

Newsletter

Winter 2023



Programme Manager's Update

It's been another really busy period with outputs and activities from most of our groups, so do read below for updates on (amongst others!) our [How to be a Good Chief Investigator events](#), [shared audit work](#), [planned webinars on platform trials](#), group national meetings and how the Network has responded to [national and international consultations](#).

As always, a sincere **thank you to everyone** who has provided contributions for the newsletter, and please do circulate it to your colleagues and clinical collaborators.

I hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas break and you and yours have a happy and healthy 2024!

Helen Evans

UKCRC Registered CTU Network Programme Manager

Welcome to Kerry Hood



This autumn we were exceptionally pleased to welcome Kerry Hood to the post of Network Director.

Kerry Hood is currently Dean of Research & Innovation for the College of Biomedical & Life Sciences at Cardiff University

She has played a vital role with the UK network since its inception in 2007, firstly as Director of the South East Wales Trials Unit and then at the Centre for Trials Research.

Kerry's research has centred on the conduct of complex clinical trials, mainly focusing on primary care, infections and learning disabilities.

[Learn more](#)

CTU Directors' Meeting Update - November 2023

The last Directors' Meeting took place in Leeds on 23 November 2023.

This was an opportunity to welcome our new Network Director, Kerry Hood, hear from a range of speakers from the HRA, NHSE, HDR UK and others, and catch up with colleagues from other CTUs.



[Learn more](#)

Network involvement in national activities

The Network continues to play an important role in ongoing conversations with national stakeholder on various themes and areas of work. This includes the DHSC, HRA, MHRA and others on the shape and direction of future national activities. It is great to see the recognition of the continuing value of CTUs and the Network voice.

Find out more [here](#).

Training for Chief Investigators

Do you know of a chief investigator who would like a refresher on how to interact with a clinical trials unit? Or one who's about to work with you and want to get up to speed? Or perhaps someone initially considering working with a CTU?

Leeds, Nottingham and Cardiff CTUs are hosting workshops about exactly that. [Find out more here](#).

Operations Group Updates

The Operations Groups have been really busy over the last few months with a number of new activities and national meetings taking place. Find out more via the links below:

- [QA Group Update](#)
- [Data & IS Group \(DISOG\) Update](#)
- [Trial Management Group Update](#)
- [Statistics Group Update](#)
- [Policy Group Update](#)
- [Monitoring Group Update](#)

eTMF Usage in CTUs

At the national QA Meeting in September, there was a breakout session on the use of eTMFs in CTUs. It was clear from the discussions that there was an appetite within CTUs to move to an eTMF. However, there were a number of challenges to adoption including cost and sponsor buy-in. [Find out more about the discussions here.](#)

New PeRSEVERE Project resource available



The UKCRC Registered CTU Network's PeRSEVERE Project team has launched a dedicated website bringing together all its guidance on managing participation changes in clinical trials. [Find out more here.](#)

Updates from Collaborators

Find out more about some of the the recent activities of our partners, collaborators, and other stakeholders via the links below.

- [MRC-NIHR Trials Methodology Research Partnership Update](#)
- [UK Trial Managers' Network Update](#)
- [NIHR CRN Coordinating Centre Update](#)
- [NIHR Academy Update](#)

Training & Development Opportunities

- [TMRP Doctoral Training Partnership PhDs - Deadline noon on 15 January 2024 \[UK-wide\]](#)
- [Adaptive Clinical Trial Designs - A free online training course introducing the future of clinical trials \[ECRAID\]](#)
- [Clinical Trials - MSc/PGDip/PGCert - A programme designed to produce skilled specialist clinical trial staff and expert chief investigators \[Birmingham\]](#)
- [MSc in Clinical Trials / MSc in Statistics for Clinical Trials \[UCL\]](#)
- [Fourth International Conference on Stepped Wedge Trial Design - May 2024 \[York\]](#)

Get Involved

- [Towards a Consensus on Surrogate Endpoint Evaluation - Deadline 17 January 2024 \[Wang Pok Lo, University of Edinburgh\]](#)
- [Developing training on designing and conducting research involving adults with impaired capacity to consent - Deadline 31 January 2024 \[Victoria Shepherd, Centre for Trials Research, Cardiff University\]](#)

Contact us

UKCRC Registered CTU Network Secretariat

Clinical Trials Research Unit

University of Leeds

Leeds

LS2 9JT

Tel: +44 (0) 113 343 9132

Email: regctus@leeds.ac.uk

Website: www.ukcrc-ctu.org.uk