



Research Snapshot

Your inside look into the world of research at SFH

Summers Here!

Welcome to the Summer edition of The Research Snapshot.



Sapien Health

The Sapien study opened here at SFH in June 2022. This is the first multi-site study we have sponsored, and we have everything to shout about.

Rebecca Barker Consultant Anaesthetist is the Chief Investigator and Principal Investigator here at SFH. It is proving to be very successful, and we are very excited to be hosting this study.

This study aims to assess the role of Sapien Health's Lifestyle Coaching mobile app in supporting patients to make positive changes to their health before and after surgery. The app is a health coaching application that uses personalised educational programs and remote health coaching with a qualified health coach to support patients during their operative journey. We want to find out if this app can help patients undergoing knee or hip arthroplasty to make positive health changes and improve patient's recovery after surgery. Making positive health changes before and after surgery is widely accepted to improve patient's overall health. This can improve post-surgery outcomes and reduce the costs related to avoidable complications.

We would like to thank all the teams involved in helping to set up and deliver this study, we couldn't do it without you.



iGBS 3 study

Group B Streptococcus (GBS) is a major cause of sepsis and meningitis in new-borns and can cause premature births and stillbirths as well as infections in pregnant women. It is normally carried in our intestines and only causes harm when it is passed from mother to baby around the time of birth or in the first months of life. It is estimated that GBS claims around 150,000 babies' lives a year worldwide.

iGBS3 is a research study of women's natural immunity against GBS. We want to find out how much antibody a woman needs to pass to her baby to protect the baby from getting GBS disease. This will help in developing a vaccine. To do this, we need to take a small sample of cord blood from a large number of women. Because this needs to be done just after delivering the baby, we will be using a verbal consent approach. Any woman who does not want to give these samples can refuse at any time and no samples will be taken.

Cord blood samples will be stored locally and then sent to St George's University of London. If a baby develops GBS disease in the first 3 months of age, the parent will be asked for written consent for us to retrieve the stored cord sample as well as an additional sample of blood from the baby in order to measure antibodies in it. These antibodies will be compared with the antibodies from GBS colonised women delivering infants who remained healthy.

Prizes for Cord Blood Recruiting We would like to thank iGBS3 study team at all sites for their great effort in progressing the iGBS3 study. We are delighted to inform you that £10 amazon voucher for each site per month will be given to the midwife at each site who collects most cord bloods that month! This will start in July.



Histopathology

Hello,

My name is Roger Hill and I've been working in Rheumatology Research for over 18 years.

I have two roles within the Trust, working in Rheumatology Research and Histopathology.

The Rheumatology Research team works very closely with the Orthopaedic Surgeons, Theatres, Mortuary, Bereavement Centre, The Coroner's Office, Pathology, Histopathology and many other departments within the Trust and Nottingham City Hospital, Queens Medical Centre and other organisations external to the Trust.

Briefly, the research side is the collection of surgical joint tissue and bone, processing of the samples, X-ray, photography, collecting bloods, capturing clinical data, so patients that have consented their joint tissue for donation by having a knee replacement, Arthroscopy Biopsies, or any Rheumatoid bone that is being removed from any joint can be used for research purposes.

I retrieve and process joint tissue and bone at post-mortem having the family of the deceased patient give their consent for the tissue donation retrieval to go ahead.

My colleague and I, also retrieve and process the tissue from parts of the spinal cord and dorsal root ganglia which is connected to the spinal cord. We also have a steady flow of medical students and trainee nurses that come and observe the work that we do within the mortuary in relation to the research.

In Histopathology, I make sure that the tissue we collect is processed in a timely fashion following standard operating procedures, forwarding them on to their next destination when they are completed in the lab for further work to be done on them. Through the Covid-19 pandemic I've helped support the Mortuary at very busy times.

I enjoy how unique my role is and that it can be challenging at times, and I enjoy sharing my experience and knowledge that I have gained over the years with other members of staff who are willing to know more about the research we do, so the findings and discoveries we make now, can hopefully help the patients in the future.



Meet Sarah Shelton!

After working in the Research and Innovation Department at Kings Mill Hospital for over 6 years I have recently been given the fantastic opportunity to spread my research knowledge across Primary Care settings. In February 2022 I started a 12 month secondment to increase Primary Care Research participation across Mid-Nottinghamshire. I am based at Brierley Park Medical Centre in Huthwaite and working in collaboration with SFH. I am steadily introducing myself and my new role to the surgeries that sit within the Ashfield North Primary Care Network (PCN) and plan to roll this out further as the secondment progresses. This is a really exciting opportunity for GP Surgeries to become more research active and enhance the skills and knowledge of their staff. Clinical research can also be greatly beneficial to patients who are becoming more aware that research is happening and provide them with the opportunity to get involved. My vision for the future of this role is that we will expand to a wider team of nurses and practitioners to deliver a comprehensive portfolio of studies across Mid-Nottinghamshire.

