Our practice is a research active practice. This means we actively support and conduct different types of research with the intention of improving outcomes for patients. New treatments, technologies, care approaches and devices all need to be carefully and safely tested in real life healthcare environments. Clinical research in these environments is separately funded and adds value to patient care.

The COVID-19 pandemic illustrated the importance of clinical research, which was crucial to the development of vaccines and treatments that have saved millions of lives globally. Clinical research is essential for discovering new treatments for diseases, as well as new ways to detect, diagnose, and reduce the chance of developing the disease and by improving the efficiency and efficacy of care it can be a vital tool in tackling waiting list backlogs and reducing the pressure on the NHS.

You may be approached or invited to consider taking part in research from time to time. Participation in research is completely voluntary and your decision to take part or not will not affect your clinical care in any way.

Our practice works with the NIHR Clinical Research Network North West Coast, who provide support to enable us to offer research to our patients. Every research study is different, and patient involvement varies- depending on the type of study. You will be provided with information on the study to help you decide whether you want to be part of it or not. Below are some examples of what you may be asked to do for a research study:

* Complete a questionnaire
* Take part in an interview
* Use a new therapy / device / website
* Take a treatment under supervision

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) is the independent regulator of health and adult social care in England. The CQC now has a remit to assess how care organisations are supporting and using health and care research to improve population health. The 2021 CQC Strategy specifically refers to the value of research in population care. If you do not wish to be approached for research please contact the practice.

***Site Research Staff – who they are ( GP Lead / Admin support / Nurses / HCAs) and are they GCP trained?***

***Current studies / Past Studies***

***Research Accreditations / Award nominations etc – for example: RCGP Research Ready***

***Your Patient Participation Group (PPG) should be aware and supportive of your drive to get ready to do research. They can also help to suggest what research might be welcomed by your patients.***

Patient Research Links:

* Join Dementia Research connects registered volunteers with dementia researchers across the UK who are looking for people to join their studies: [Join dementia research](https://www.joindementiaresearch.nihr.ac.uk/)
* Research for The Future has opportunities to get involved in research across all health conditions as well as for healthy volunteers: [Research for the Future](https://www.researchforthefuture.org/)
* NIHR Evidence makes health and care research findings informative, accessible, relevant and ready for use for all: <https://evidence.nihr.ac.uk/>

***Useful links for organisations to look at:***

***Best Patient Care, Clinical Research and You staff guide*** [***Best Patient Care, Clinical Research and You - NHS R&D Forum***](https://rdforum.nhs.uk/best-patient-care-clinical-research-and-you/)

***Embedding Research in Health and Care Services*** [***https://express.adobe.com/page/pV98Q9HG5cZCW/***](https://express.adobe.com/page/pV98Q9HG5cZCW/)

***Maximising the benefits of research: Guidance for integrated care systems*** [***NHS England » Maximising the benefits of research: Guidance for integrated care systems***](https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/maximising-the-benefits-of-research/)