



*National Institute for
Health Research*

National Institute for Health Research Coordinated System for gaining NHS Permission (NIHR CSP)

A series of overlapping, wavy lines in various shades of blue and teal, flowing from the left side of the page towards the right. The lines vary in thickness and opacity, creating a sense of movement and depth.

**Providing a consistent
and streamlined process for
gaining NHS permission for
clinical research in England**

The **National Institute for Health Research Coordinated System for gaining NHS Permission (NIHR CSP)** is a system for gaining permission from NHS organisations to undertake clinical research in England. It is available to studies that are eligible to be included in the NIHR Clinical Research Network Portfolio and studies resourced through NIHR Biomedical Research Units, NIHR Biomedical Research Centres and NIHR Collaborations for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care.

What does NIHR CSP do?

- **Provides a single point** for sponsors and investigators to apply for NHS permission to start multi-site and single site studies
- **Reduces duplication** in the NHS review process
- **Provides consistency** in the NHS review process across NHS sites

How does NIHR CSP work?

NIHR CSP:

- Is accessed by investigators through the Integrated Research Application System (IRAS) to provide a single point of application
- Minimises the administrative burden placed on researchers
- Defines and carries out checks that only need to be done once
- Defines and carries out checks that need to be done for each site
- Establishes time targets for key stages
- Ensures that researchers obtain all the necessary approvals prior to commencement of their study

NIHR CSP is conducted in accordance with national Operating Guidelines that clearly define which governance checks are global (undertaken once only per study), which are local (undertaken at every participating site) and who is responsible for carrying them out.

What are the benefits of NIHR CSP?

NIHR CSP brings significant benefits. These include:

- A **single national system** that fully satisfies all governance and regulatory requirements
- A **single point of entry** for NHS permission
- A **standardised process** by which investigators will gain NHS permission
- **Reduced bureaucratic burden** for multi-site studies

- **Reduced time to gain approvals** which fully satisfy all governance and regulatory requirements
- A **high quality process** coordinated nationally through the NIHR CSP Unit and locally through Comprehensive Local Research Networks
- **Builds on best governance practice** being used in the NHS R&D management community

Who is leading the development of NIHR CSP?

The NIHR Clinical Research Network Coordinating Centre is leading on the development of NIHR CSP on behalf of the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) and in collaboration with key partners such as the National Research Ethics Service, the NHS R&D Forum, the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry, NHS R&D Managers and researchers.

How can I find out more?

Further information is available on the NIHR CRN CC website at <http://csp.crncc.nihr.ac.uk>

or by emailing crncc.csp@nihr.ac.uk

For queries regarding studies with sites in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland as well as in England, contact the NIHR CSP Helpdesk crncc.csp@nihr.ac.uk

For information about using the Integrated Research Application System (IRAS), visit www.myresearchproject.org.uk

or the NIHR website at www.nihr.ac.uk