see the difference
world class facilities and skills
can make to your business
Clinical Research Benefits Lives

Clinical research is crucial in helping us to understand the causes of disease, and testing for and validating new and established treatments. It is vital if we are to continue to improve patient care. However, we face a number of barriers to clinical research. Large parts of the population are often difficult to engage, notably young children and the elderly, as they find the experience intimidating or have difficulty travelling.

Who can use the HRB

The HRB is available for use for clinical researchers across all specialities and for research that may or may not need dedicated nursing input. Clinical researchers performing invasive investigations on patients and volunteers will need to have an honorary or substantive post with University Hospitals Birmingham Foundation Trust or with Birmingham Children’s Hospital NHS Trust.

Accessing the HRB for clinical research

Applications to use the HRB are processed in exactly the same way as those to use the existing ‘static’ Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Facilities at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, and the satellite facilities at Birmingham Children’s Hospital and the University of Birmingham School of Sports and Exercise Sciences. Details, including application forms can be found at www.crf.bham.ac.uk.

Examples of clinical research suited to the HRB

The HRB is suited to many different types of clinical study. These include cross-sectional, observational, large-scale community based, interventional and longitudinal studies, as well as research that encompasses health promotion, education and screening.

Minimally invasive clinical investigations and observations can be performed on the HRB, but it is equally well suited to questionnaire and interview-based research that can be performed in dedicated consultation rooms that provide and protect patient confidentiality.

Facilities Available

- **Procedure Room**
  - Containing a moveable, height adjustable examination and procedure couch. As well as being suitable for minor procedures, such as skin or fat tissue biopsies, this room can also serve as an additional consultation room.

- **Scanner Room**
  - Containing dual energy X-Ray absorptiometry scanner (Lunar iDXA) which can be used for bone densitometry and non-invasive body composition analysis in adults and children. Private changing facilities are also available in this room.

- **Sample Processing Room**
  - Where clinical samples can be processed and stored. The room contains a refrigerated centrifuge and under bench fridge and -20°C freezer for temporary sample storage.

- **Additional Facilities**
  - Include a fully accessible disabled toilet with baby changing facilities and IT facilities linked to UHB NHS Trust intranet as well as the internet and audio system. Disabled access to the vehicle is provided by a tail lift and ramp.

- **Waiting Room/Meeting Room**
  - A flexible space that can serve as a traditional waiting area for patients prior to going into the procedure, consultation or scanner rooms. Alternatively, the procedure and consultation rooms can be opened up to provide a larger space for meetings, workshops or focus groups.

- **Consultation Room**
  - With foldable examination couch and desk.

This facility forms part of the wider Birmingham Science City project which has invested in equipment and facilities in Energy Futures and Advanced Materials.