

## Research and Innovation Annual Update – Q4 18-19, June 12th 2019

### Performance

**Recruitment:** SFH has seen another successful year recruiting in to National Institute for Health Research studies with 2,121 participants taking part in studies in 18/19 against a target of 1400; a 31% increase from 17/18

**Numbers of studies:** 71 studies are currently open at SFH, 40 opened and 19 closed in 18/19. 65 studies are actively recruiting with the KPI for RTT (Recruitment to Time and Target) of 80% met for both non-commercial and commercial studies at 80% and 100% respectively. Trials are spread across most specialities in the organisation with activity remaining high in Gastroenterology, Rheumatology and Oncology. One of the key objectives for 18/19 was to extend this activity in to other areas previously inactive. This was met with 3 studies opened in Critical Care and 1 in the Emergency Department.

**DoH metrics:** SFH reports quarterly to the Department of Health via the Clinical Trials Platform. The national KPI for NHS Trusts Q3 report was published in March 2019 with SFH joint first place in league for delivery of commercial trials.

**Commercial Research:** A further objective for 18/19 was to regain a more active commercial research portfolio with a target of opening between 6-8 commercial studies in year. 4 commercial trials were opened, 100% of those interventional with a further 4 in set up.

### Finance

The 2018/19 East Midlands CRN budget of £714,137.55 was a decrease of 4.05% on that of 2017/18. End of year spend was accepted by EMCRN as a balanced budget. The confirmed budget for 2019/20 is £713,387.00, a small decrease of 0.2% on 18/19. Commercial activity resulted in a final income of £63,800 at Q4 invested in growing research capacity and capability in line with NIHR Commercial Income Distribution Guidance, August 2015. The organisation is due to receive annual Research Capability Funding (RCF) from DoH of £20,000 in 2019/20. This funding allows SFH to contribute towards sponsorship, governance costs; financial management and staff support for researchers working on NIHR adopted studies. Although reduced in line with national drivers SFH continue to support Divisional research activity with £33,840.06 funding research PA's for 8 Consultant's.

### Patient Experience

R&I re-launched its patient experience survey in mid-October 2018. 197 participants were surveyed by the end of 2018/19 with an average satisfaction score of 96.8%. SFH has now been selected as a pilot site for the NIHR Participant Research Experience survey and has been feeding in to this since January 2019. Results will be publicly available via a web link dashboard.

### Communication and Engagement

The profile of R&I rose significantly in 2018/19 with a focus on wider dissemination and promotion of research opportunities for both staff and patients. This was delivered through a targeted communication and engagement plan and included re-design of the R&I website, dissemination of research patient story, news broadcasting, research promotional days twice a year, newsletter launch, and R&I branding with the design of an R&I logo, leaflets and poster located in the KTCF. R&I are also developing an interactive website tool to allow patients and staff to find out what research studies are happening in their area, how to get involved and to leave comment on what type of

research they would like to see being done at the Trust. The department continue to support research secondments and are working with the Chief Nurse and Heads of Nursing to identify the most appropriate strategies for recruiting in to the SFH Research Academy. R&I has recently secured sessions on the Nursing degree course's at the University of Nottingham, Derby and Lincoln to introduce clinical research and promote opportunities for nursing careers in this field.

Throughout the year R&I also supports other divisional research and Quality Improvement work wherever possible. This year R&I supported the 'Colour Me Safe' project to assess the cultural impact on staff of introducing coloured wristbands for patients at risk of falling. In 2019/20 we are planning to provide support for the Patient Experience project work being done in Orthotics in collaboration with NHS Improvement.

### Portfolio Balance

Funding for NHS research activity from the DHSC is managed through local Clinical Research Networks (East Midlands CRN) and is activity based. This is termed Activity Based Funding (ABF) and comprises 3 categories; Large scale studies >10k Sample size, Observational and Interventional. Each attracts a specific weighting based on complexity which in turn translates to the value of funding attributed. Throughout the year the ABF balance is monitored in order to maximise income in the next funding period and ensure the studies we are offering at SFH are beneficial to patients. The aim in 17/18 was to adjust the balance to a higher proportion of interventional studies which has been realised in year with 37% of recruitment in to interventional studies compared to 18% 12 months previously. We will continue monitoring and area aiming to expand this further in favour of interventional studies.

#### ABF Complexity weightings 18/19

	<b>Complexity weighting 2018/19</b>
Band 1 – Large Scale UK total sample size 2 >10,000	1
Band 2 - Observational	3.5
Band 3 - Interventional	11

### 2019 – 2020 Strategic Priorities

The focus this year remains the similar to last year as priorities around portfolio growth, quality improvement and engagement require a sustained focus over several years. However, supporting new researchers, clinical academic careers and driving the innovation agenda forward at SFH are also key objectives.

1. Targeted Performance - broadening the SFH research portfolio in order to support service delivery and innovative practices, with a particular focus on:
  - Increase the number of patients who have access to research studies as part of their care pathway. There is also an aim to ensure maximum income return by achieving a balanced research portfolio. Clear focus remains on achieving time to target (RTT) in

relation to recruitment, in order to maximise the annual performance premium awarded by the CRN.

**Measure** - Recruitment target set at 1800 patients 2019/20  
80% of studies closing in year to have met RTT

- Further develop research in areas previously not research active e.g ED/ENT and supporting capacity and capability to do this.

**Measure** - Open and actively recruiting in to at least 2 studies in this area in 19/20

- Growth of commercial research activity through collaboration with EMCRN.  
**Measure** - increase in the number of site identification submissions, increased volume of SFH selected as a site, and open 6-8 commercial studies in 19/20

2. Quality and Engagement - Improving and contributing to the quality agenda through creating more research opportunities for patients and staff. Wider dissemination and promotion of local organisational behaviour that offers the best possible research choices and benefits to patients and delivers research that is important to and prioritised by patients. Support wider research and QI programmes across the Trust as appropriate  
**Measure** – Increased percentage of patients aware SFH is a research active Trust. Research promotional activities undertaken, ED Band 5 secondment to R&I for 12 months, NIHR high level objectives for PRES survey met and support provided for the Orthotic/NHSI patient experience project.

3. Building Capacity and capability – Ensuring we have the right resources, staff and facilities to be able to offer and deliver high quality clinical trials in an equitable way to our patients now and in the future.

**Measure** - Training opportunities for staff undertaken including clinical research training for secondees and sessions on local university degree courses delivered by R&I team. Continue development of the Research Academy to develop clinical research nurse careers and aid recruitment.

SFH to act as sponsor for a minimum of 2 studies.

SFH to act as lead site for 1 grant application.

### Summary

Our Research and Innovation department is now well established and includes a multidisciplinary infrastructure supporting a broad range of research activity across many clinical areas of the Trust. The service we provide continues to deliver better outcomes for our patients at SFH, allowing them access to new and different treatments. The reputation of the Research and Innovation department and SFH as a research active organisation continues to grow. We have strong associations with other NHS Trusts and Universities and are committed to expanding the research activity, breadth of our portfolio and facilities at SFH through development and delivery of our Research strategy.

At a local level research can have positive outcomes in terms of increased quality of care, patient satisfaction and financial benefits to the organisation. A Retrospective cross-sectional study looking at data For 129 English National Health Service hospital Trusts, from National Institute for Health Research study activity data, Summary Hospital-level Mortality Indicator (SHMI) scores and Care

Quality Commission (CQC) ratings demonstrates a positive link between better CQC outcomes and the intensity of interventional research trials at NHS Trusts (Jonker and Fischer 2018). Previously the papers and evidence have only focused on mortality rates. It is important as a research active organisation that wherever possible we continue to make the changes and meet the requirements needed to advance our research activity and build research capacity for the future.

## Appendix

### Our Vision

To make research part of our daily business

### Our Mission

At SFH, research is about improving the care we give to our patients to make sure it is outstanding. Embed research excellence as part of our culture, and deliver this with a highly skilled knowledgeable workforce as part of everyday care.

### Our Aims:

1. Strong research activity in more clinical specialities, define and secure our areas of strength and establish high class research facilities

- Focus on priority areas where we have existing strengths
- Embed research in as part of clinical service
- Increase partnership working to make the most of our potential

2. Work with more industry organisations to deliver clinical trials that change people's lives for the better

- Develop relationships with leading commercial sponsors and CRO's
- Broaden our commercial research portfolio
- Work in collaboration with EMCRN Industry team as a priority site for increasing commercial activity

3. Involve more of our patients and staff in high quality research

- Make research more visible and provide more research opportunities for our patients
- Enable patients to engage in PPI activities across our organisation and our region
- Deliver research that is important to our patients
- Improve the quality and standard of our care through participation in research

4. Develop and support a workforce with the skills to deliver world class research

- Develop a sustainable research academy to build the skills of our staff
- Develop career pathways for research staff and encourage collaborations with academic institutions
- Engage and support our research investigators
- Invest commercial research income in to building future capacity and capability

