

MIDLANDS ENGINE HEALTH

Focus on Clinical Trials

Patient Recruitment Centre: Leicester

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The Patient Recruitment Centre (PRC): Leicester is a research centre dedicated to setting up and delivering late phase commercial clinical trials in the NHS, at pace and scale. It is one of five national PRCs funded by the Department of Health and Social Care via the National Institute of Health Research (NIHR) that work collaboratively through an innovative franchise-like model to make delivering commercial research in the UK quicker and easier.

By attracting more commercial research, PRCs increase opportunities for patients to access cutting-edge treatment and therapies that may not yet be widely available through the NHS.

Hosted by University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust, PRC: Leicester is situated in one of the most diverse, multicultural cities in the UK and works with partners and stakeholders across the Midlands to ensure as many people as possible are given an opportunity to take part in research.



Gail Melvin, Research Business Manager, PRC: Leicester

"PRC: Leicester was launched in November 2020 and has already brought important research opportunities to our region. Despite being in the midst of a global pandemic, it is important that we continue to conduct research into better treatments to help those living with chronic disease. We have some exciting studies coming up which could really benefit our local population and improve care provided for common infections.

"PRC: Leicester is currently running six studies including a COVID-19 vaccine trial, which was set up in twelve weeks from protocol to first participant recruited and exceeded its recruitment target ahead of time. Some of these studies are in diabetes, including one evaluating an investigational medication for those with type 2 diabetes for its potential to prevent cardiovascular complications and another trialling a new insulin pump for adults with type 1 diabetes.

"We also have a study evaluating a medication for patients at risk for a heart condition known as diabetic cardiomyopathy as a complication of type 2 diabetes. Other studies are in the pipeline and due to open later this year."