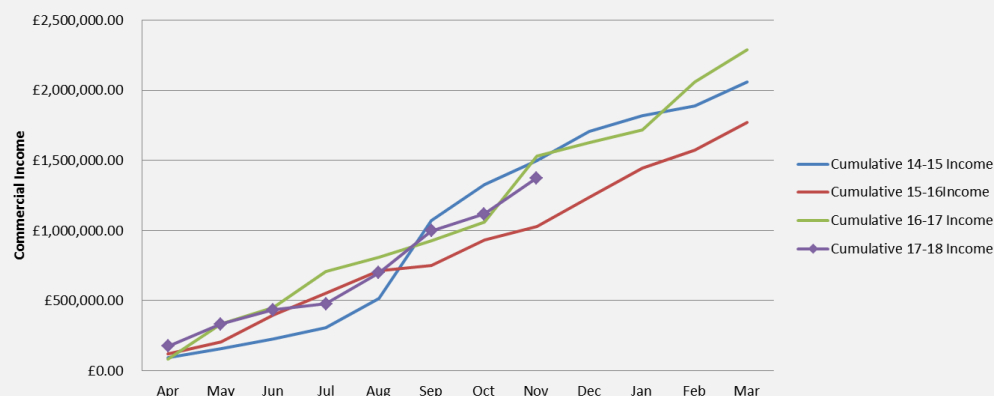
This data is extracted from the NIHR portfolio report which issued with a 4 week lag of data.

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 01/12/2016 and 30/11/2017 meeting time to target (i.e. the preceding 12 months). The adjusted line excludes trials where recruitment to target 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 – Cumulative Commercial Income



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

3. Celebrating successes

Bristol Bladder trial

BRISTOL BLADDER: A Phase II Trial of combination Cabazitaxel and Cisplatin Chemotherapy in the Neoadjuvant Treatment of Transitional Cell Carcinoma of the Urinary Bladder.

The study has reached its primary endpoint (with the final patient successfully undergoing surgery last week) and 2 of the 3 of its secondary endpoints:

Primary:

- To evaluate the overall response rate with this chemotherapy regimen in the neoadjuvant treatment of transitional cell carcinoma of the bladder and thus determine whether this approach warrants further research (randomised Phase II/ III trial). ✓
- Secondary:
- To evaluate safety and tolerability; ✓
- To assess progression-free and overall survival; - patients in follow up
- To assess quality of life during treatment. ✓

The Bristol Bladder study will be presented on a poster at the ASCO GU conference in San Francisco in February.

Congratulations to the Bristol Bladder trial team and everyone involved in this successful study. (Chief Investigator: Dr Amit Bahl)

Community screening for osteoporosis

Congratulations go to the research team at UH Bristol led by Dr Shane Clarke that took part in a study, published in The Lancet just before Christmas, which found that community screening for osteoporosis could prevent more than a quarter of hip fractures in older women. The research, which involved more than 12,000 older women, and was carried out in collaboration between the universities of Birmingham, East Anglia, Bristol, Leicester, York and Sheffield, found that screening through GP practices allowed patients to be targeted for treatment. In women agreeing to participate, this led to a 28 per cent reduction in hip fractures over five years.

Bristol Eye Hospital recruits 1500th patient to the Predict-CAT cohort study for cataract surgery

Thanks to the inspirational effort on the part of the study team, the Predict-CAT study is now fully recruited to 1500 participants.

Predict-CAT forms part of a 5-year NIHR Programme Grant for Applied Research to improve preoperative decision making in cataract surgery.

Patients complete a questionnaire recently developed by the research team to test how much they are affected by their cataract. Details are also captured about their vision and health to identify features which are associated with a better or poorer surgical outcome. This information will be used to develop a patient decision support tool to assist future patients and their clinicians in deciding if and when to opt for surgery, based on their individualised risk and potential benefit profile. (Chief Investigator: Professor John Sparrow)

Cataract Patient Reported Outcome Measure (Cat-PROM5)

Two open access papers are to be published in 'Eye', the official scientific journal of the Royal College of Ophthalmologists, relating to the work of Professor John Sparrow's Cataract Research Programme at Bristol Eye Hospital. The papers detail the development of a Cataract Patient Reported Outcome Measure (Cat-PROM5) and its performance. A huge amount of work has gone into producing Cat-PROM5 and these papers so congratulations to the team on this achievement.

Cat-PROM5 is a short, NHS-friendly, self-reporting visual disability measurement instrument for cataract, enabling healthcare providers to better understand how cataract affects a patient's vision and daily quality of life.

Administering Cat-PROM5 will improve patient care and it consequently has been chosen as the preferred cataract surgery PROM for piloting in the national cataract audit commissioned by HQIP. Software adaptation is underway for data collection of Cat-PROM5 in two most frequently used NHS ophthalmology electronic medical record systems. Cat-PROM5 has been selected as the primary PROM for cataract patients in Wales. All patients attending secondary care in Wales will be invited to complete the questionnaire pre and post cataract surgery via a specially developed electronic platform.

The Cataract Research Programme is funded by a 5-year NIHR Programme Grant for Applied Research (PGfAR). Its aim is to develop a cataract-specific PROM and decision tool to help cataract patients make a better informed decision about if and when to opt for surgery. Bristol Eye Hospital is the lead site, working in collaboration with eye departments in Cheltenham, Torbay and Brighton.

NIHR research fellowship examining outcomes for lower limb deep vein thrombosis (DVT)

Michelle Bonfield will complete her NIHR research fellowship examining outcomes for lower limb deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and the risk of developing post thrombotic syndrome (PTS) at the end of March. Michelle has completed the data collection for her study and is now in the analysis and writing up stage.

One hundred and ninety five patients (120 men and 75 women) with lower limb DVT were recruited to the study and each participant underwent 6 follow-up visits at defined intervals over a 2 year follow-up period. For 171 of the participants, the index DVT was their first episode of DVT and for 24 it was a recurrent DVT. The participants ranged in age from 21 to 85 years, with a mean age of 56 +/- 17 years. Retention to the study was very good with 169 participants (87%) remaining in the study for the full two years with no gaps in their data. Michelle will now examine the relationships between the outcomes

of DVT (resolution, recurrence and the development of PTS) and the baseline characteristics of the study cohort, the characteristics of participants' DVTs and thrombus evolution patterns.

4. Grants & Upcoming Awards

Funding and support round-up

Latest funding opportunities – [click here](#)



Funding Finder

The West of England Academic Health Science Network – [Funding Finder](#)



BMA Foundation for Medical Research Grants available

There are a number of research grants that will be awarded by the BMA Foundation in 2018. Online applications will open on **1 January 2018** and close on **2 March 2018**.

For further information on the BMA Foundation for Medical Research please visit www.bmafoundationmr.org.uk. If you would like to receive alerts about the BMA Foundation grants or find out more information about the 2018 grants available, email researchgrants@bma.org.uk



The Spring 2018 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) awarded annually to UHBristol by the NIHR is 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, which can be used to:

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

[Above and Beyond](#)

Above & 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 welcome 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.

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

Deadline: **09:00am, Monday 16th April 2018**

Please read the guidance and then contact Caroline Nash or Elinor Griffiths with any queries: 0117 342 0228/0585 Email: funding@uhbristol.nhs.uk

Workshop: Above and Beyond (A&B) and Research Capability Funding (RCF) grants

We are running workshops aimed at anyone who is planning to apply for an Above and Beyond or RCF grant in Spring 2018, or wishing to know more about the scheme. These sessions are open to any medical or non-medical UH Bristol employee or university academic holding an honorary contract with UH Bristol.

These sessions are open to any medical or non-medical UH Bristol employee or university academic holding an honorary contract with UH Bristol. University academics considering an application are strongly encouraged to do so in collaboration with UHBristol clinicians.

Workshop content includes:

- how to complete the application form
- how to set up and manage an A&B or RCF grant
- who to contact for support at each stage of the process
- how to identify eligible costs

Venue: Research & Innovation, Education & Research Centre, UHBristol

Workshop dates:

- **Tuesday 6 February 2018** 08:00-09:00, Interview Room, Level 4, Education & Research Centre [Book a place](#)
- **Wednesday 7 February 2018** 08:00-09:00, Tutorial Room 3, Level 4, Education & Research Centre [Book a place](#)
- **Thursday 8 February** 12:30-13:30, Tutorial Room F, Level 4, Education & Research Centre [Book a place](#)

Places are limited so please book in advance using the links. For further information about these grants, please contact funding@uhbristol.ac.uk or visit the [website](#).

5. Events, Training and Employment

CRN West of England Training and Education Programme 2018

For details of training events – [click here](#)

Enquiries – westengland@nihr.ac.uk

"We Are Research"

NIHR Clinical Research Network West of England – **Friday 9 March 2018**, 09:30 - 16:00

The "We are Research" event is for all research delivery staff currently involved in NIHR portfolio studies. The programme will feature presentations from research teams illustrating examples of innovative approaches to enable participation in research and ways of engaging with colleagues to raise the profile of research; there will be workshops in the afternoon. It promises to be a stimulating and thought provoking day.

To register – [click here](#)

Closing date: **Friday 23 February 2018**

CLAHRC West employment opportunities

Research Associate/Senior Research Associate in Applied Research and Implementation
Bristol Medical School

Closing date for applications **18-Feb-2018**

More details – [click here](#)

Research Project Manager (Senior Research Associate/ Research Fellow)

Bristol Medical School

Closing date for applications **18-Feb-2018**

More details – [click here](#)

[Go to top](#)