Healthcare

Accelerating patient access to new innovative medicines and technologies is at the heart of the University of Birmingham’s research. Working through Birmingham Health Partners, we improve patient care and wellbeing by translating laboratory discoveries into rapid changes in clinical practice, as well as facilitating insights from patients and clinicians to inform our research. Birmingham can do this at a pace, scale and efficiency that is unrivalled in the UK. Globally, we are one of the few campuses equipped to deliver the full circle of translational medicine.

The University possesses world-class clinical trials capabilities that help to bring lifesaving medicines and techniques to market. The Birmingham Health Partners campus houses a wealth of multidisciplinary research expertise – including many national and international Centres of Excellence – as well as two large NHS Trust hospitals. Our facilities support every stage of the innovation cycle, soon to be extended with a new Life Sciences Park that will be unparalleled in its ability, benefitting from outstanding clinical data integration and analytics, real world evidence and patient engagement. Our transformative improvements to healthcare are driven by a strong foundation of academic excellence and a proactive approach to partnership and co-creation in delivering clinical advancements.

Our expertise
- Clinical trials
- Medical devices testing and evaluation
- Applied health
- Cancer and genomic sciences
- Cardiovascular sciences
- Dental sciences
- Pharmaceutical sciences
- Immunology and immunotheraphy
- Inflammation and ageing
- Metabolism and systems research
- Microbiology and infection
- Nursing

Success and impact
- The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) has awarded £7 million to the University of Birmingham and two other universities to establish a joint research unit focused on developing global surgical research.
- Birmingham Health Partners (BHP) is one of the largest healthcare clusters in the UK. It is a strategic alliance between the University of Birmingham and three major teaching hospitals; the University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust (UHB), and Birmingham Women and Children’s NHS Foundation Trust (BWC). BHP’s mission is to harness research strengths in the University and NHS to deliver better treatments and care to our patients.
- Over 200 industry partners are working with us, and 35 spin-out companies have resulted from our research.
- 87% of our research activity has a global impact.

‘WE ARE DELIGHTED THAT THE NIHR HAVE FUNDED A BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH CENTRE IN INFLAMMATORY DISEASE IN BIRMINGHAM. WE WILL BUILD A CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE THAT WILL ALLOW US TO TAKE SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERIES THROUGH INTO NEW TREATMENTS FOR PATIENTS WITH INFLAMMATORY AND AUTOIMMUNE JOINT, MUSCLE, BOWEL AND LIVER DISEASES.’

PROFESSOR DAVID ADAMS, DIRECTOR OF NIHR BIRMINGHAM BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH CENTRE, DIRECTOR OF BIRMINGHAM HEALTH PARTNERS AND HEAD OF THE COLLEGE OF MEDICAL AND DENTAL SCIENCES
Key projects

NIHR Biomedical Research Centre in Inflammatory Disease: Utilises cutting-edge experimental medicine to accelerate access to, and adoption of, drugs, devices and diagnostics tests for patients living with chronic inflammatory diseases. This builds on a long history of excellence in liver disease and brings major new strengths in inflammatory arthritis, gastroenterology and sarcopenia.

National Lung Matrix Trial: The largest precision medicine trial in non-small cell lung cancer globally, testing a wide range of therapies tailored specifically to target key genetic changes in cancer cells. Multiple NHS Trusts and pharmaceutical companies are involved in this groundbreaking trial, to improve the outcomes for non-small cell lung patients.

Medical Devices Testing and Evaluation Centre (MD-TEC): Provides practical assistance and advice to Life Science/Healthcare Tech SMEs on getting their products on to the market. Assistance includes testing of medical devices under simulated hospital operating theatre, ICU or ward conditions, and translation of medical technologies from bench to market.

The Advanced Therapies Facility (ATF): Is a flagship asset, incorporating a purpose-built Human Biomaterials Resource Centre (HBRC), state-of-the-art cell and gene therapy suites and commercial space directly connected the UK’s largest NIHR/Wellcome Clinical Research Facility. The design of the facility, with a clean room suite to manufacture both cell therapy and gene therapy provides services for dispensing cell and gene based therapies. The HBRC is a Human Tissue Authority licensed human sample bio-repository dedicated to the collection, processing and storage of appropriately consented, quality-assured human biomaterials for distribution to biomedical research groups both in academia and industry.

NIHR Trauma Management MedTech Co-operative: Builds on a unique local clinical-academic partnership with the military, working collaboratively with industry to develop new medical devices, healthcare technologies or technology-dependent interventions to improve treatment and quality of life for patients. The NIHR MTC represents a patient-focused, centralised and co-ordinated trauma management research strategy.

Getting in touch
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