



Research and Innovation

Quarterly Update Report Q2 2020/21

We are pleased to present the 2020/21 quarter 1 and 2 update report of clinical research activities at Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

Research is an essential part of NHS care, not least because we know organisations and teams that are 'research active' provide better care. In some circumstances research may be the only route for patients to access lifesaving therapy.



Recruitment

SFH have recruited 1691 patients in to National Institute for Health Research studies at Q2 (Data cut 22/09/2020) compared to 894 this time last year.

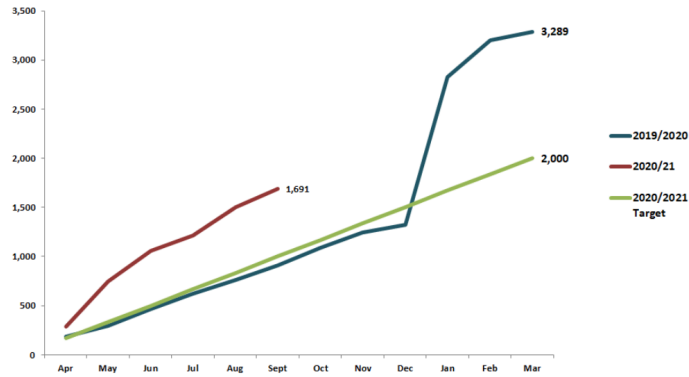
Numbers of studies

33 studies are currently open, 38 studies are suspended due to Urgent Public Health Research demand. Only 3 new studies opened and 2 closed in Q2 20/21. 13 studies are actively recruiting. Trials are spread across most specialities. However activity is currently centred in Respiratory, Emergency Care and Critical Care due to the nature of COVID-19 trials.

Commercial Research

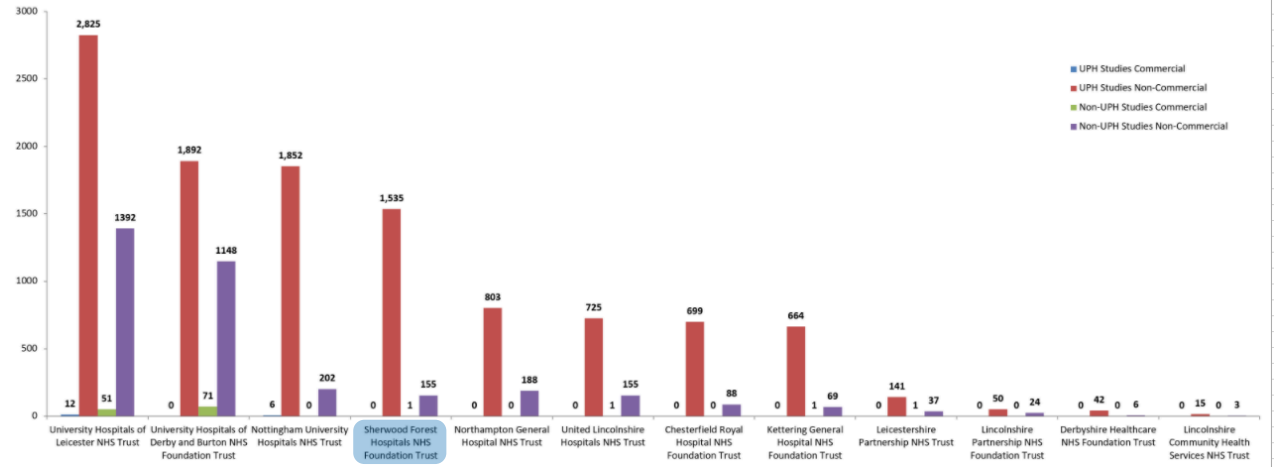
1 commercial trial opened in 20/21, 2 in set up. Activity has reduced due to delivery of UPH studies.

Cumulative Monthly Recruitment 19-20 and 20-21

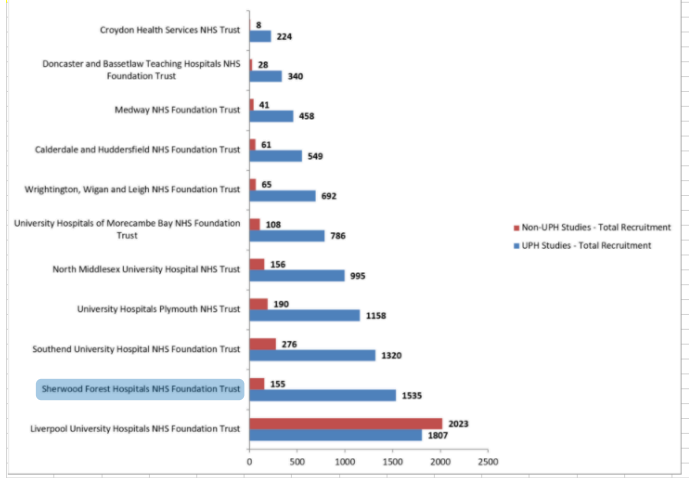


	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
2019/2020	182	296	470	621	765	909	1,090	1,248	1,327	2,826	3,202	3,289
2020/21	284	744	1,059	1,211	1,502	1,691						
2020/21 Target	167	334	501	668	835	1,002	1,169	1,336	1,503	1,670	1,837	2,000

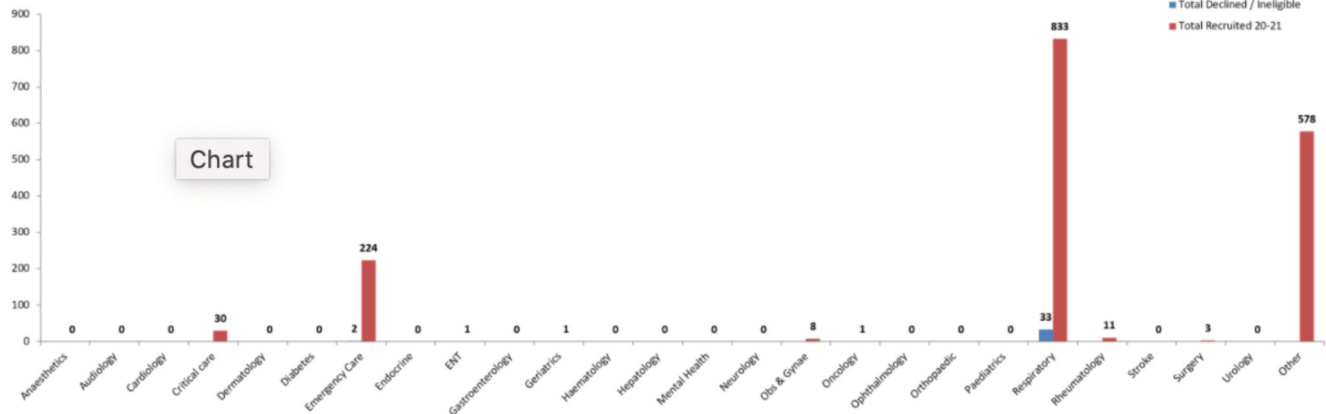
Recruitment in to studies across the East Midlands 20-21



Recruitment comparison SFH vs similar sized NHS Trust 20-21



Recruitment by speciality, including numbers of those declining participation 20-21



The confirmed East Midlands CRN budget for 2020/21 is £732,459.50, a 2.7% increase on 19/20. This is mainly due to CRN Service Support costs now being incorporated in to annual budgets. Regional discussions are currently underway between the CRN and representatives from partner organisations to confirm budget modelling for 21/22, with the option for a rollover budget.

Commercial income at Q2 20/21 is £29,620.87 to be invested in growing research capacity and capability in line with NIHR Commercial Income Distribution Guidance, August 2015. This is significantly less (72%) than previous years due to suspension of commercial activity in order to deliver UPH studies. The organisation continues to receive Research Capability Funding (RCF) from DHSC of £20,000 in 2020/21. This funding allows SFH to contribute towards sponsorship, governance costs; financial management and staff support for researchers working on NIHR adopted studies.



2020/21
CRN East Midlands Income

£732,459.50

**2.7% increase
on 2019/20**



2020/21
Commercial Income

£29,620.87

For re-investment into
future research capability and
capacity



Department of Health
Funding

£20,000

To maintain research capability
and capacity

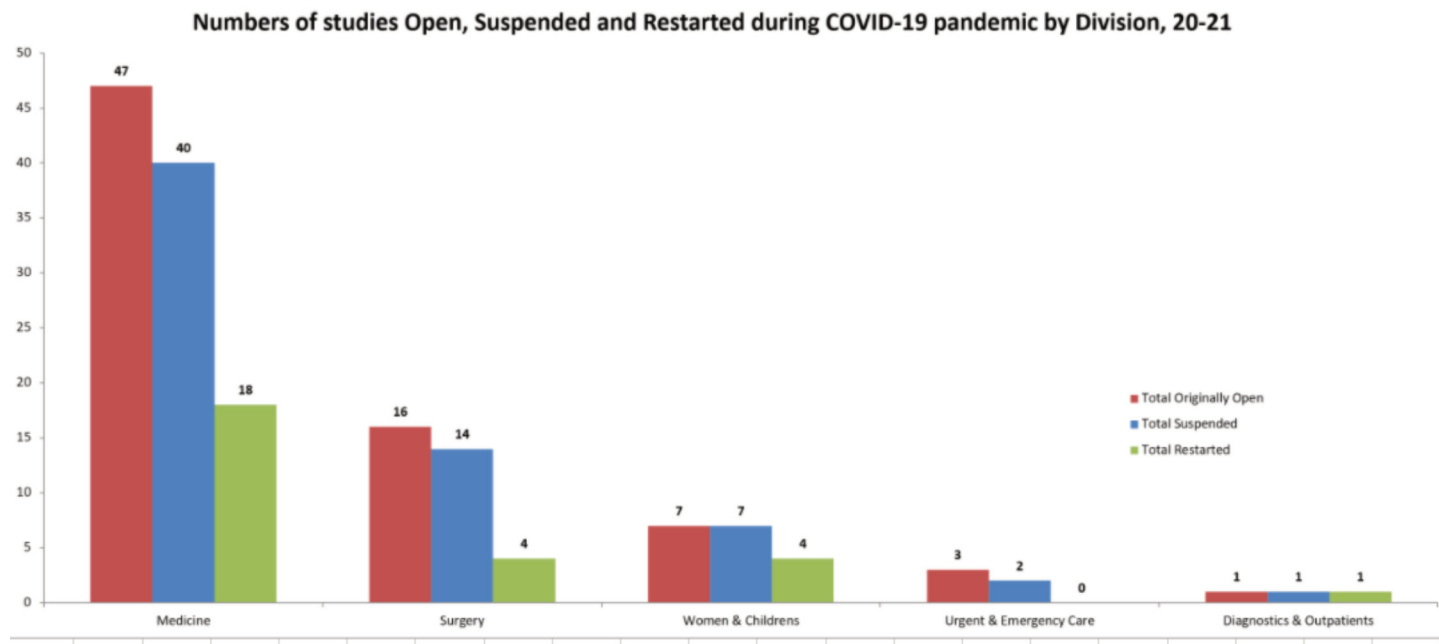
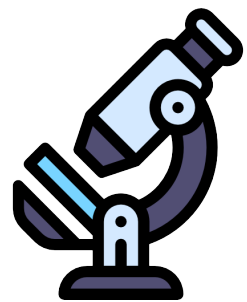


The NIHR placed the Participant Research Experience survey on hold during the pandemic resulting in no figures to report at this time. The survey is due to be reopened at SFH in Q3 using a standard regional format and will not be available digitally.

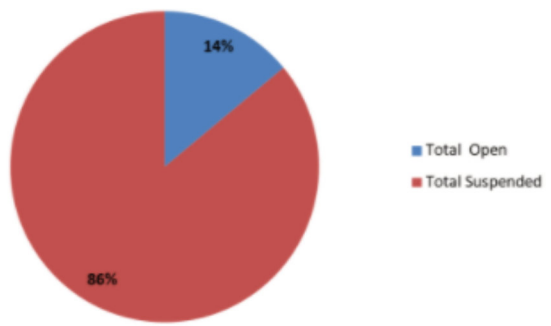
Ordinarily results are publicly available via a web link dashboard.

As the number of new cases of COVID-19 started to decline R&I worked towards the restoration of research funded or supported by the NIHR. This included both non-COVID-19 research and important COVID-19 research which does not meet the UPH criteria. SFH is following the NIHR guidance 'restart' which has been developed to support local decision-making and is approved by DHSC. To date 27 studies, 42% of the portfolio have been reopened, 37 remain suspended,

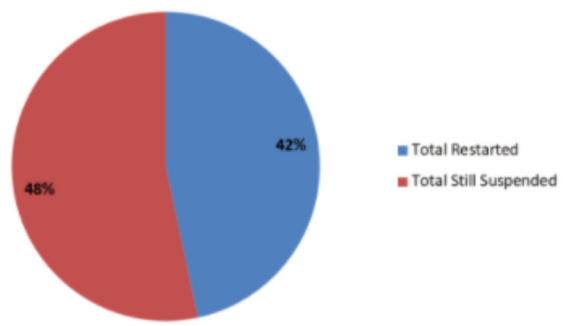
R&I has employed a RAG rating system which classifies the research portfolio into urgent, essential and non-essential studies. This was used at the start of the pandemic to identify which studies could be suspended safely. As COVID-19 cases start to increase, R&I is able to respond rapidly using this system and will stand down studies again based on priority rating. Restarting any additional studies will be informed by numbers of suspected/positive cases coming in to the Trust, as more staff may need to be diverted to recruiting to UPH studies.



Percentage of portfolio suspended due to COVID-19



Percentage of suspended portfolio now restarted



Key Priority Areas

Developing the new R&I Strategy provides the opportunity to focus on unique key priorities alongside the sustained focus on portfolio growth, quality improvement and engagement. In 20/21 these include:

- Secure and deliver suitable UPH COVID -19 research trials to maximise opportunities for our patients' and staff
- Work with and support the Clinical Divisions to meet the priority objective; develop a research plan
- Increase partnership working with HEI's by developing a partnership with Nottingham Trent University as part of their Health and Wellbeing strategic research theme
- Work closely with the Associate Director of Transformation to develop a mechanism to capture and cultivate new and innovate ideas, by establishing an Innovation Forum whilst retaining a focus on commercialisation and securing IP for SFH

In response to Trust Board's request for information we have provided data in response to the following questions:

1. How many patient's/potential participants decline to take part in research? In Q2 17%, 33 patients declined to participate in studies compared to 193 recruited. In order to give an accurate reflection this data would need to be recorded over a longer period of time and during a period where we have a broader spread of studies (See chart 4).
2. What percentage of patients seen at the Trust participate in research? Based on 300,000 distinct patient attendances across 54 specialities in 19/20, recruitment to research equates to only 1%. This is based on an initial simple method of calculation. It is important to find a better way to accurately measure this data. We are currently under discussion with the Communications team regarding creating a research question in an existing patient satisfaction survey (ideally outpatient) such as, "were you approached about research during your hospital attendance?"