

Update for Researchers

November 2008

NIHR Coordinated System for gaining NHS Permission (NIHR CSP) Goes Live!

Important Changes for Researchers from 18 November

The new National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Coordinated System for gaining NHS Permission (NIHR CSP) was introduced in the NHS in England on **18 November 2008** for NIHR Clinical Research Network Portfolio ("Portfolio") studies.

NIHR CSP streamlines the processes by which NHS Trusts provide permission (sometimes known as R&D approval) for new research and reduces duplication in NHS review processes. NIHR CSP has a single entry point, via the Integrated Research Application System (IRAS).

Research funded by NIHR, other areas of Government or NIHR non-commercial partners are automatically eligible for inclusion into the Portfolio. Industry studies can be adopted onto the Portfolio through a separate process. Own-account work or student projects are not normally included in the Portfolio. The eligibility criteria for inclusion of studies on the Portfolio can be accessed at: http://www.ukcrn.org.uk/index/clinical/portfolio_new/P_eligibility/mainColumnParagraphs/00/document/Eligibility.pdf

Researchers wishing to gain NHS Permission should note the following important changes:

1. Researchers submitting a new application for NHS permission for a study that is automatically eligible for the Portfolio, or that requires formal consideration prior to acceptance on the Portfolio, must apply for NHS permissions via NIHR CSP.
2. Initially, NIHR CSP will not be available for studies not included in the Portfolio. Researchers whose study is not eligible for the Portfolio should continue to seek permission directly from the NHS Trusts involved in the study. Please visit NHS R&D Forum for contacts: <http://www.rdforum.nhs.uk/links/rdlinks.htm>
3. Applications for NHS Permission through NIHR CSP must be made via IRAS at the following link: www.myresearchproject.org.uk. Further information on NIHR CSP is available at: www.ukcrn.org.uk. Please email queries to regimantas.pestininkas@uhcw.nhs.uk

Researchers who have submitted an application for NHS Ethical Review via the NRES on-line application form (i.e. not via IRAS) should continue to seek permission directly from the NHS Trusts involved in the study.

Researchers who have started to complete applications in IRAS but have not yet made applications to R&D offices should contact the NIHR CSP Unit at csp@ukcrn.org.uk for guidance.

Eligibility

When you create a new potentially eligible project on IRAS, you should indicate that you want to apply for NHS Permission via CSP (Question 5a). You will then be asked to submit a Portfolio Adoption Form (PAF), which will be used to determine whether your study is automatically eligible, potentially eligible or ineligible for inclusion into the Portfolio.

If your study is not eligible for inclusion into Portfolio, you will not be able to seek NHS permission through NIHR CSP and should continue to seek permission from the individual NHS Trusts involved.

If your study is automatically eligible or potentially eligible to be included in the Portfolio, you will have to submit the R&D form and Site Specific Information (SSI) form(s) via IRAS. Your CLRN will assist you in the process.

Still Confused?

If you have any questions about how CSP works or how to make an application, please contact Regimantas Pestininkas at regimantas.pestininkas@uhcw.nhs.uk

NIHR CSP Flowchart

