

Research and Innovation in Northern Care Alliance



Pioneering and innovative

Together the hospitals of Northern Care Alliance NHS Foundation Trust bring together 20,000 expert staff to serve more than 1 million people in the immediate locality and many more from the rest of the UK and Europe who access specialist services such as Salford Royal's Metabolic Medicine and Intestinal Failure Units. The Trust provides the benefits of scale but delivers this locally through multiple hospital sites and local healthcare services.

It is a clinically led, integrated organisation, with decisions taken close to patients, colleagues and services, and leadership shared across clinical, operational and corporate teams.

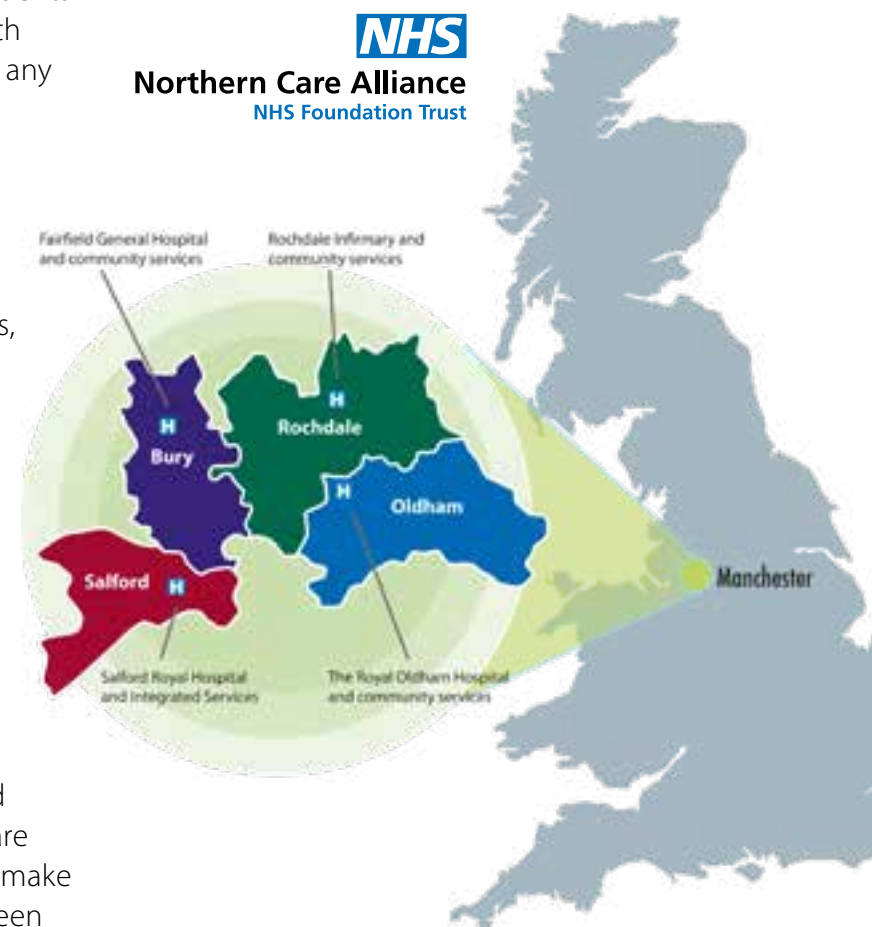
Northern Care Alliance has a rich history of pioneering health care and is committed to conducting patient-focused health research and translating it into patient benefit. We collaborate closely with The University of Manchester, Manchester Metropolitan University, the University of Salford and others, host the NIHR Greater Manchester Patient Safety Research Collaboration and play a key partner role in Health Innovation Manchester, the NIHR Biomedical Research Centre: Manchester, the NIHR Manchester Clinical Research Facility (CRF) and the NIHR North West Regional Research Delivery Network.

As a Trust, we are highly active in delivering clinical trials and studies, recruiting around 7,000 patients each year into NIHR portfolio studies and with approximately 650 active research studies at any one time.

Our experienced team works flexibly across our sites to maximise recruitment. A joint research office covers all sites while offering a central point of contact and harmonised processes for contracts, compliance, budgets, audit and other support services.

NCA has a single Electronic Patient Record, single Patient Administration System and single Laboratory Information Management System. We are piloting new technology such as apps and wearable devices for patients to input information straight into their patient record, so they can be monitored remotely.

We have developed effective high throughput models involving a highly skilled multi-disciplinary team, where participants are able to have several steps in just one visit to make it more convenient for them. These have been successfully used to deliver vaccine trials, including nearly 900 participants in Covid vaccine studies.



Patient-focused

Improving health and care for the benefit of patients is at the heart of everything we do.

Through our pioneering research and innovation, we are improving lives by improving diagnosis, care and treatment in the NHS, building the evidence for new therapies, technologies and care pathways that are safe and effective.

Research gives our patients the opportunity to be the first in the UK – and sometimes the world – to test new treatments.

Our clinical research could not happen without patients and the public. In turn, we are strongly committed to keeping them informed and aware of research opportunities open to them and to engaging them as partners in the research process.

“Being part of a trial was extremely beneficial for me. I didn’t know what to expect at all but I sailed through it.”

John, who has myeloma,
a type of cancer



“It is important that we keep looking for new treatments. I know it takes time for new medications to be ready to offer to patients. I appreciate this trial might not help me directly, but I’m happy to take part if it helps somebody else”

Kay, who has
Parkinson’s disease

Patient-focused

“Taking part in research improved my health and made sure I was in good shape for my transplant”

Mohammad,
transplant recipient



“I don’t want my daughter to have these problems, so I will do anything I can to help research. As soon as they find a cure it will be very good for my family, as well as everybody else with the condition”

Christine, who has
polycystic kidney disease



Research participant feedback

We regularly ask our research participants to give feedback on their experience to help improve the way research studies are designed and delivered, now and in the future. In 2025-26, 600 NCA patients and service users responded to the NIHR's My Research Experience survey, the highest in the North West region. With positivity scores of more than 95 per cent, these are just a handful of the comments we received:

Everyone I spoke to was really friendly, gave me all the information I needed, answered my questions fully and without judgement - it really removed the clinical feeling around more serious conversation. I had everything I needed to make the decisions I wanted and knew I could change my mind at any time.

The nurse that attended to me was very knowledgeable regarding the research. Up to date medical information was checked on every visit and I was treated with the greatest of respect. Thank you. I found it very informative as regards my part in the process and have enjoyed the experience.

I was treated respectfully and given time to make up my mind about being part of the research. The information I was given was thorough and unbiased and I felt my questions were answered honestly. The research team have been friendly and approachable.

The whole experience has been very positive. It has given me confidence in taking part in future programmes. The staff are wonderful.

I have been well looked after, with my research nurse being excellent, guiding me through the process, after care and follow ups. I have been well informed and any queries answered quickly and efficiently. I'd rather not have been ill, but the research experience has made things much easier on me and my family.

A diverse population

At Northern Care Alliance we serve a population of more than one million people with four hospitals and a range of community services. Nearly 85 per cent of our population are white British, very similar to the proportion for England and Wales as a whole. We have substantial Asian or Asian British communities in Oldham and Rochdale and the largest Jewish population outside London in Bury, Salford and Manchester.

The health of people in Salford, Oldham and Rochdale is generally worse than the England average – all are among the 20% most deprived districts in England, with lower life expectancy than average.

Local authority health profiles for Bury, Oldham, Rochdale and Salford are available through this link:



<https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles>

The trust hosts a number of world-leading specialist services, including centres for neurology, dermatology, renal medicine, adult inherited metabolic disorders and intestinal failure. It hosts the Greater Manchester Major Trauma Hospital, two of the three primary stroke units in Greater Manchester as well as a designated hyperacute stroke research centre, a specialist neonatal centre and the largest upper GI service in England. Salford Royal is also the centre for acute general surgery for Bolton and Wigan.

Our expertise also includes critical care, dementia, Parkinson's disease and neurodegeneration, diabetes and endocrinology, pain, renal medicine, cardiology, gastroenterology, rheumatology, clinical haematology and ophthalmology. In addition, we have the largest ENT patient population in Greater Manchester.



Our specialist research centres

The Donal O'Donoghue Renal Research Centre

The Donal O'Donoghue Renal Research Centre (DRRC) is committed to establishing national and international excellence in translational nephrology research and in the healthcare of patients with kidney disease. The centre takes a multi-disciplinary and multi-professional approach to performing high quality research and translation of discoveries into every day clinical practice.

The Salford Kidney Study biobank is the 3rd largest CKD cohort worldwide with over 4,000 participants, detailed data and over 70,000 plasma, serum and DNA aliquots,

It aims to discover, develop and implement new approaches in our understanding of the epidemiology of kidney disease, and in patient diagnostics, risk prediction and treatment that will save lives and provide excellent care.

The Centre builds on the legacy of the late Professor Donal O'Donoghue OBE who, like several of our current senior clinicians, held key regional and national positions in academic renal medicine.



The Centre for Emergency Care and Trauma Sciences

Our Centre for Emergency Care and Trauma Sciences (CENECT) brings together multiple developing workstreams in emergency care and delivers nationally prioritised research studies. Based at the state-of-the-art Greater Manchester Major Trauma Hospital, the CENECT team, work with national and international colleagues on high impact, practice-changing research. Our primary expertise includes traumatic brain injury (Prof Fiona Lecky), infection and the stressed host (Prof Paul Dark), venous thromboembolism and coagulopathy (Prof Dan Horner) and Major Trauma Pathway research (Prof Martin Smith). The team currently lead several large scale NIHR grants and work as topic experts across multiple NICE guidelines.



The Geoffrey Jefferson Brain Research Centre

The Geoffrey Jefferson Brain Research Centre combines discovery science and experimental medicine to develop new treatments and implement optimal care pathways that provide better outcomes and transform the lives of patients living with neurological diseases.

It has nine themes – stroke and dementia, Parkinson's disease, brain tumours, epilepsy, brain imaging, brain inflammation, brain pathology, nanotechnology for brain disease, and rehabilitation and living with disability. The Centre's multidisciplinary approach involves healthcare professionals across the translational pathway.

It is a partnership between the Manchester Centre for Clinical Neurosciences (part of Northern Care Alliance), The University of Manchester and the Manchester Academic Health Science Centre and is led by Professor Stuart Allan and Professor Andrew King.



Our focus on health inequalities

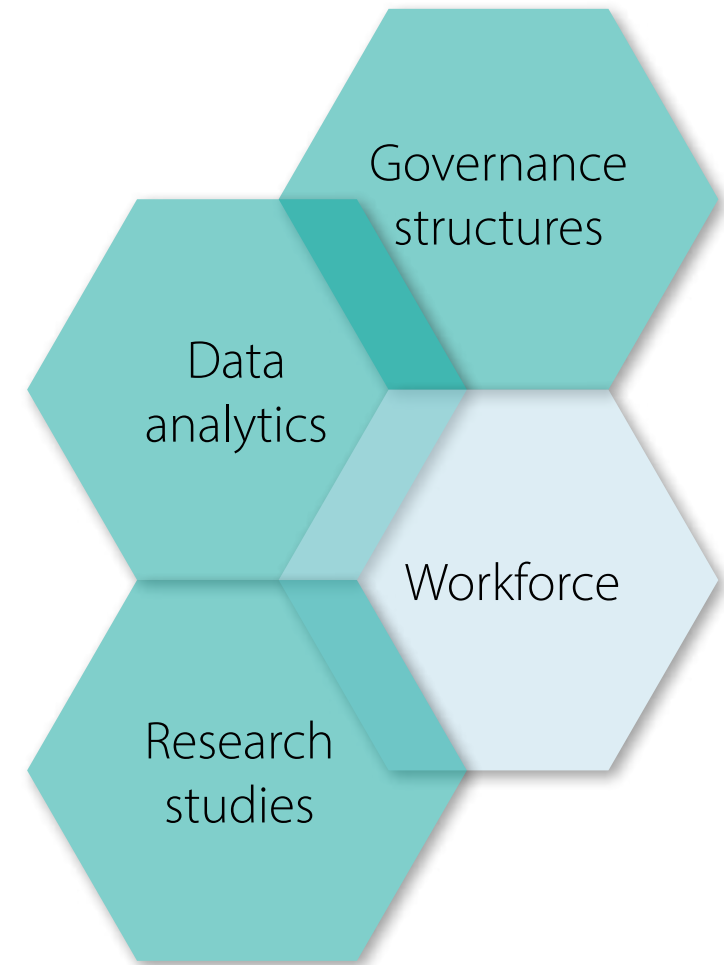
Our work to reduce health inequalities - both through and within research - draws on expertise from within R&I, together with that of communities, our academic partners and colleagues across the integrated care health landscape.

We understand that life experiences and health outcomes for the population served by the NCA can vary, resulting in health inequalities - avoidable, unfair and systematic differences in health between different groups of people.

We recognise that the health of a significant number of people across the NCA footprint remains worse than the England average. We are committed to making changes where necessary in both the research we support and the systems in which we operate.

Our systematic and evidenced-based approach recognises the range of contributory factors that lead to health inequalities, whether this is linked to socio-economic factors, locality, protected characteristics or being socially excluded.

The health inequalities research plan has four overarching themes. These themes – governance structures, data analytics, research studies and workforce - will mean that we are in a stronger position to support research which tackles health inequalities, ensure the research we support does not inadvertently exacerbate existing inequity, as well as providing the necessary support for those working in research to engage more fully in this key area of work.



Commercial experience and acumen

Our experienced research teams have a long history of working with international pharmaceutical, biotechnological and medical device companies and the Trust is consistently among the top recruiter to industry studies in the North of England.

As part of the global research response to the Covid-19 pandemic, we recruited more than 11,000 participants to key treatment and vaccine studies. This included establishing a community setting and high throughput systems for novel vaccine trials.

We recognise the importance of efficient and timely trial set up and have recorded 36 national, European and global firsts in the last five years. Our expertise and success in commercial research was reflected in our being chosen as the Clinical Research Team of the Year in the Pharma Times International Clinical Researcher of the Year Awards 2024, when we were the only NHS site to be shortlisted in any category.

We work closely and collaboratively with NIHR Research Delivery Network industry leads.



Research delivery

Research delivery is of critical importance to Northern Care Alliance. We are participants in the global Shared Investigator Platform (SIP), a single online platform that facilitates collaboration with multiple commercial sponsors who are members of TransCelerate, the global biopharmaceutical R&D community.

Our experienced research delivery team works flexibly to maximise recruitment and had more than 6,700 research participants in NIHR portfolio studies in 2025-26, plus more in academic studies.

We are developing an expert cohort of clinical academic nurses, allied health professionals, pharmacists and healthcare scientists through our pioneering Centre for Clinical and Care Research. The Centre offers support and training opportunities, contributing to a culture of continuous improvement and widening the range of research studies offered.



Clinical research facilities

Northern Care Alliance has two dedicated Clinical Research Facilities, with Salford Royal's Barnes Unit one of five sites for the NIHR Manchester Clinical Research Facility.

It has the infrastructure and capability to run Phase I-IV trials and a dedicated on-site clinical research physician. The unit has broad experience in CTIMP, observational and device studies in a variety of specialties.

As a partner in the Manchester CRF, we deliver early phases studies (first in human through to Phase IIb/III) in adults across a number of therapeutic areas and deliver complex, high-quality experimental medicine studies to time and target, driving faster translation from bench to bedside.

The unit at Bury has an on-site research physician and is able to run Phase II to Phase IV trials. Plans are in place for it to deliver Phase I trials and it has the capacity to extend to a 12-bed clinical area.

There is dedicated research space at Oldham so that patients can be seen outside wards and clinics.



Sample processing and biobanking laboratories

The Salford Biorepository Facility operates to MHRA and HTA regulatory standards. It supports clinical trials and ethically approved research by safely logging, processing, storing and distributing thousands of human samples each year from consenting patients and volunteers.

Equipment and support

A suite of more than 12 ultra-low temperature freezers operates at -75°C to maximise long term viability of human samples. The lockable freezers are located in air-conditioned rooms and have emergency generator back-up. They are safeguarded by two separate 24-hour remote alarm systems with automated temperature monitoring every 15 minutes.

A dedicated sample processing room provides access to two refrigerated centrifuges and a class II safety cabinet. The facility provides personal protective equipment and ensures regulatory compliance with the provision of standard operating procedures and risk assessments. Equipment is annually serviced and calibrated.

Sample collections

The facility is continuing to build on its existing collections and make them available for research, including through the Northern Care Alliance Research Collection (see page 13). It currently holds tens of thousands of vials of biofluid material from a range of specialties, including renal, diabetes, respiratory and stroke.

Supervision and training

Experienced staff provide customised training and day to day support to all laboratory users to ensure safe and efficient operation and continued regulatory compliance.



Northern Care Alliance Research Collection (NCARC)

Facilitating sample access and collection for high-quality biomedical research

Northern Care Alliance Research Collection (NCARC) is an ethically approved generic research tissue bank with delegated permission to authorise research projects using the samples and data kindly provided by appropriately consented NHS patients within Northern Care Alliance.

Our informed consent and full ethics can enable researchers to access past or future tissue taken for clinical or diagnostic purposes, as well as allow the collection of additional biofluid samples. Importantly it also allows access to associated historical and future clinical records, including electronic patient records held within NCA. Together these samples and the associated data provide an invaluable longitudinal research resource.

Providing access to existing sample collections

The 14 existing collections in NCARC include renal, cardiovascular, diabetes, inherited metabolic diseases, neurological conditions, respiratory (including Covid19) and surgical specialties. Full details are available at:

 <https://www.ncaresearch.org.uk/support-research/ncarc/>

Our access committee considers applications from collaborating commercial or academic researchers to facilitate access to sample collections for high-quality and important biomedical research proposals across almost any field. With appropriate processes and partnerships, approval can also allow access to fresh tissue.

Creating bespoke collections

NCARC can also facilitate bespoke collections which align to our patient population where there is a specific research requirement and appropriate cost-recovery.

Email:

 ncarc@nca.nhs.uk to discuss your research plans.

Patients and donors

NCARC, and the important biomedical research it supports, is only possible because of the generosity and altruism of our large patient population.



Other support for research

Imaging

Studies that require imaging can access general X-rays, CT, MRI, ultrasound, DEXA, interventional radiology, and fluoroscopy scans as well as our nuclear medicine facilities.

We also work closely with the Wolfson Molecular Imaging Centre at The University of Manchester, which has two research-dedicated clinical PET scanners and one pre-clinical PET camera.

Medical physics & clinical engineering

We have an expert medical physics and clinical engineering team designing, constructing, adapting and repairing devices for clinical research.

Our R&I engineers have experience in developing and testing software, electronic, optical and mechanical systems, and operate under an ISO9001 quality management system. They can provide advice on all aspects of the regulatory requirements for medical devices in clinical and research use.

We also have extensive fabrication facilities including electronics laboratory, a well-equipped mechanical workshop and host the 3dSPIN (3d Surgical Planning and Innovation) centre, providing medical image processing and medical 3d printing services.

Pharmacy

Experienced and specialist pharmacy staff support research before, during and after a study is active. Specialist clinical trials pharmacists and technicians are based at the Royal Oldham, Fairfield General Hospital and Salford Royal and their role also includes training general pharmacy staff to support studies.

Pathology

Our research-active pathology team provides expert advice and support for study set-up and flexible support once trials are up and running. It offers a comprehensive and wide ranging diagnostic, analytical, interpretative and advisory service covering biochemistry, cellular pathology, haematology, immunology and microbiology.

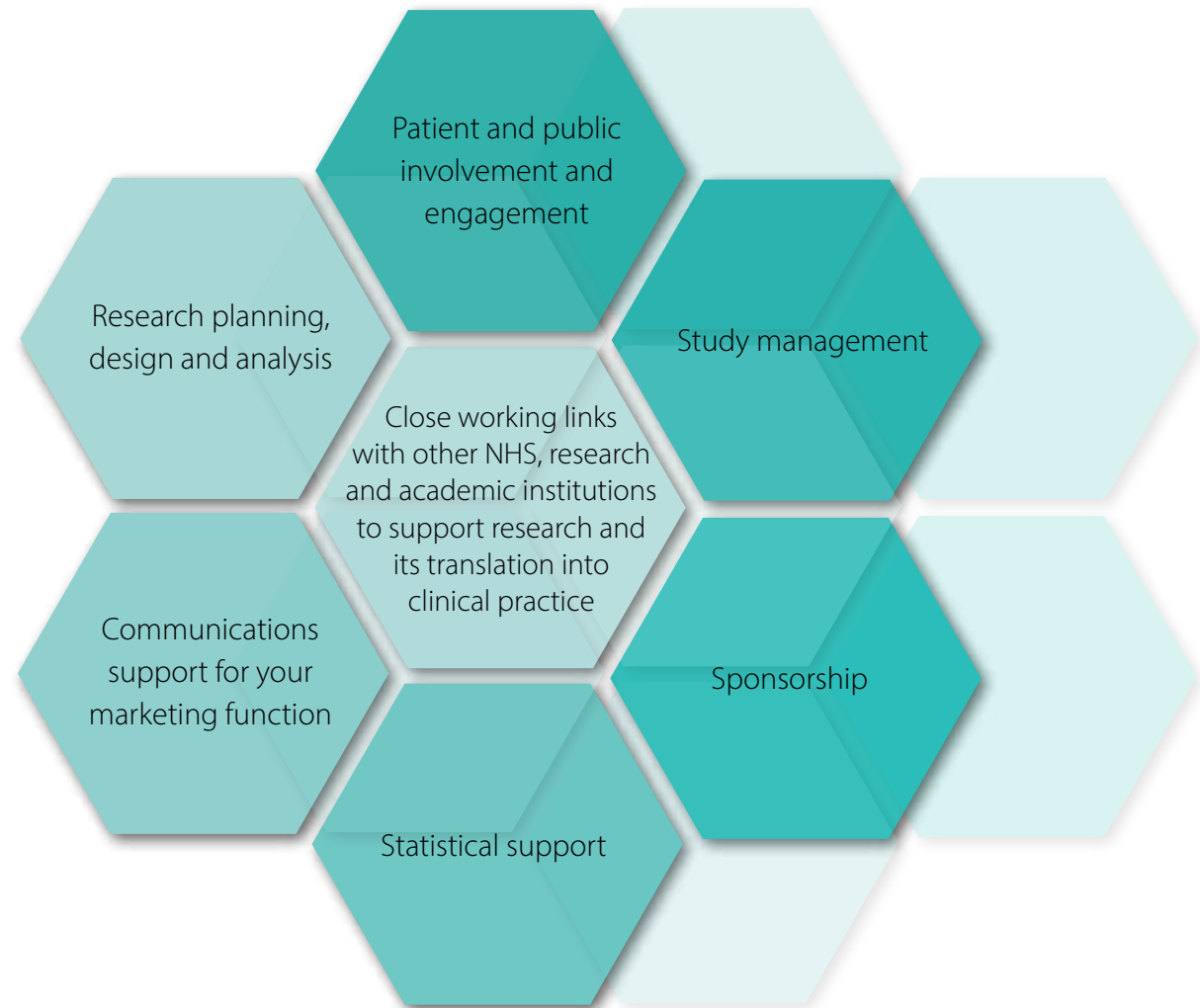


Comprehensive research support structure

Northern Care Alliance provides comprehensive and nationally recognised advice and support services covering all aspects of the research cycle as well as one of the most innovative environments in the UK for conducting patient-focused health research.

In addition to an experienced research management and support team to facilitate trial set-up, our in-house support expertise includes:

- A central point of contact covering four care organisations, serving a population over 1 million.
- Standardised and harmonised processes for study initiation and delivery.
- Standardised, transparent contract and budget negotiations.
- Dedicated business development and relationship support.
- Dedicated statistical and IT support.



Our leading research teams

Excellence in stroke

Salford Royal has the largest volume stroke service in the UK and provides expert care for people with cerebrovascular disease. Our unit has Hyper Acute Stroke Research Centre Status and stroke is a major theme in the Geoffrey Jefferson Brain Research Centre (GJBRC). We have an internationally recognised track-record in translational and clinical research with extensive experience in delivering hyperacute and complex studies in ischaemic and haemorrhagic stroke, including experimental medicine and trials. We have particular strengths in basic and laboratory sciences, advanced MR imaging, neurorehabilitation, cognitive neuroscience and data science enabling research across the full patient pathway. The stroke research theme in the GJBRC is led by Professor Craig Smith, while Professor Adrian Parry-Jones leads the intracerebral haemorrhage research theme and Professor Audrey Bowen leads the rehabilitation and life after stroke research programme.

Excellence in neurology and neurodegenerative research

As a partner in the Geoffrey Jefferson Brain Research Centre and host of the Manchester Centre for Clinical Neurosciences (MCCN) and the NIHR Translational Research Collaboration in Parkinson's Disease, we provide first class care to patients with neuroscience and spinal disorders across Greater Manchester. We have an international reputation for our multidisciplinary research which spans neurology, neurobiology, neuropathology (Professor Federico Roncaroli), neuropsychology, neurosurgery (Professor Andrew King, Professor Omar Pathmanaban), multiple sclerosis (Professor David Rog), Parkinson's disease (Professor Monty Silverdale, Dr Jason Raw, Dr Chris Kobylecki), epilepsy (Dr Rajiv Mohanraj), psychiatry and genetics. Our team also carries out research into dementia and works closely with Dementia@Manchester at The University of Manchester and Salford Institute for Dementia. Salford Royal's Cerebral Function Unit is a regional referral centre for the investigation and diagnosis of degenerative neurological disorders.



Our leading research teams

Excellence in gastroenterology

We have a leading international reputation for our research and innovation in gastroenterology, working closely with The University of Manchester Centre for Gastrointestinal Sciences. Our patient recruitment to gastroenterology studies is routinely among the best in England and we have a strong record of achieving UK firsts in commercial studies. Patients travel from all over the UK and beyond to Salford's Intestinal Failure Unit, which is led by Professor Simon Lal and has a world-leading record on driving developments in this field. Professor Jimmy Limdi at Fairfield General Hospital, The Royal Oldham Hospital and Rochdale Infirmary is a global leading researcher in inflammatory bowel disease. Professor Yeng Ang is internationally known for his expertise in upper gastro-intestinal medicine.

Excellence in critical care and trauma

Northern Care Alliance consistently delivers within the national top 5% of recruiting sites to NIHR portfolio studies in critical care. Our researchers lead large NIHR randomized trials as chief investigators (Professor Paul Dark, Professor Dan Horner), co-investigators (Dr Jay Naisbitt, Dr Redmond Tully) and multidisciplinary principal investigators. Our critical care team hold local, regional and national leadership research roles, including NIHR deputy medical director.

Our trust hosts the state-of-the-art Greater Manchester Major Trauma Hospital (GMMTH), which has further developed our role as principal receiving site for major trauma. Research activity is supported through our Centre for Emergency Care and Trauma Sciences (CENECT), based at the GMMTH and led by a senior academic team of Professors Horner, Dark, Fiona Lecky and Martin Smith.

Deputy Director of Research Dr Tully is building a research active intensive care portfolio at Oldham's busy 22-bedded intensive care unit. Salford Royal's 32-bed critical care unit is one of the largest in the North West and is the only centre to provide neuroscience intensive care within Greater Manchester. The Trust has a very large workload of emergency general surgery and is one of two vascular surgery centres in Greater Manchester.



Our leading research teams

Excellence in renal research

Our Donal O'Donoghue Renal Research Centre embeds research and academic advancement into clinical practice, with dedicated research sessions for 15 consultant nephrologists, seven clinical research fellows, a Professor of Nursing and nurse and AHP internships. Key themes aim to improve diagnosis, care and treatment for kidney patients and there are collaborative basic science projects with our local Universities. The NCA Director of Research, Professor Phil Kalra, has had leading national roles in renal care and research and Professor Smeeta Sinha is the National Clinical Director of Renal Medicine. Professor Darren Green, Professor Tina Chrysochou, Professor Dimitris Poulidakos and Dr Rosie Donne all have regional or national roles in renal improvement science. The main renal centre is based at Salford Royal and there are dialysis/renal care centres at Oldham, Rochdale, Bolton and Wigan. Salford Royal is also the home of the Salford Kidney Study which has one of the largest cohorts of patients with chronic kidney disease in the world with detailed data and biobanked samples for multiomic research.

Excellence in dermatology

The Manchester Centre for Dermatology Research is internationally recognised for its excellence in researching a wide range of skin conditions and in running important clinical trials. Led by Professor Richard Warren, the centre is fully integrated with the clinical dermatology service at Salford Royal and has a broad base of Principal Investigators with expertise in a wide array of inflammatory skin conditions, alopecia (Dr Matthew Harries), photodermatoses (Professor Lesley Rhodes) and skin cancer (Professor John Lear). Prof Warren also co-leads the dermatology theme at the NIHR Biomedical Research Centre: Manchester, which supports research into the common pathways driving inflammatory skin diseases, predictors of disease course and therapeutic response, and mechanisms to optimise treatment. The team frequently leads on publications in high impact general medical journals such as the Lancet and NEJM, demonstrating the strength and impact of their research. They have strong relationships with leading dermatology pharmaceutical companies and an excellent record of UK, European and global first participant recruitment.



Our leading research teams

Excellence in cancer research

As a partner in the Geoffrey Jefferson Brain Research Centre, we lead and support studies into brain tumours, including basic science, clinical and pre-clinical trials, radiobiology and surgery. Leading researchers in brain tumour and brain pathology research include Professor Andy King, Professor Omar Pathmanaban, Professor Federico Roncaroli and Mr David Coope, who recently led the world's first-in-human study of graphene-brain interfaces to map and monitor brain activity and so improve precision during brain tumour surgery. Among other research currently offered to patients is the Tessa Jowell BRAIN MATRIX study, a platform for trialling precision medicines for glioma.

Professor Noel Clarke is the co-Principal Investigator for the STAMPEDE study, the world's biggest clinical trial for prostate cancer, which recruited patients at both Salford and Oldham and has changed practice. We also specialise in colorectal cancers (Professor Gordon Carlson), upper gastrointestinal cancers (Professor Yeng Ang) and haematological cancers (Dr Antonina Zhelyazkova). NCA Lead Cancer Clinician Dr Roger Prudham helped to establish one of the first Rapid Diagnostic Centres in the country which we are utilising to give patients easier access to research.

We have close links with the world-renowned Christie cancer centre, which enables us to collaborate on a wide range of trials and increase the number and variety of research opportunities that we can offer to our patients.

Excellence in rheumatology

Salford Royal is a specialist centre for systemic sclerosis and Raynaud's phenomenon (Dr Michael Hughes and Dr Muditha Samaranayaka). We host the University of Manchester Rheumatology Microvascular Imaging Laboratory with the goal of translation of research to improve clinical practice. We have international expertise in inflammatory myopathy (Professor Hector Chinoy, Dr James Lilleker) with the tertiary referral Adult Neuromuscular clinic. We are a Centre for Excellence for Paget's disease (Professor Terry O'Neill). We have international research leadership in musculoskeletal epidemiology including drug safety (Professors Terry O'Neill and Will Dixon, and Dr Meghna Jani) as well as innovation in digital health research (Professor Will Dixon).



Our leading research teams

Excellence in diabetes research

We have led research into early diabetes and impaired glucose tolerance and introduced pioneering technologies to support patients. We hosted the NIHR-funded evaluation of the national NHS Diabetes Prevention Programme, a behaviour-change initiative linked to a significant reduction in the risk of developing type 2 diabetes in adults with raised blood sugars. Salford Royal is the only NHS hospital in Greater Manchester to provide bariatric surgery and we have an associated programme of research led by Professor Akheel Syed. Professor Adrian Heald has published widely on topics around both type 1 and type 2 diabetes.

Excellence in metabolic medicine research

The Metabolic Medicine Department at Salford Royal is one of the leading departments in Europe for treating and managing Adult Inherited Metabolic Disorders. It is one of only four dedicated Adult Inherited Metabolic Disorder centres within England, providing a service for the North of England but also accepting patients from other geographical areas including Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. The department undertakes clinical trials into rare genetic disorders and is at the forefront of drug development studies. The multi-disciplinary team, led by Professor Mark Roberts, conduct a number of Phase 1 trials. In 2023 they delivered their first gene therapy study for the treatment of Gaucher disease and recruited the first UK participant, one of several UK, European and global firsts in the last decade.

The dedicated research team, which also includes Dr Ana Jovanovic, Dr Reena Sharma and Dr Karolina Stepien, work closely with colleagues across NCA to ensure that rare disease patients have a voice and a potential future through research.



Our leading research teams

Excellence in paediatric research

The Royal Oldham has expertise in neonatal and reproductive health research, with specialist research midwives and a research-active neonatal intensive care unit. Leading the paediatric consultants is Dr Prakash Kamath, broadening the portfolio to include respiratory studies from both commercial and academic sources.

Dr Sarah McCullough, one of the Deputy Directors of research at The Royal Oldham leads several trials in the neonatal unit, working with the Consultant team and Advanced Neonatal Practitioners, including an ANNP Principal Investigator.

A focus on community research

The NCA Community Research team, the first of its kind in Greater Manchester, engages individuals and communities, by providing opportunities to take part in research in a community-based setting. This supports equity of access and inclusion across our communities by recruiting and promoting research with populations that are currently under-represented. Working in partnership with local communities the team has recruited to studies across specialities including respiratory, stroke, children's research and genetics. In particular, the team has forged strong links within our communities of Bangladeshi and Pakistani heritage by recruiting to the Genes and Health study at Mosques, community centres and events.



A community of scientists and innovators

Manchester's role in answering global challenges and stretching scientific boundaries goes back hundreds of years. From John Dalton's research into colour blindness in the 18th century, through to Archibald Hill who won the Nobel Prize in medicine in 1922, family planning pioneer Marie Stopes who was The University of Manchester's first female academic, Herchel Smith who developed the first oral contraceptive in 1961, to the current revolutionary developments in graphene, the region has led the way in discovery and innovation.

Greater Manchester has a world-class research infrastructure and expertise in a number of cross-cutting areas: biomarkers, informatics, rapid translation of research findings, patient and public involvement and engagement, training and collaboration with industry.

Northern Care Alliance NHS Foundation Trust is part of the Greater Manchester Integrated Care Partnership, which connects NHS Greater Manchester, the Greater Manchester NHS Trusts and NHS providers across the whole of primary care with the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, 10 local councils and partners across the Voluntary, Community, Faith, and Social Enterprise (VSCFE) sector.

We work particularly closely with the universities of Manchester, Salford and Manchester Metropolitan University, and with Health Innovation Manchester. We are partners in the NIHR Biomedical Research Centre: Manchester, a host site for the NIHR Manchester Clinical Research Facility and a partner in the NIHR Greater Manchester Patient Safety Research Collaboration. Together we work to put forward solutions to the health challenges facing our patients, the NHS and the wider world. We also have our own in-house team of expert medical physicists and clinical engineers working on adapting, developing, constructing and inventing specialist equipment for clinical research.



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