

Benefits of using the DRN for your patient involvement

People affected by diabetes already work with the DRN to advise on research study design

People affected by diabetes already work with the DRN to help spread the word about research studies and how to participate

DRN patient groups receive training about the research process

DRN groups have already advised on more than 60 research applications

People affected by diabetes are helping the DRN to set its research priorities and balance its research portfolio



CARICATURES
By LEE WARM.

Who to contact about PPI at DRN centres

Local groups exist in all DRN regions – if you need PPI for your study, please contact:

North West:

Diane Campbell (Salford)
diane.campbell@srft.nhs.uk
Fran Westwell (Liverpool)
Fran.Westwell@rlbuht.nhs.uk

North East and Cumbria:

Jeanette Dixon
Jeanette.Dixon@cumbriaPCT.nhs.uk

South East Midlands:

Jilly Horsley
Jilly.Horsley@uhl-tr.nhs.uk

Eastern England:

Sandra Mulrennan
shmm2@medschl.cam.ac.uk

North East London:

Gill Hood
Gillian.Hood@bartsandthelondon.nhs.uk

Thames Valley:

Jayne Starrett
Jayne.Starrett@orh.nhs.uk

North West London:

Claire Smith
Claire.Smith@imperial.nhs.uk

South West Peninsula:

Rosemary Sowden
Rosemary.Sowden@rdefn.nhs.uk

If you do not have a local DRN centre, please contact the **DRN Coordinating Centre:**
Martin Lodemore – Tel: 020 7594 1796
m.lodemore@imperial.ac.uk



Patient and Public Involvement at the Diabetes Research Network



This leaflet is aimed at:

- researchers with an interest in patient and public involvement
- healthcare professionals interested in engaging with people affected by diabetes
- researchers interested in engaging with the DRN's national or regional lay reference panels



What is patient and public involvement?

Patient and public involvement means creating an active partnership between members of the public and the research community – not just having people as 'subjects' of research.

For diabetes research, this means including the perspectives of those living with the condition 24 hours a day. Often this is a different view to that of the research community – but it is often the view of those the research community is trying to recruit into its studies.

“No matter how complicated the research, or how brilliant the researcher, patients and the public always offer unique, invaluable insights. Their advice when designing, implementing and evaluating research invariably makes studies more effective, more credible and often more cost effective.”

Professor Dame Sally C. Davies

Director General of Research and Development
Department of Health



Why is patient and public involvement needed?

The Department of Health's *Best Research for Best Health* strategy places people at the centre of a research system that focuses on quality, transparency and value for money. One of its goals is to engage patients in the identification, design, recruitment to and dissemination of research projects.

Increasingly, funding bodies require researchers to show how patients and carers have been involved in the design of a study, and how they might be involved in its delivery.

Ethics committees have lay members, and most funding bodies now include patient and public input in their selection process.

Applications to the NIHR Programme Grants for Applied Research in 2009 had a 37% success rate, with a large proportion significantly flawed:

“Many proposals had inadequate arrangements (input and budgeting) for PPI in the design of the proposal.”

Characteristics for a successful application:

“A proposal that clearly involves the public and patients in the development and delivery of the proposal by not only specifying the people dedicated to the role, but also allocating sufficient resource from within the budget to allow for this.”

Professor Adrian Grant

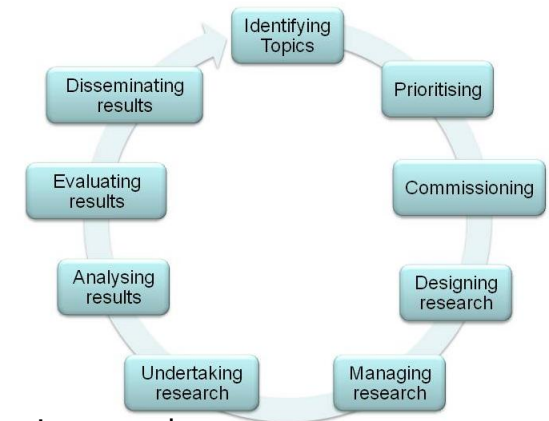
Director, NIHR Programme Grants for Applied Research

How patients and the public already contribute to the research process

People with diabetes, their carers and family members already contribute to research in a number of ways, including:

- commissioning, ethical approval committees
- study design
- study conduct
- research priorities
- evaluation and dissemination of results

The benefits of including the views of those people researchers are seeking to recruit are evident. The Research Cycle below, as designed by INVOLVE, shows where people are already contributing to many stages of the research process.



www.invo.org.uk

Benefits of PPI to research studies

- Topics that people can relate to
- Recruitment methods that are appropriate to target populations
- Outcomes that are important to people
- Improved information for potential recruits
- Improved ethical acceptability
- Better response rates for questionnaires
- Help in disseminating the results into the public arena