

MIDLANDS ENGINE HEALTH

Focus on Clinical Trials

Midlands Biomedical Research Centres

MIDLANDS
ENGINE



Part of the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), Biomedical Research Centres (BRCs) are a collaboration between world-leading universities and NHS organisations that connect academics and clinicians with the aim of translating lab-based scientific breakthroughs into treatments, diagnostics and medical technologies.

The Midlands hosts three BRCs in Birmingham, Leicester and Nottingham - which support researchers of the highest calibre to develop innovative ideas that can attract investment from other funders. They deliver substantial growth in research excellence, capacity and reach, and undertake research across a range of disease and therapeutic areas, with specialities as follows:

Birmingham:

- Inflammatory Arthritis
- Inflammatory Gastroenterology
- Inflammatory Sarcopenia
- Trial Design and Delivery
- Diagnostics and Biomarkers
- Entrepreneurship and Commercialisation

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Leicester:

- Cardiovascular
- Respiratory
- Lifestyle
- Precision Medicine

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Nottingham:

- Hearing
- Gastrointestinal and Liver
- Musculoskeletal
- Mental Health and Technology
- Respiratory
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)

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Professor Ian Hall, Director, Nottingham Biomedical Research Centre and Co-Chair, Midlands Health Alliance

“Before 2017 there were no Biomedical Research Centres in the Midlands. These are the flagship infrastructure awards made by the NIHR, so it is fantastic that the region now has three BRCs. These have produced a step change in clinically relevant research activity in the region which will in time produce benefits to the health and wealth of the Midlands and the wider UK population. By bringing together NIHR-funded infrastructure together with the university hospitals and regional higher education institutions, under the Midlands Health Alliance initiative, we ensure a co-ordinated approach to early phase clinical research across the region. We also enhance the region’s offer to industry partners by acting as a focus for early phase clinical translation collaborations”.