

## What are Patient Research Ambassadors?

Patient Research Ambassadors are volunteers whose role is to encourage the building of bridges between people and research teams. They do this by helping the public become aware of the research taking place within the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospitals and why there is a need for research.

If you would like to receive any further information about research at the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust generally, or any study specifically, please contact:

The Research and Development Office

By email\*:

[R&Doffice@nnuh.nhs.uk](mailto:R&Doffice@nnuh.nhs.uk)

By telephone: 01603 289808  
(between 9am - 3pm)

Contacting us does not commit you to taking part in any research.

\*Please be aware that emails and messages will be picked up by several members of staff within the Department and therefore will not be confidential. If you leave your details, a member of the Department will contact you.



# Public and Patient Involvement in Research at the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospitals

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## Why is research important?

Research is vital in helping us gain knowledge about why people become unwell. It helps us understand what happens to us when we are ill and it allows us to improve the treatment and support available. It can guide us about how to prevent illness and disease and in some cases can lead to the development of cures.

## Research at Norfolk and Norwich University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (NNUH)

Research is central to the way we develop our services at NNUH. Teams across the hospital conduct clinical research within specialties as varied as oncology, endocrinology and obstetrics.

Our Research department has two main patient facing sites:

- The Clinical Research Facility located at The Quadram Institute, near the NNUH Endoscopy department; and
- The Clinical Research Trials Unit located in the Centre Block, Level 1 at the hospital.

We work together with University of East Anglia and the Quadram Institute of Biosciences as well as the wider Norwich Research Park community.

Members of the public or patients can get involved in research at NNUH either by volunteering as study participants or by promoting research in the community as Patient Research Ambassadors.

Research depends on willing volunteers taking part in clinical trials and studies. Without volunteers taking part, research cannot happen. Each and every participant makes a difference by helping us to understand more about illnesses and treatments.

## What are the advantages and disadvantages of taking part in research?

The advantages and disadvantages can vary from study to study. There may be no direct benefit to you personally. A study information sheet will be provided to you explaining what the study involves and will outline any potential risks and benefits of participation. You will also be able to discuss taking part with a member of the research team and we encourage you to discuss it with friends, family and your GP.

Below are some comments that we have received from people who have taken part in research at NNUH;

### Volunteering in Research

Before volunteering, potential participants

Sometimes we need volunteers with specific illnesses or conditions, sometimes we need volunteers who are a certain gender or age, and other times we

usually ask one very simple

we simply need people who are willing to volunteer.

but an important question, 'why me?':

