

Medical research is an integral part of the National Health Service in the UK. Research furthers the understanding of how diseases affect the body, and allows clinicians to anticipate and treat problems more efficiently. UNHS is dedicated to supporting medical research. Occasionally we may need volunteers to take part in clinical research studies.

What are clinical research studies?

Clinical research studies are a vital step of the process of creating new drugs, medical products, and treatments. In order to ensure that a product works properly it must first undergo rigorous testing. All clinical research studies that are conducted by UNHS use medicinal products that have already been assessed for safety in previous studies. These studies are run by a team of doctors and nurses who will answer any questions you may have about your suitability to join a particular study.

If you are interested in participating you will be given all of the information that you need to make a decision, including contact details in case you have any further questions. Once you are enrolled on a trial you will be monitored by clinical staff and you can withdraw at any point.

What are the benefits of research studies?

By taking part in a clinical research study you are helping to further medical research. Medicines and medical products cannot be provided to patients without undergoing evaluation. Without medical research we would not have paracetamol, penicillin or the contraceptive pill. Therefore we value the participation of volunteers who are essential in this process.

In some cases the medicine or product you are testing may benefit you directly. In many cases future patients will benefit from your participation. Some clinical research studies provide financial compensation to participants for their time and inconvenience.

Research and UNHS

The University of Nottingham Health Service has taken part in many research projects. These are some examples of our study topics:

- Evaluating a vaccine to prevent meningitis
- Assessing a vaccine to prevent swine flu

- An assessment of help-seeking behaviour in people with depression
- Children's accident prevention
- An evaluation of psychological treatments for insomnia
- Improving gout treatment
- Investigating treatment for bowel problems