



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

UK Clinical Research Network (UKCRN)

UKCRN



FIRST PHASE

NCRN	2000~£20M
MHRN	2003~£ 4M

SECOND PHASE (TCRN's)

MCRN, DRN, SRN, DeENDroN	2005~£16M
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THIRD PHASE

Primary Care Research Network	2007~£ 2M
Comprehensive Research Network	2007~£90M+

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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

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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)

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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Benefits for Patients

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

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