

Role Outline – Clinical Lead, BHF Clinical Research Collaborative (BHF CRC)

Reports to:	To the BHF via the Oversight Board for BHF CRC
Employed by:	Current employing organisation with PA reimbursement enabled through the BHF CRC Grant to the British Cardiovascular Society (BCS)
Salary:	Pro-rata salary (2 PAs, 0.2 wte) at a senior grade within the pay scale for the post holder's professional group
Liaises with:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Relevant Specialist Societies- Senior stakeholders in the BCS and BHF- Presidents and Research Leads of relevant specialist societies- Clinical Study Research Groups (CSRGs)- NIHR Clinical Research Networks- Royal colleges and other professional bodies
Hours:	0.2 wte as per individual specialty arrangements
Tenure:	From the appointment date until May 2022 (subject to a review after 1 year)
Location:	The BHF CRC staff are based at the BCS Offices on Fitzroy Square in London; the post holder will be required to work nationally

Role Summary/Purpose

The purpose of the BHF CRC is provide an infrastructure to support the planning and delivery of world-class clinical research in all aspects of cardiovascular disease. The BHF CRC will unite and coordinate the current clinical research efforts of the existing professional societies and clinical study groups (CSGs) in heart and circulatory diseases all of which have pledged their support.

The BHF-CRC will enable these societies and study groups to: (i) identify and prioritise clinical research questions, (ii) develop robust and integrated study proposals, (iii) engage and mobilise clinicians in clinical research conduct, and (iv) enthuse, educate and enhance UK cardiovascular clinical research capacity and capability. The ultimate beneficiaries will be patients and health services both in the UK and worldwide through the development of high quality research-driven evidence that will inform clinical practice.

The Clinical Lead (CL), working closely with a full-time Chief Operating Officer and a small administrative team, will provide leadership to the BHF -CRC. The post-holder will be an experienced strategic clinical research leader who can carry the confidence of the cardiovascular clinical and research community.

Displaying the ability to communicate comfortably about and promote the BHF CRC, the CL will operate across all of the CV community. Providing leadership of CVD clinical research at a national level, the CL will promote engagement and support the societies in their collaboration, providing the opportunity for mentoring and guiding the work up of the CSRGs and facilitating collaboration across these groups where appropriate. The CL will chair a

BHF-CRC Steering Group with representatives from the CSRGs and other relevant organisations to facilitate and provide oversight of the work of the BHF -CRC and to promote continued improvements in performance in the delivery of high quality clinical research study applications. A small discretionary sum has been built into the funding for the BHF-CRC to enable the CL and the Steering Board to pump-prime specific additional activities that they feel will be valuable for delivery of the mission of the BHF -CRC.

Key Duties and Responsibilities

General

- Act as the key clinical contact for the BHF CRC and the CSGs, advising and representing the BHF CRC and proactively promoting clinical engagement and awareness of research within and between disease areas
- Promote the aims, objectives and successes of the CSGs and BHF CRC at national and international levels
- Contribute to national BHF CRC initiatives, in particular developing and sharing best practice through the development of an integrated IT system
- Champion a culture of innovation and continuous improvement across the CSGs and the BHF CRC as a whole and encourage the sharing of best practice to reduce and prevent silo working
- Support the COO and Steering Groups of the BHF CRC to ensure the appropriate use of resource to delivery optimal speciality performance in light of current national clinical research priorities, challenges and opportunities

Clinical Research Leadership

- Provide leadership and support to the CSGs, establishing a coherent and effective national network for the cross cutting and disease area thematic CSGs
- Chair national clinical meetings of the CSGs and contribute to other national clinical leadership groups and events as appropriate
- Provide visible, dynamic and effective senior clinical research leadership, direction and oversight for all areas of CVD both internally and externally to the BHF CRC
- Ensure the effective continued development and functioning of the CSGs, supporting the chairs in their roles and promoting clinical engagement

Supporting Clinical Research Delivery

- Monitor, report on and seek to influence the volume and balance of studies on the relevant specialist research portfolio providing expert intelligence and advice to the CSGs Steering Groups and BHF CRC staff where appropriate
- Provide clinical input into the BHF CRC business processes including the development of the IT infrastructure
- Take a strategic overview of the national infrastructure required to support the clinical research speciality with an emphasis on identifying and addressing nationwide challenges to successful delivery, sharing examples of good practices across the CSGs and ensuring the CSGs make full use of the opportunities and contribute to studies, emerging clinical needs and unrepresented patient populations

- Advise the Oversight Board on the CRC issues related to clinical research delivery, CRC infrastructure requirements and challenges/opportunities identified.

Stakeholder Engagement

- Work with external stakeholders to develop the BHF CRC infrastructure and link with the CSGs to promote continuity between study development, support and delivery
- Develop and maintain effective working relationships with the specialist societies and other professional clinical associations relevant to the specialities
- Develop a close relationship with the senior clinical leaders of NHS England as appropriate to the specialities and national representation
- Promote the involvement and engagement of patients, carers and the public in the BHF CRC

Person Specification

ATTRIBUTE	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Qualifications & Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registered on the General Medical Council Specialist Register or hold equivalent clinical professional status • Higher specialist training in a medical discipline or equivalent professional training 	
Knowledge & Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nationally respected leader within their speciality with a breadth of clinical knowledge • Evidence of managing effective collaborations and partnerships • Experience of working across complex organisational structures and effective matrix management • Knowledge of national systems, structures and processes for supporting clinical research • Experience of committee work, including as Chair 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience and evidence of international collaborations • Executive level experience • Experience as a Chief Investigator of at least one substantial nationwide or international clinical research project(s)
Skills & Attributes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of leadership skills that engage, motivate and develop a wide range of both clinicians and managers • Effective facilitator who is able to bring colleagues together to work in a collegiate way • Well rounded interpersonal skills including the ability to influence others to achieve results • Ability to work with a range of stakeholders at all levels 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to prepare and deliver presentations and reports to a high standard 	
Values/Attitudes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flexible approach to working • Highly motivated with the ability to influence and inspire others • Outcomes focussed • Demonstrate passion about bringing benefits to patients through the integration of research into the delivery of excellent clinical care within the NHS 	