

Chief Medical Officer, London Cancer Integrated Cancer System: Professor Kathryn Pritchard-Jones. Clinical Lead NLCRN: Dr Tim Meyer.
Head of Trials UCLH: Dr James Lyddiard. NLCRN & UCL ECMC Manager: Dr Masuma Harrison

NORTH LONDON CANCER RESEARCH NETWORK

Job Description

Clinical Lead for Research

This leadership role is a part-time position filled by a consultant with expert knowledge and experience of cancer and considerable previous experience in cancer clinical trials.

Accountable to:	Chief Medical Officer, <i>London Cancer</i> Integrated Cancer System & the NCRN Director
Hours:	Part time. Minimum of one fixed session per week
Tenure:	3 years, with annual review
Base:	Within appointee's usual office but expected to spend time at the NLCRN offices in the Paul O'Gorman Building, 72 Huntley Street, London, WC1E 6BT
Salary:	Equivalent to a minimum of one fixed session at appropriate Consultant level.
Responsible for:	Research Network Manager and other Research Network staff
Liaises with:	NCRN Director and Coordinating Centre Staff Trust R&D Directors and Managers Clinical, Managerial and Research Leads within UCL Partners cancer provider network Lead Clinicians, Nurses and Managers with Cancer Units
Network Summary:	The North London Cancer Research Network is part of the National Cancer Research Network (NCRN). The NCRN was established by the Department of Health and aims to improve the speed, quality and integration of research, ultimately resulting in improved patient care. The North London Cancer Research Network covers the following acute Trusts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> University College London Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Royal Free Hospital NHS Trust North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust Whittington Hospital NHS Trust Barnet and Chase Farm Hospitals The Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust Great Ormond Street Hospital NHS Trust Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Trust Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Trust

The Research Network is led by a part time Clinical Lead for Research (this post) a Senior Research Network Manager (part-time) and a Network Manager (full time).

The NLCRN continues to successfully support and develop research infrastructure to enhance the local portfolio of NIHR clinical trials and other well designed studies. Direct provision of infrastructure, assistance in access to funding from the Central and East London Comprehensive Local Research Network as well as undertaking key initiatives to improve R&D turn-around times, has allowed the NLCRN to further improve access to clinical trials within North London. In 2010/11, research activity reached an all time-high with 18.5% of patients being recruited to a recognised research protocol, including 10.3% to randomised controlled trials.

Both North Central London & West Essex Cancer Network and North East London Cancer Network area hospitals have recently come together to co-develop the newly formed Integrated Cancer System, *London Cancer*, which is designated to assume responsibilities from 1st April 2012. The aim of *London Cancer* is to provide whole pathways of care that improve outcomes and experience for cancer patients in North Central and North East London, This new way of working will strengthen the support for promoting clinical trial participation across the whole network and foster closer working between the NLCRN with the North East London Cancer Research Network (NELCRN).

London Cancer has 5 key priority areas, one of which is to embed research, and aims to deliver an objective that by 2015/16, 33% of cancer patients will participate in clinical trials and other well designed research studies.

As partners we have developed *London Cancer* through engagement efforts reaching over 1000 staff, patients, carers, primary care and the voluntary sector, with the vision to:

- Be patient-focused through listening, communication, involvement, information, education, choice, and personalisation. Patient need and the patient journey will be the organising framework for care,
- Optimise care along a co-ordinated pathway through earlier diagnosis, excellent treatment for all, local treatment where appropriate, compassionate aftercare and empowering/supporting patient self-management.
- Embed research for personalised care, equitable access to trials, the discovery of new treatments and evaluating new ways of working together with patients,
- Increase value through superior outcomes for patients per pound invested; continual improvement over time against our previous performance.

The NLCRN office based in the Cancer Institute is a joint administrative hub for both NCRN and ECMC studies and is co-funded by both organisations to cohesively support both early and late phase trials within the Network.

Role Summary: This post will provide the clinical leadership and development of the North Central London Cancer Research Network in line with local and national priorities. The post holder will also work alongside the NELCRN Clinical Lead for Research to contribute to the strategic research developments by *London Cancer* to promote equitable access to clinical trials across North Central and North East London, and West Essex. As such, it will be a member of the *London Cancer* Research & Implementation Subgroup. The post will be

required to maintain, develop and lead a balanced clinical trials portfolio and aim to continue increased accrual into trials, across *London Cancer*.

Responsibilities

1. To provide clinical leadership for cancer clinical trials in the North London Cancer Research Network, advising the Network Research Steering Group about the Research Network's role as part of the National Cancer Research Network (NCRN).
2. To oversee the participation of the North London Cancer Research Network in NCRN activities.
3. To liaise with the *London Cancer* leadership concerning the North London Cancer Research Network's participation in the NCRN.
4. To develop and foster close working relationships with the NE London Cancer Research Network, ensuring that there is a cohesive approach to promoting and conducting NIHR studies within the two cancer research networks. The development of seamless joint working is expected within *London Cancer*, to operate from April 2012.
5. To develop and foster close working relationships with the Central and North East London Comprehensive Local Research Network, alongside the Research Network Manager ensuring Network-wide access to CLRN funding and infrastructure.
6. To liaise with *London Cancer* Pathway Boards, Work streams and Subgroups and establish other groups as appropriate.
7. With the assistance of the Research Network Manager to develop and maintain an ongoing portfolio of clinical trials, to which patients from the North London Cancer Research Network area will be recruited. This is to be developed in discussion with Pathway Boards and in line with the clinical trial activity of the local research active units (University College London Hospital NHS Foundation Trust; Royal Free Hospital NHS Trust; North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust; Whittington Hospital NHS Trust; Barnet and Chase Farm Hospitals NHS Trust; The Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust; Great Ormond Street Hospital NHS Trust, Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Trust) and the NCRN.
8. Alongside the NLCRN Steering Committee, to provide oversight for effective use of NLCRN core resources as well as CLRN funding allocated to the NLCRN to support cancer studies.
9. With other members of the North London Cancer Research Network Steering Group to be responsible for the overall recruitment and quality of clinical trial research in the North London Cancer Research Network, ensuring that appropriate governance processes are in place and all clinical trial activity is supported by appropriate guidelines and protocols and complies with established quality standards.
10. With the assistance of the Research Network Manager, to introduce systems to enable the North London Cancer Research Network to comply with NCRN agreed performance, financial and planning arrangements and report on progress in these areas as required.

11. To liaise with the Pathway Directors for Cancer Pathway Boards and Cancer Unit Lead Clinicians and Research Groups to ensure a balanced portfolio of trials for patients and to promote recruitment to clinical trials throughout the Research Network.
12. To contribute to the recruitment, training, support and quality control of the Research Network Manager, Research Nurses, and other research staff at the North London Cancer Research Network.
13. To keep abreast of clinical trial developments locally, nationally and internationally and to inform and guide the North London Cancer Research Network accordingly.
14. To represent the North London Cancer Research Network at regional, national international meetings.
15. To represent the NLCRN in *London Cancer* and to attend the Pathway Directors' meetings. Also, to take a similar research leadership role in the *London Cancer* Integrated Cancer System going forward.
16. To attend and contribute to North London Cancer Research Network training and information initiatives.

Person Specification

The Clinical Lead would be expected to have the following skills and experience:

- Is a recognised leader within cancer research and clinical services
- Able to both lead and work as a member of a multi-disciplinary team
- Able to facilitate change across organisations
- An excellent communicator
- Experience of running clinical trials at Phase II and III
- Success in coordination of trials at a national level and good working relationships with national trials development bodies such as the NCRI Clinical Studies Groups.
- Established local credibility for commitment to clinical research.
- Membership of, or good working relationships with, local units conducting cancer research funded by the major funding bodies.
- Experience in holding and administering research grants.
- An up to date record of publication in clinical cancer research.
- Practical organisational skills.

NCRN Update June 2009
NLCRN Update July 2011
London Cancer Update Feb 2012