



The HTA programme

The HTA programme and the UK Clinical Research Network (UKCRN)

The **UK Clinical Research Network** (UKCRN) is working on behalf of the UKCRC to create a UK-wide clinical research infrastructure that will support the conduct and delivery of a range of high quality studies across the full spectrum of disease and clinical need. Substantial investment has already been made to support this work and significant progress has been made.

The UKCRN consists of a managed set of Topic Specific Clinical Research Networks, covering cancer, dementias and neurodegenerative diseases, diabetes, medicines for children, mental health and stroke. It is intended that, in due course, this will be extended to cover the full spectrum of disease and clinical need.

Further details about each of the Topic Specific Clinical Research Networks are available at the following links:

- ▶ [National Cancer Research Network](#)
- ▶ [Dementias and Neurodegenerative Diseases Research Network](#)
- ▶ [Diabetes Research Network](#)
- ▶ [Medicines for Children Research Network](#)
- ▶ [Mental Health Research Network](#)
- ▶ [Stroke Research Network](#)

The next phase of development of the UKCRN is well under way and includes the selection and roll-out of Local Research Networks that will provide the dedicated research staff and other resources, working on the ground with the clinical teams, to facilitate participation in clinical studies.

Each new Topic Specific Clinical Research Network is also in the process of identifying and establishing Clinical Studies Groups which will have an important role in the development of a balanced portfolio of high quality clinical research studies. The groups will also provide a primary route through which new studies are developed.

The HTA programme is committed to supporting this initiative, and has a policy of liaising with the networks at all stages of our process.

Further information on the networks can be found on the UKCRC website www.ukcrc.org