

Network Research Policy

Introduction

This policy sets out the West Yorkshire Critical Care and Major Trauma Networks and the South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Critical Care Network approach to research strategy. The Networks cover a specific geographical footprint and encompasses a number of NHS Hospital Trusts within this area, each hospital Trust has their own 'Research Strategy' outlining their approach to clinical trials and the Networks support these approaches.

Background

NHS England Service Specification for Major Trauma Clinical Networks¹ and Critical Care Networks² for 2024 sets out the requirements for Clinical Networks which are:

- There is a network agreed research strategy including access and participation in clinical trials
- Networks should be active supporters of research and innovation. Networks can have an important place in driving early and systematic adoption of innovation and research findings in clinical practice
- Horizon scan for innovations and improvements

The purpose of this policy is to outline the support the Clinical Networks will provide to ensure research and innovation opportunities are shared with the Clinical Network Stakeholders.

Aim

The Networks aim is to support research and clinical trials and will do this by

- Sharing research opportunities within the Networks
- Sharing clinical audits suitable for the Networks
- Sharing outcomes from clinical research undertaken in other Networks
- Support the implementation of any recommendations from local and national research and clinical trials
- Support and share best practice
- Share opportunities to be involved in research and clinical trials
- Involving patient, services users, and carers in relevant research opportunities

¹ NHS England Service Specification 2024 Major Trauma Clinical Networks [Major Trauma Clinical Network Specification \(england.nhs.uk\)](#)

² NHS England Service Specification 2024 Adult Critical Care Clinical Networks [Adult Critical Care Clinical Network Specification \(england.nhs.uk\)](#)

The Networks will support the involvement and development of research and clinical trials with the shared purpose of improving patient care and outcomes. The following list is non exhaustive but outlines ways in which the Network will share these opportunities:

- Through respective Network Boards
- Network websites
- Network newsletters
- Communicating opportunities through sharing emails
- Link in with national research and clinical trials organisations
- Through Network subgroups and task and finish groups
- Through education events and conferences

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