

**Westminster Health Forum policy conference:
Next steps for clinical trials and research in the UK**

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 27th January 2026

Taking place online



**WESTMINSTER
HEALTH FORUM**

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **Assessing current issues in clinical research design and delivery, and opportunities for growth**
Senior commentator
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Strategies for building public confidence and involvement in clinical trials**
Senior representative, health research
- 9.45 **Implementation of new clinical trial regulations and strategies for increasing public engagement**
MHRA Clinical Trials Regulations | responsibilities for safety and monitoring | delivering trials in primary care and community settings | role of ICBs in supporting clinical trials | recruitment and accessibility | digital inclusion and reducing barriers to participation, including geographic disparities | use of the NHS App | data governance | tackling underrepresentation | use of Inclusion and Diversity Plans | trial design flexibility for rare diseases | pathways for highly personalised medicines | public messaging, confidence, and trust
Senior representative, research
Senior representative, ICB
Senior representative, industry
Senior representative, data
Senior representative, advocacy
- 10.10 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.35 **Assessing regulatory reform and priorities for practical implementation**
Senior representative, regulation
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.00 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.05 Break
- 11.15 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.20 **The role of the Health Data Research Service in improving access to data**
Senior representative, data
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 **Streamlining clinical trial delivery - key considerations for innovative technology, funding, the workforce, and data frameworks**
150-day target practicalities | impact of the Combined Review | sponsor confidence | Health Data Research Service and public trust | interoperability across NHS datasets | potential use of AI to support trial design and conduct | workforce recruitment and retention | joint NHS-university roles | new delivery centres and regional research hubs | UK attractiveness for global partnerships | wearable technology and real-time data collection | data quality and coding standards | funding for research infrastructure | expanding both commercial and non-commercial trial capacity | immigration, visas, and international recruitment | regional consistency in career pathways and roles
Taly Dvorkis, Director, Fieldfisher
Senior representative, industry
Senior representative, innovation
Senior representative, workforce
Senior representative, investment
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Next steps for clinical trials and research policy in the UK**
Dr Louise Newport, Head, Clinical Trials Engagement and Governance, Department of Health and Social Care
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Health Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Jessica Lear, Westminster Health Forum