



UKCRN: OVERALL AIM

- To develop UK-wide infrastructure embedded within the NHS to support high quality research across all areas of health and clinical need funded by both commercial and non-commercial funders

UKCRN



FIRST PHASE

NCRN

2000~£20M

MHRN

2003~£ 4M

SECOND PHASE (TCRN's)

MCRN, DRN, SRN, DeENDroN

2005~£16M

THIRD PHASE

Primary Care Research Network 2007~£ 2M

Comprehensive Research Network 2007~£90M+

Comprehensive Clinical Research Network (CRN)



- **to provide the NHS infrastructure to support clinical research-25 CLRNs**
- **streamline the research management function--reduce bureaucracy where possible**
- **Inclusive of all healthcare**
- **From April 2008 will be the main route for NHS service support for clinical research**

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TCRNs & CRN



- **CRN**

- **Not responsible for portfolio development and oversight**
- **Responsible for research management for the UKCRN portfolio**
- **Primary route for NHS infrastructure support including Service Support Costs (SSC)**

CRN – TCRN Links



National	UKCRN, TCRN, and PCRN Co-ordinating Centres
Local	Comprehensive Local Research Networks (CLRNs): everywhere, NHS infrastructure/SSS including sessions and RMG Topic LRNs: partial coverage, NHS Infrastructure/SSC

Not matching geography; not matching functions

Opportunities for Links

– UK Wide working



- **Network infrastructure provided by devolved administrations**
- **UKCRC provides a UK Wide framework**
- **Investigators and collaborators are mainly interested in the research portfolio and their topic**



What is the UKCRN Portfolio?

- **A national register of all eligible studies**
 - **DH have defined ‘eligible’ for England – NIHR portfolio**
 - **Portfolios in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales**
 - **UK-wide working within portfolios**
 - **Includes multi-centre and single centre studies**
 - **Includes commercial and non-commercial studies**

UKCRN Coordinating Centre Workstreams



- **Research Management-central sign off, passports costings etc**
- **Experimental Medicine**
- **Industry links**
- **Training and Education**
- **Research Governance/Advice**
- **Clinical Trials Units**
- **Information Systems**
- **Patient and Public Involvement**
- **Communications**
- **Portfolio development**
- **UK Wide Working**

ACTIVE ISSUES IN TCRNS



- **Links with PCRN & CRN**
- **Extension to non TCRN areas**
- **Funding for portfolio development and patient and public involvement**
- **Access to NHS Service Support**
- **UK-wide working**

Benefits for Patients



- ***The more rapid introduction of better treatments and care***
- ***Dissemination of excellence in clinical care***