

Could a specialised role enhance service delivery across primary and secondary care?

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Problem

Respiratory research can be fragmented between primary and secondary care limiting patient access to respiratory research opportunities. Key contributing factors are poor communication and collaboration between both sectors

Aims

To evaluate whether a dedicated Respiratory Research Liaison can improve collaboration and communication between primary and secondary care whilst increasing respiratory research capability and patient recruitment

Plan

- Engage with practices across the region
- Provide a single point of contact
- Improve communication and co-ordination
- Enable shared community / hospital respiratory research delivery models
- Increase awareness of respiratory research opportunities
- Share education in bespoke respiratory testing



Why does it matter?

- Promotes earlier patient identification for respiratory research participation
- Improves equity, inclusivity and patient choice
- Builds respiratory research capability in primary care
- Encourages shared patient outcomes reducing duplication and work load burden
- Embeds respiratory research as a shared responsibility between primary and secondary care
- Supports the NHS shift towards integrated, community-based patient focused care
- Aids researchers to achieve the UK Clinical Research Delivery Key Performance Indicators set out by the Department of Health

The Future

- Enable increased respiratory research involvement within the community setting including shared commercial research, PIC involvement and academic studies
- Embed a clear respiratory research pathway between primary and secondary care
- Respiratory research promotion through newsletter, social media and education
- Mentor and support staff to be competent in respiratory assessments and testing
- Secure sustainable funding for the liaison role
- Development of early diagnostics for respiratory disease

