

Adding value in health research

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Head of Business Development

What is the Wessex Institute?

- An enterprise unit within the Faculty of Medicine
- 200+ managers, researchers, academics and clinicians
- Home to a growing number of nationally important, internationally recognised centres:
 - NIHR Evaluation, Trials and Studies Co-ordinating Centre (NETSCC)
 - Southampton Health Technology Assessments Centre (SHTAC)
 - NIHR Dissemination Centre
 - Health and Care Research Wales research funding schemes
 - NIHR INVOLVE Coordinating Centre 
 - Other evaluation research including health economics
 - Added value research management for other research funders (e.g. medical research charities; international organisations)

What do we do?

- We exist to make a difference to society through research and the way it is prioritised, funded, managed, disseminated and used.
- We are primarily concerned with how research is managed effectively, minimising waste and maximising impact
- We conduct our own research on research, to better inform ourselves and other research managers
- We seek new partnerships, nationally and internationally, to make a bigger difference



85%
of health
research funding
could be wasted

Problem

Solution

**What you can do
to avoid waste**

'Avoidable waste in the production and reporting of research evidence',
The Lancet, Volume 374, Issue 9683, Pages 86–89, 4 July 2009

Avoidable waste in research and how to reduce it



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Sir Iain Chalmers, Paul Glasziou,
‘Avoidable waste in the production and reporting of research evidence’,
The Lancet, Volume 374, Issue 9683, Pages 86–89, 4 July 2009
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Are you asking the right questions?

Causes of waste*

- Low priority questions addressed
- Important outcomes not assessed
- Clinicians and patients not involved in setting research agendas



When you get it right

Increased involvement of patients and clinicians in shaping research agendas leads to more clinically relevant research.

What we do

During 2008-13 we sifted **9078** potential questions and ran **100+** external stakeholder events

86% of applications now involve the public in identifying research questions or preparing the proposal

All research is assessed for importance by patients, public, clinicians and decision makers before conventional academic assessment

Are the design, methods and analysis right?

Causes of waste*

- Over **50%** of studies designed without reference to systematic reviews of existing evidence
- Over **50%** of studies fail to take adequate steps to reduce biases



When you get it right

Research proposals are assessed by methodological and content experts. Research is grounded in the existing evidence and literature.

What we do

Research proposals are reviewed by **350+** experts on boards and committees

11000+ external peer and expert reviews obtained (2008/13)

All NIHR proposals are expected to be grounded in a review of the evidence

Is the research published in a usable and unbiased way?

Causes of waste*

- Over **30%** of trial interventions not sufficiently described for reproducibility/implementation
- Over **50%** of planned study outcomes not reported
- Most new research not interpreted in the context of systematic assessment of other evidence



When you get it right

- Systematic reviews are updated
- Appropriate reporting guidelines are used
- Outputs are re-packaged for target audience (clinicians, managers, patients, public etc)

What we do

We manage our own open access, peer reviewed, fully edited journals series (www.journalslibrary.nihr.ac.uk)

“Health Technology Assessment has a 5-year impact factor of **5.8** and ranked 3rd (out of 82 titles) in the ‘Health Care Sciences & Services’ category by Thomson Reuters”

We repackaging evidence outputs appropriate to specific audiences (e.g. patients, public, decision makers).

Has the research been published?

Causes of waste

- Studies not published in full
- Disappointing studies are not published at all

Overall
By funder
Industry
Government
Neither
By country
US/Canada only
International only
UK NIHR HTA programme
By size
<160 participants
>160 participants
By Phase
Early Phase (I or II)
Late Phase (III or IIII)



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When you get it right

Studies are published in full irrespective of the results. Even failed and incomplete studies are in the public domain.

What we do

NIHR Health Technology Assessment Programme publishes **98%** of clinical trials and publishes them faster than comparable funders*

390 peer reviewed and comprehensive final reports made publicly available (2008/13)

900+ peer reviewed publications in **340** different journals from research we have managed (2008/13)

Is the research reliably and efficiently conducted and completed?

Causes of waste*

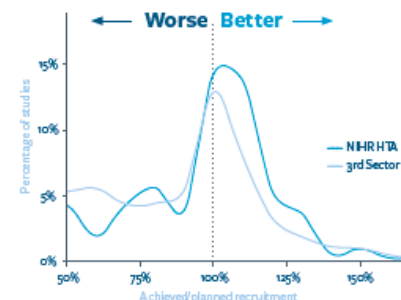
- Studies not delivered to time and target
- Studies are not delivered according to the protocol

80% of studies do not complete to time and/or recruitment target*

When you get it right

Enhance post award management and monitoring delivers more studies to time and target.

What we do

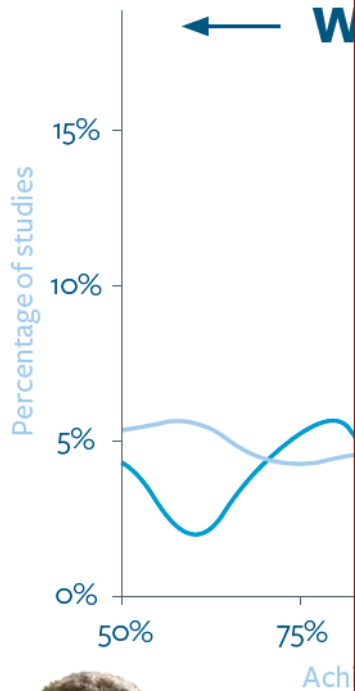


700+ live projects currently being managed across diverse areas and settings

5000 applications assessed between 2008-13

Chart produced from data held by the NIHR Clinical Research Network

Leading research management



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Overall

By funder

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- Government
- Neither

By country

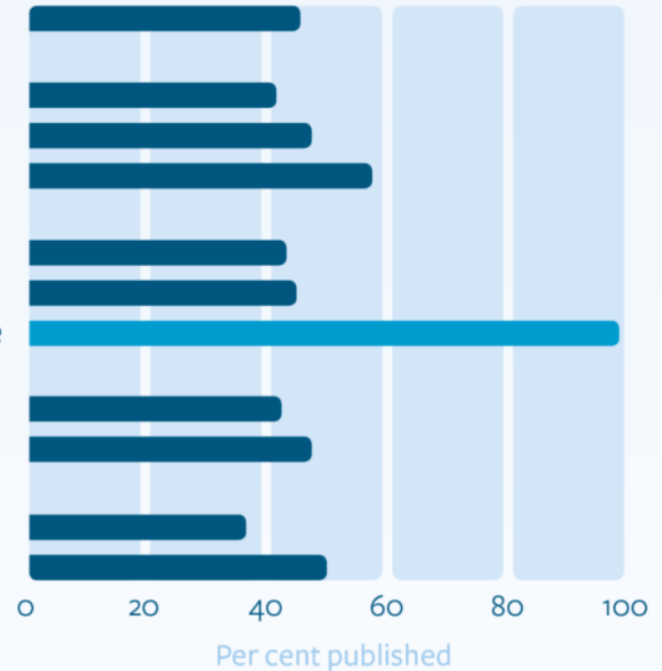
- US/Canada only
- International only
- UK NIHR HTA programme

By size

- <160 participants
- >160 participants

By Phase

- Early Phase (I or II)
- Late Phase (II/III or III)



Never taking the easy road ...so that the voice, interests and priorities of Patients is both heard and acted upon."

Lester Firkins OBE



"I am not aware of any health research funding agency - anywhere in the world - which has done more than the Wessex Institute through NETSCC to reduce avoidable waste in research."

Prof Sir Iain Chalmers

<http://www.wiep.southampton.ac.uk>

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http://www.wiep.southampton.ac.uk

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Wessex Institute Enterprise and Partnerships

Home About us Priority setting Research funding Research Monitoring Publication Impact

85%
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Problem Solution Wessex Institute

Research prioritisation, funding, management, delivery, publication and dissemination

We exist to maximise the potential impact to society from the money spent on research through the way research is prioritised, funded, managed, published and disseminated.

We are interested in new partnerships and new applications of our approach so we can make an even bigger difference.

Want to know more?

Contact/find us Download more information (pdf, 783.38 KB) See what we do

What people say

"I am not aware of any health research funding agency – anywhere in the world – which has done more than the Wessex Institute through NETSCC to reduce avoidable waste in research" **Professor Sir Iain Chalmers**

"@bengoldacre NIHR HTA is great, and has a publication rate of 98%, BRAVO! Alltrials.net #alltrials." 20 June, Twitter

"Never taking the easy road, they have spent time developing processes to the heart of the way they work so that the voice, interests and priorities of patients is both heard and acted upon" **Lester Firkins OBE**

Local intranet | Protected Mode: Off 100%

Thank you

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Wessex Institute

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Southampton

Shaping the future of healthcare and public health

