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UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

wellcome trust

Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham **NHS**
Part of University Hospitals Birmingham
NHS Foundation Trust

Birmingham Children's Hospital **NHS**
NHS Foundation Trust

seed
change

Birmingham Science City
ideasforlife 

health
research
bus

Contacts and further information

For enquiries and application for the HRB, please contact:

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www.crf.bham.ac.uk

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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

An easily accessible, mobile clinical unit, available for clinical studies across the West Midlands, removes these barriers.

The Birmingham Science City Health Research Bus (HRB) is a 13m bespoke, high-specification medical unit containing state-of-the-art clinical research equipment designed specifically to visit communities for a range of clinical studies and health promotion programmes.

need to have an honorary or substantive post with University Hospitals Birmingham NHS 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.

This facility is part of a £20m investment in Translational Medicine by Advantage West Midlands. The project is led jointly by the University of Birmingham and the University of Warwick, and involves other important partners including the Wellcome Trust, the Wolfson Foundation, the MRC and the NHS. This facility forms part of the wider Birmingham Science City project which has invested in equipment and facilities in Energy Futures and Advanced Materials.

Facilities Available



Procedure Room

Containing a movable, 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.



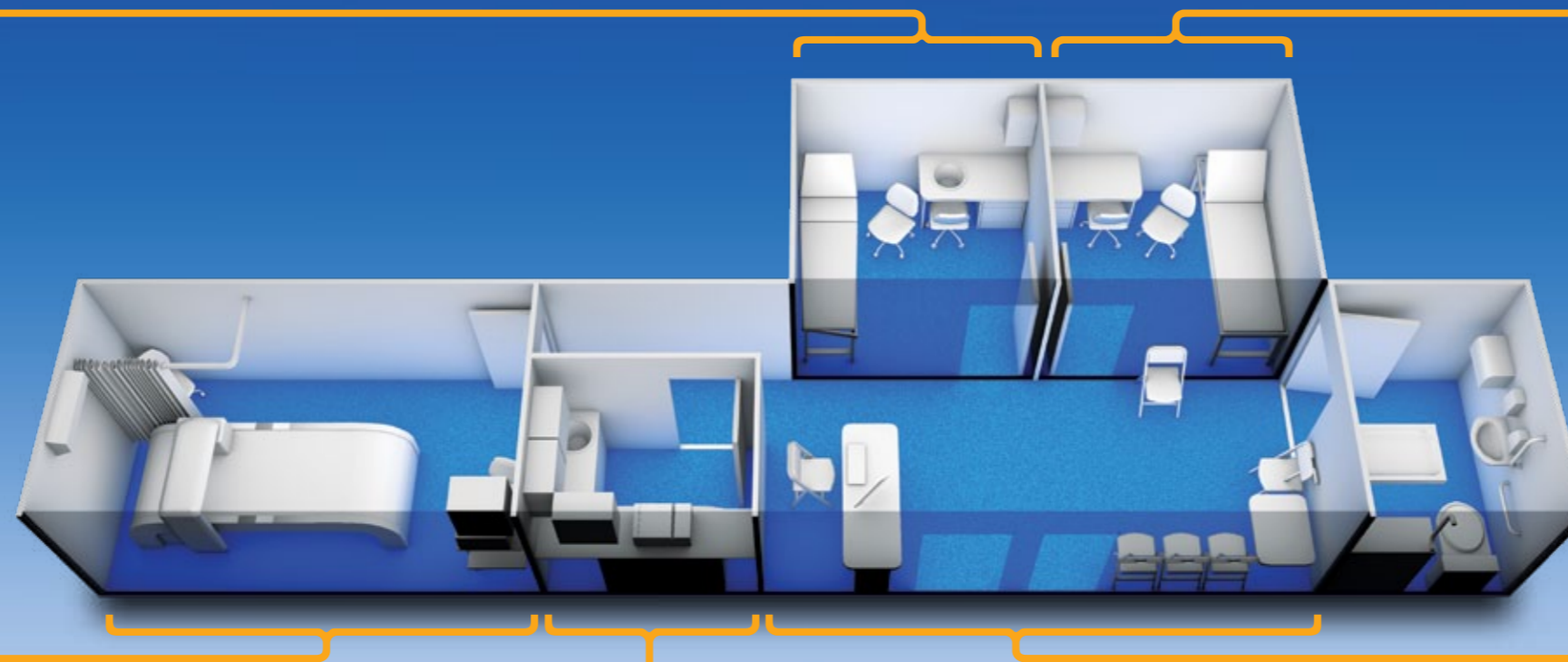
Scanner Room

Containing dual energy X-Ray absorptiometry scanner (Lunar iDXA) which can be used for bone densitometry and 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.



Consultation Room

With foldable examination couch and desk.



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.

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.

Other specific equipment on the HRB include bioimpedance scales for non-invasive body composition analysis, resuscitation trolley and emergency drugs, ECG machine, venepuncture and cannulation, blood glucose monitoring and urinalysis, blood pressure and vital signs monitoring and portable spirometry.

In addition other equipment can be brought on to the HRB by individual investigators and might include vascular scanners, exercise equipment, or indirect calorimetry.

