



# WORKING TOGETHER:

expertise in clinical trial design and  
conduct

## INTRODUCTION

The UK Trial Managers' Network (UKTMN), UKCRC Clinical Trials Unit (CTU) Network and the MRC/NIHR Trials Research Methodology Partnership (TMRP) are leading groups of clinical trialists in the UK, responsible for the design and conduct of clinical trials and advancing clinical trial methodologies.

We have prepared this short leaflet in order to help people working in, and outside of the clinical trials community, understand the remit of each group, how we collaborate and the value our collaboration brings.

**We believe that collaboration is key in advancing clinical trial innovation.**

## WHO WE ARE - UKTMN

**Trial Managers play a pivotal role in running clinical trials and underpin effective trial conduct.**



UKTMN is a network of ~1000 trial management professionals, responsible for the day-to-day running of clinical trials. The network supports the development of trial management professionals and provides a forum to promote best practice in effective management and delivery of clinical trials.

## WHO WE ARE - CTU NETWORK

**Clinical Trials Units bring together the disciplines and expertise to design, deliver, analyse and publish clinical trials.**



The CTU Network comprises >50 academic clinical trials units across the UK, assessed by an international panel of experts in clinical trials research. The network promotes CTUs through its activities to develop and share best practice across its members, improve the promotion of registered CTUs and provide a voice for CTUs. It provides its members with information, guidance and representation in support of the conduct of high-quality, efficient and sustainable clinical trials research.

## WHO WE ARE - TMRP

**The TMRP brings together innovation in clinical trials methodology.**



TMRP is a partnership of five networks (UKTMN, CTU Network, Health Data Research UK, The Global Health Network and the Health Research Board Trials Methodology Network in Ireland) alongside the hubs in the MRC Hubs for Trials Methodology Research (HTMR) Network. They strive to improve clinical trials methodology and also collaborate with 25 UK universities to offer doctoral training in trials methodology.

# COMMUNICATION

The groups work closely together to ensure effective collaboration and reduce inefficient duplication of work. They identify and bring together groups with relevant expertise and provide an efficient means of dissemination to maximise impact and reach.

If one group is contacted about something that has relevance to other groups, it is the responsibility of the academic lead and coordinator to ensure this is communicated between the respective groups.

## SUB-GROUPS

Each group has a number of sub-groups of people who focus on specific themes - more information can be found on our respective websites (see "Get in touch"). Examples of sub-groups include the training sub-group (UKTMN), the trial conduct working group (TMRP) and the Statistics operations group (CTU Network).

Some topics covered within the sub-groups are very broad. In these instances, there is often representation from other groups in order to increase efficiency and avoid duplication. An example of this is around trial conduct. Here, the TMRP Trial Conduct working group, UKTMN and the CTU Network Trial Management Operations Group are specifically represented on each other's groups by a nominated individual.

## WHY COLLABORATE?

By working collaboratively we:

- maximise the potential of each group, ensuring relevant disciplines in clinical trial design and conduct are covered.
- enhance communication between clinical trialists and groups involved in designing, conducting and funding clinical trials.
- strengthen our expertise and that of others.
- are able to link-up with other groups, enhancing opportunities for individuals involved in clinical trial design and conduct, and innovations in methodologies.

A current example of a collaborative project is the use of electronic consent in clinical trials, which is relevant to many trialists.

## GET IN TOUCH

If you want to find out more or are interested in working together, we encourage you to get in touch. You can also follow latest updates on our Twitter channels.

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