

Reference Number: UHB099

Version Number: 3

Date of Next Review: 17 Sept 2022

Previous Trust/LHB Reference Number:

### **RESEARCH GOVERNANCE POLICY**

## **Policy Statement**

Research Governance can be defined as the broad range of regulations, principles and standards of good practice that ensure high quality research. Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (UHB) considers the governance of research and development (R&D) activity involving its patients, staff and resources to be of paramount importance. We are committed to high quality, relevant research that is managed appropriately to ensure patient dignity, rights, safety and wellbeing. We will ensure that all research complies with the law and that financial probity is maintained.

## **Policy Commitment**

The UHB is committed to providing a framework for research which complies with the law and good practice, without unnecessarily restricting the freedom of individual researchers to develop ideas which can improve clinical care.

## **Supporting Procedures and Written Control Documents**

This Policy and the supporting procedures listed below aim to

- Ensure that R&D is of the highest quality and that researchers operate within the same quality framework as the services which the research is aimed at improving
- Ensure that all R&D is carried out lawfully, properly and sensitively respecting the rights, dignity, wellbeing and safety of patients
- Clearly identify the responsibilities of individuals involved in R&D

### Other supporting documents are:

Research Governance Procedure (UHB 457)

Governance & Compliance Audit of Human Tissue For Research Purposes (UHB 134)

Financial Procedure for supporting Non-Commercial Research (RD08)

Archiving of Clinical Trial and Research Study Data SOP (UHB 121)

Research, Consent and Mental Capacity SOP (UHB 147)

Investigating and Handling Allegations of Research Misconduct Procedure (UHB145)

Research Audit SOP (UHB 236)

Managing Breaches of Good Clinical Practice or the Study Protocol SOP (UHB 235)

Oversight and Monitoring in Research SOP (UHB 247)

Data Management for Clinical Trials SOP (UHB 449)





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Safety Reporting in CTIMPs SOP (UHB 253)

Clinical Research Training requirements including Good Clinical Practice (GCP) Training – SOP (UHB 317)

Applying for Cardiff and Vale UHB NHS Sponsorship SOP (UHB 453)

Reporting requirements for Cardiff and Vale UHB Sponsored Research SOP (UHB 406)

Managing amendments for Sponsored Research SOP (UHB 302)

UK Policy Framework for Health and Social Care Research

## Scope

The scope of this Policy extends to all research activity, both commercial and noncommercial, involving the UHB including:

- Research using patients, carers, volunteers and members of staff at the UHB and in Primary Care settings;
- Research using patient tissue, organs or data;
- Research taking place on UHB premises, satellite sites and authorised external organisations, or involving UHB resources, including non-clinical and laboratory based research;
- Research being undertaken as part of an educational qualification.

Equality and Health	An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) was completed on
Impact Assessment	Version 1 and 2 and this found there to be no impact. This EqIA has been updated with new references to form a EHIA. The changes to the Policy (see below) would not impact on the outcome of the EHIA.

Policy Approved by	Quality, Safety and Experience Committee
Group with authority to	Research Governance Group
approve procedures	•
written to explain how	
_	
this policy will be	
implemented	
Accountable Executive	Medical Director
or Clinical Board	
Director	
1	

## **Disclaimer**

If the review date of this document has passed please ensure that the version you are using is the most up to date either by contacting the document author or the Governance Directorate.

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Summary of reviews/amendments				
Version Number	Date Review Approved	Date Published	Summary of Amendments	
2	Review by Research Governance Group 26/04/2016	1/11/2016	The document has been updated to reflect the current Clinical Board and committee structure of the UHB, the changes to Health and Care Research Wales and updated internal UHB documents. The Mental Capacity Act has been highlighted in certain sections. The Audit section has been changed to reflect alignment with the current Research Audit SOP	
3	Review by QSE Committee	26/09/2019	In line with UHB requirements, this Policy now follows the Policy template of UHB. UHB Policy has been replaced by a Policy and a Procedure and has been updated to reflect the replacement of the Research Governance Framework for Health and Social Care in Wales with the UK Policy Framework for Health and Social Care Research.	

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# **Equality & Health Impact Assessment for**

## **Research Governance Policy**

1.	For service change, provide the title of the Project Outline Document or Business Case and Reference Number	Research Governance Policy	
2.	Name of Clinical Board / Corporate Directorate and title of lead member of staff, including contact details	Research and Development Office, Medical Director's Office, Executive Clinical Board  Research and Development Manager, R&D Office, Room 15A, TB2 Floor 2 UHW	
3.	Objectives of strategy/ policy/ plan/ procedure/ service	<ul> <li>Ensure that R&amp;D is of the highest quality and that researchers operate within the same quality framework as the services which the research is aimed at improving</li> <li>Ensure that all R&amp;D is carried out lawfully, properly and sensitively respecting the rights, dignity, wellbeing and safety of participants</li> <li>Clearly identify the responsibilities of individuals involved in R&amp;D</li> </ul>	

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4.	Evidence and background information considered. For example  population data  staff and service users data, as applicable  needs assessment  engagement and involvement findings  research  good practice guidelines  participant knowledge  list of stakeholders and how stakeholders have engaged in the development stages  comments from those involved in the designing and development stages  Population pyramids are available from Public Health Wales Observatory <sup>1</sup> and the UHB's 'Shaping Our Future Wellbeing' Strategy provides an overview of health need <sup>2</sup> .	Previous EQIA performed on the previous version of the Research Governance Policy.  Comments from those involved in the designing and development stages  Good practice guidelines  Based on content of the UK Policy Framework for Health and Social Care Research which underwent extensive consultation at the UK wide level at staff and service user level.
5.	Who will be affected by the strategy/ policy/ plan/ procedure/ service	Staff and service users involved in Research and Development

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> http://nww2.nphs.wales.nhs.uk:8080/PubHObservatoryProjDocs.nsf <sup>2</sup> http://www.cardiffandvaleuhb.wales.nhs.uk/the-challenges-we-face

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## 6. EQIA / How will the strategy, policy, plan, procedure and/or service impact on people?

Questions in this section relate to the impact on people on the basis of their 'protected characteristics'. Specific alignment with the 7 goals of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 is included against the relevant sections.

How will the strategy, policy, plan, procedure and/or service impact on:-	Potential positive and/or negative impacts	Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation	Action taken by Clinical Board / Corporate Directorate.
6.1 Age For most purposes, the main categories are:  • under 18;  • between 18 and 65; and  • over 65	The policy applies equally to all research participants and all those involved in the research study. The strict regulatory framework which governs the conduct of research within the NHS has at its heart equality of access to research for all potential participants.  This is enshrined in the application process and the guidance for information sheets and their content. The guidance available from NRES (HRA) ensures that vulnerable adults and children have special protection and the oversight provided by monitoring and audit by sponsors ensures that this is implemented. Its application requires strict adherence to legal obligations, regulations and guidance in respect of information governance management. The evidence suggests that it has no impact on this equality group.		

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# 6.2 Persons with a disability as defined in the Equality Act 2010

Those with physical impairments, learning disability, sensory loss or impairment, mental health conditions, long-term medical conditions such as diabetes

#### Yes

Documents are not automatically published in Braille or languages other than English. The primary source of circulation is via the intranet. Software which will read the policy for the reader is now very common therefore documents should generally be accessible to those with a visual impairment. The Disability Discrimination Act requires that information should be made accessible for those with disabilities. In addition. recommendations on accessibility in terms of reading age, form part of the ethical review undertaken of all research taking place within the NHS and are contained in the NRES guidance referenced at the end of this section. Where specific groups with a particular disability are part of a research group under study then as part of the ethical review. arrangements for taking informed consent in an appropriate way and with appropriate skills/tools will be a mandatory part of the review and approval process. The Health Research Authority together with the Medical

Research Council 'Consent and Patient Information Sheet preparation Guidance' <a href="http://www.hra.nhs.uk/resources/before-you-apply/consent-and-participation/consent-and-

Governance arrangements for Research Ethics Committees

ways to allow equality of access to research studies for all.

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6.3 People of	available at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attach">https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attach</a> <a href="mailto:ment_data/file/213753/dh_133993.pdf">ment_data/file/213753/dh_133993.pdf</a> <a href="mailto:ment_data/file/213753/dh_133993.pdf">The policy applies equally to all research participants and all the socious had in the research attack. The attack required to the research participants and all the socious had in the research attack. The attack required to the research participants and all the socious had in the research attack."  The policy applies equally to all research participants and all the socious had in the research attack. The attack required to the research participants are required to the research participants.</a>	
different genders: Consider men, women, people undergoing gender reassignment  NB Gender-	those involved in the research study. The strict regulatory framework which governs the conduct of research within the NHS has at its heart equality of access to research for all potential participants. This is enshrined in the application process and the guidance for information sheets and their content. The guidance available from NRES (HRA) ensures that vulnerable adults and children have special protection and the	
reassignment is anyone who proposes to, starts, is going through or who has completed a process to change his or her gender with or without going through any medical procedures. Sometimes referred to as Trans or Transgender	oversight provided by monitoring and audit by sponsors ensures that this is implemented. Its application requires strict adherence to legal obligations, regulations and guidance in respect of information governance management. The evidence suggests that it has no impact on this equality group.	
6.4 People who are married or who have a civil partner.	The policy applies equally to all research participants. The strict regulatory framework which governs the conduct of research within the NHS has at its heart equality of access to research for all potential participants. This is enshrined in the application process and the guidance for information sheets and their	

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	content. The guidance available from NRES (HRA) ensures that vulnerable adults and children have special protection and the oversight provided by monitoring and audit by sponsors ensures that this is implemented. Its application requires strict adherence to legal obligations, regulations and guidance in respect of information governance management. The evidence suggests that it has no impact on this equality group.	
6.5 Women who are expecting a baby, who are on a break from work after having a baby, or who are breastfeeding. They are protected for 26 weeks after having a baby whether or not they are on maternity leave.	There are potential risks to the unborn child in including women of child bearing age in early phase drug studies. In the past this meant that only men were recruited. However, women are now included in these studies with very careful control of pregnancy testing before during and after the study and follow up and reporting of all pregnancy outcomes to the Medicine and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency. As part of the ethical review that all research studies undergo aspects of equality of access will be closely examined Governance arrangements for Research Ethics Committees available at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/213753/dh_133993.pdf">https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/213753/dh_133993.pdf</a>	
6.6 People of a different race, nationality, colour, culture or ethnic origin including non-	The policy applies equally to all research participants and all those involved in the research study. The strict regulatory framework which governs the conduct of research within the NHS has at its heart equality of access to research for all potential participants. This is enshrined in the application	

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gypsies/travellers,	content. The guidance available from NRES (HRA) ensures that	
migrant workers	vulnerable adults and children have special protection and the	
	oversight provided by monitoring and audit by sponsors ensures	
	that this is implemented. Its application requires strict adherence	
	to legal obligations, regulations and guidance in respect of	
	information governance management. The evidence suggests	
	that it has no impact on this equality group.	
	Issues around cultural and language are dealt with extensively	
	as part of the ethical review that all research projects undergo	
	before getting approval to be undertaken. Evidence has been	
	gathered from the National Research Ethics Service(NRES)	
	, ,	
	website guidance document http://www.hra.nhs.uk/resources/before-you-apply/consent-and-	
	participation/consent-and-participant-information/.	
	In particular it is a province and a part of athird approval that if	
	In particular it is a requirement as part of ethical approval that if	
	translation is required to enable an individual to consider taking	
	part in a research project then translation must be provided by	
	an independent translator provided by the organisation. There is	
	a specific section in the NRES/IRAS application which highlights	
	the fact that family members must not be used to ensure that	
	there is no coercion.	
	Governance arrangements for Research Ethics Committees	
	available at	
	https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attach	
	ment_data/file/213753/dh_133993.pdf	
6.7 People with a	The policy applies equally to all research participants and all	
religion or belief or	those involved in the research study. The strict regulatory	
with no religion or	framework which governs the conduct of research within the	
iio rongion oi	indicated. This governe the conduct of recognish within the	

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belief. The term 'religion' includes a religious or philosophical belief	NHS has at its heart equality of access to research for all potential participants. This is enshrined in the application process and the guidance for information sheets and their content. The guidance available from NRES (HRA) ensures that vulnerable adults and children have special protection and the oversight provided by monitoring and audit by sponsors ensures that this is implemented. Its application requires strict adherence to legal obligations, regulations and guidance in respect of information governance management. The evidence suggests that it has no impact on this equality group.	
6.8 People who are attracted to other people of:  • the opposite sex (heterosexual);  • the same sex (lesbian or gay);  • both sexes (bisexual)	The policy applies equally to all research participants and all those involved in the research study. The strict regulatory framework which governs the conduct of research within the NHS has at its heart equality of access to research for all potential participants. This is enshrined in the application process and the guidance for information sheets and their content. The guidance available from NRES (HRA) ensures that vulnerable adults and children have special protection and the oversight provided by monitoring and audit by sponsors ensures that this is implemented. Its application requires strict adherence to legal obligations, regulations and guidance in respect of information governance management. The evidence suggests that it has no impact on this equality group.  Evidence has been gathered from the NMC which highlights the responsibility of all nurses/midwives to treat [people] fairly irrespective of race, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief and gender. Available at http://www.nmc-uk.org/About-us/Equality-and-diversity/Equality-	

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	and-diversity-about-us/	
6.9 People who	In respect of communication the UHB will need to ensure that	
communicate using	people who wish to communicate in the Welsh medium have a	
the Welsh language	means to do so as referred to in our Welsh Language Scheme.	
in terms of	This can be found on the UHB website	
correspondence,	http://nww.cardiffandvale.wales.nhs.uk/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/CA	
information leaflets,	RDIFF_AND_VALE_INTRANET/CORPORATE/WELSH_LANG	
or service plans and	UAGE/WELSH_LANGUAGE_SCHEME/20181130%20DG%20S	
design	%20COMPLIANCENOTICE44%20CARDIFF%20AND%20VALE	
	%20UHB.PDF	
Well-being Goal – A		
Wales of vibrant		
culture and thriving		
Welsh language		
6.10 People	The policy applies equally to all research participants and all	
according to their	those involved in the research study. The strict regulatory	
income related	framework which governs the conduct of research within the	
group:	NHS has at its heart equality of access to research for all	
Consider people on	potential participants. This is enshrined in the application	
low income,	process and the guidance for information sheets and their	
economically inactive,	content. The guidance available from NRES (HRA) ensures that	
unemployed/workless,	vulnerable adults and children have special protection and the	
people who are unable	oversight provided by monitoring and audit by sponsors ensures	
to work due to ill-health	that this is implemented. Its application requires strict adherence	
	to legal obligations, regulations and guidance in respect of	
	information governance management. The evidence suggests	
	that it has no impact on this equality group.	

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6.11 People according to where they live: Consider people living in areas known to exhibit poor economic and/or health indicators, people unable to access services and facilities  6.12 Consider any	The policy applies equally to all research participants and all those involved in the research study. The strict regulatory framework which governs the conduct of research within the NHS has at its heart equality of access to research for all potential participants. This is enshrined in the application process and the guidance for information sheets and their content. The guidance available from NRES (HRA) ensures that vulnerable adults and children have special protection and the oversight provided by monitoring and audit by sponsors ensures that this is implemented. Its application requires strict adherence to legal obligations, regulations and guidance in respect of information governance management. The evidence suggests that it has no impact on this equality group.	
other groups and risk factors relevant to this strategy, policy, plan, procedure and/or service	No futther additions required	

7. HIA / How will the strategy, policy, plan, procedure and/or service impact on the health and well-being of our population and help address inequalities in health?

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Questions in this section relate to the impact on the overall health of individual people and on the impact on our population. Specific alignment with the 7 goals of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 is included against the relevant sections.

How will the strategy, policy, plan, procedure and/or service impact on:-	Potential positive and/or negative impacts and any particular groups affected	Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation	Action taken by Clinical Board / Corporate Directorate Make reference to where the mitigation is included in the document, as appropriate
7.1 People being able to access the service offered: Consider access for those living in areas of deprivation and/or those experiencing health inequalities  Well-being Goal - A more equal Wales	The policy applies equally to all research participants and all those involved in the research study. The strict regulatory framework which governs the conduct of research within the NHS has at its heart equality of access to research for all potential participants. This is enshrined in the application process and the guidance for information sheets and their content.		
7.2 People being able to improve /maintain healthy lifestyles: Consider the impact on healthy lifestyles, including healthy eating, being active,	There is potentially a positive impact in this area as some research conducted in accordance with this policy may address how various interventions relating to		

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How will the strategy, policy, plan, procedure and/or service impact on:-	Potential positive and/or negative impacts and any particular groups affected	Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation	Action taken by Clinical Board / Corporate Directorate Make reference to where the mitigation is included in the document, as appropriate
no smoking /smoking cessation, reducing the harm caused by alcohol and /or non-prescribed drugs plus access to services that support disease prevention (eg immunisation and vaccination, falls prevention). Also consider impact on access to supportive services including smoking cessation services, weight management services etc.  Well-being Goal – A healthier Wales	changing lifestyle to more healthier choices can improve well being		
7.3 People in terms of their income and employment status: Consider the impact on the availability and accessibility of work, paid/ unpaid employment, wage levels, job security, working conditions	This policy has little impact in this area		

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How will the strategy, policy, plan, procedure and/or service impact on:-	Potential positive and/or negative impacts and any particular groups affected	Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation	Action taken by Clinical Board / Corporate Directorate Make reference to where the mitigation is included in the document, as appropriate
Well-being Goal – A prosperous Wales			
7.4 People in terms of their use of the physical environment: Consider the impact on the availability and accessibility of transport, healthy food, leisure activities, green spaces; of the design of the built environment on the physical and mental health of patients, staff and visitors; on air quality, exposure to pollutants; safety of neighbourhoods, exposure to crime; road safety and preventing injuries/accidents; quality and safety of play areas and open spaces  Well-being Goal – A resilient Wales	This policy has little impact in this area. However some research conducted under this policy may produce results which show that certain interventions on physical environment may have a positive impact on health and well-being.		
7.5 People in terms of social	Researchers are encouraged		

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How will the strategy, policy, plan, procedure and/or service impact on:-	Potential positive and/or negative impacts and any particular groups affected	Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation	Action taken by Clinical Board / Corporate Directorate Make reference to where the mitigation is included in the document, as appropriate
and community influences on their health: Consider the impact on family organisation and roles; social support and social networks; neighbourliness and sense of belonging; social isolation; peer pressure; community identity; cultural and spiritual ethos  Well-being Goal – A Wales of	to seek input from the lay community/patient support groups when designing research studies. This can have a positive impact on the sense of belonging and 'community' identity.		
7.6 People in terms of macro-economic, environmental and sustainability factors: Consider the impact of	High quality relevant research as outlined in this policy can have a positive impact on influencing government policy and guidelines		
government policies; gross domestic product; economic development; biological diversity; climate  Well-being Goal – A globally	ana galaciinos		

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How will the strategy, policy, plan, procedure and/or service impact on:-	Potential positive and/or negative impacts and any particular groups affected	Recommendations for improvement/ mitigation	Action taken by Clinical Board / Corporate Directorate Make reference to where the mitigation is included in the document, as appropriate
responsible Wales			

## Please answer question 8.1 following the completion of the EHIA and complete the action plan

8.1 Please summarise the potential positive and/or negative impacts of the strategy,	A policy which commits to the UHB carrying out high quality research in a safe and lawful manner has the potential to positively impact on the patient
policy, plan or service	community by providing opportunities for patients to receive new and innovate treatments and diagnostic procedures and ensure UHB retains a positive reputation for undertaking high quality research

**Action Plan for Mitigation / Improvement and Implementation** 

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	Action	Lead	Timescale	Action taken by Clinical Board / Corporate Directorate
8.2 What are the key actions identified as a result of completing the EHIA?	On reviewing the previous policy and writing the latest policy and procedure and completing the EHIA, there appear to be no negative impacts of the Policy. Therefore no key actions have been identified.			
8.3 Is a more comprehensive Equalities Impact Assessment or Health Impact Assessment required?  This means thinking about relevance and proportionality to the Equality Act and asking: is the impact significant enough that a more formal and full consultation is required?	As no negative impact has been identified, it is considered unnecessary to undertake a more detailed assessment.			

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		Lead	Timescale	Action taken by Clinical Board / Corporate Directorate
Some suggestions:-  Decide whether the strategy, policy, plan, procedure and/or service proposal:  Continues unchanged as there are no significant negative impacts adjusts to account for the negative impacts  Continues despite potential for adverse impact or missed opportunities to advance equality (set out the justifications for doing so)  Stops.  Have your strategy, policy, plan, procedure and/or service proposal approved  Dublish your sport of this impact	reviewing this policy and priting as a policy and cedure in line with UHB delines, the EQIA has en revisited and an EHIA or completed. The policy disprocedure have been proved by Research evernance Group. When a policy is next reviewed, as EHIA will form part of the consultation exercise. It is EHIA will be reviewed ears after approval ears changes to terms a conditions, legislation poest practice determine than earlier review is uired.			