

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

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 15th December 2026

*****Taking place online*****



Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentary
- 9.05 **Priorities for clinical trials and research in the UK - delivery, participation and evidence generation**
Professor Sir Martin Landray, Professor, Medicine and Epidemiology, Nuffield Department of Population Health, University of Oxford; and CEO, Protas
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Clinical trials regulation - early implementation, proportionate oversight and delivery**
Dr Kingyin Lee, Head, Clinical Trials, Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency
Senior speaker confirmed from the **Health Research Authority**
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.05 **Trial set-up, recruitment and participation across the UK**
reducing barriers between regulatory approval, site set-up and first-patient recruitment | contracting and responsibilities between sponsors, research organisations and NHS sites | next steps for national and digital recruitment services alongside local and community-based routes | supporting research delivery across primary, secondary and community care | reaching underserved groups and addressing geographical and socioeconomic inequalities | identifying and approaching potential participants using data-enabled approaches | patient involvement in trial design and public confidence | community engagement, culturally appropriate recruitment and clear participant information | plans to link clinical trial recruitment with NHS App in England and the UK-wide Be Part of Research service | access to trials beyond traditional research centres
Senior representative, research
Senior representative, patients
Senior representative, NHS/ICB
Senior representative, primary care
Senior representative, industry
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.55 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentary
- 11.00 Break
- 11.10 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentary
- 11.15 **Health data, genomics and digital research - access, governance and new models**
next steps for the development of the Health Data Research Service | data access, interoperability and governance | confidentiality, public confidence and requirements for researcher access | digital and decentralised research models | remote monitoring, virtual follow-up and consent | safety monitoring and ethical oversight beyond traditional trial sites | genomics, access to biomarker testing and precision trials | accessibility and practical requirements for participants and research teams | validation, accountability and responsible use of AI in trial design, recruitment, monitoring and delivery
Senior representative, data
Senior representative, innovation
Senior representative, NHS
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 **Research capacity, advanced therapies and commercial research - readiness and delivery**
next steps for supporting advanced therapies and emerging treatment models | cell and gene therapies, regenerative medicine and personalised cancer vaccines | planned Cancer Clinical Trials Accelerator Programme, Vaccine Innovation Pathway and Cancer Vaccine Launch Pad | research infrastructure and addressing variation in local delivery capacity | workforce recruitment, retention and specialist research skills | protected time and practical support for NHS staff undertaking research alongside service delivery | site capability and access to appropriate patient populations for increasingly complex trials | collaboration between NHS, academia and industry | reliability and predictability of commercial trial delivery | longer-term investment, commercial partnerships and UK competitiveness for clinical research
Senior representative, industry
Senior representative, patients
Senior representative, NHS
Senior representative, workforce
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Next steps for clinical research policy and delivery in the UK**
Senior representative, policy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Health Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentary
Tess Mitchell-Thomas, Westminster Health Forum