



HRB NCTO

International Clinical Trials Day Conference

10th May 2022

“HRB NCTO and ECRIN Update”

Michèle Cunnane, Interim Manager NCTO

HRB Funded Clinical Research Infrastructure Ireland

HRB Funding Calls 2020/2021:

- Clinical Research Facility/Centres – CRF/Cs
- Clinical Trial Networks – 7 CTN's
- Cancer Trials in Ireland – CTI Network and Cancer Groups
- HRB-Trial Methodology Research Network - TMRN
- National PPI Ignite Network
- **National Clinical Trials Office - NCTO**



HRB National Clinical Trials Office



Hosted by University College Cork

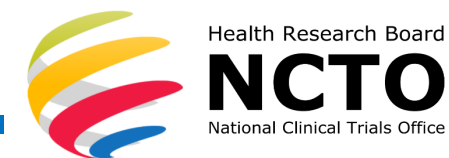
Co-funded by HRB, EI and UCC

CRF/Cs Directors, co-applicants

Partnership of the CRF/C's

Collaborating with CTN's and Academic Investigator

Supporting both Academic and Commercial Clinical Research



Meet the NCTO Team



**Ms Michèle
Cunnane**
Interim Manager



Dr Ruben Keane
Quality &
Regulatory Affairs
Manager



**Ms Olive
O'Driscoll**
Clinical Industry
Liaison Officer



Mr Niall Hore
ECRIN EuCO



Ms Evelyn Crowley
Data Analyst



Mr Eoghan Cooke
Comms Officer



Ms Jean Foley
Trial Platform Lead

Support provided by UCC:

- Legal Officer
- Executive Assistant
- HR support

NCTO Strategic Objectives *in summary*



INCREASE

Number of multicentre clinical trials through signposting and promotion

Number of International Sponsors

Number of Academic Multinational Clinical Trials lead by or using Irish trial sites by engaging with ECRIN

Number of MedTech companies conducting Clinical Investigations



IMPROVE

The functionality of CRF/C's by central provision and support of selected services:

- (a) National Study Feasibility Programme
- (b) CRF Manager System
- (c) Mutually agreed, appropriate, quality standards
- (d) Pharmacovigilance capabilities
- (e) National Budget Template



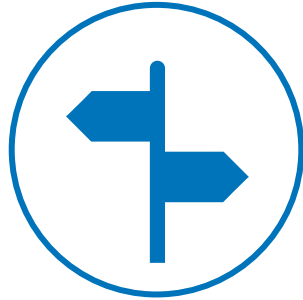
IDENTIFY

Identify and address systematic barriers, opportunities and developments

- Stakeholder and Management Committee
- CTN PI and Managers Meetings
- Participating in external committee's and working groups

HRB NCTO Services

NCTO Office:



Signposting



Promotion



Advisory
& Consultancy



On-line Services
www.NCTO.ie



Study
Feasibility

NCTO Network:



Study Start-up



Recruitment
Tracking



Regulatory
& Ethics



Quality
Assurance

HRB NCTO Working Groups

Host:



Quality



**Study Feasibility
& Start-up**



Budget Costing



MedTech



Pharmacovigilance

Participate:



**Clinical Research Subgroup of
the Higher Education Research
Contracts Subgroup**



**Public & Patient
Involvement**



**Health Research
Data Protection
Network**



Health Research Board
NCTO
National Clinical Trials Office

NCTO Quality Working Group

NCTO Team Lead: Dr Ruben Keane, Quality and Regulatory Affairs Manager

Email: ruben.keane@ucc.ie

- **QWG Annual Workplan 2023** – Agreed; delivery and implementation work ongoing
- **NCTO QWG meetings** – Quarterly & ongoing communication in between
- **Hot Topics 2023**
 - **Implementation of the Clinical Trial Regulation** - moving existing trials to CTIS + new CT Applications via CTIS
 - **Sharing Inspection Findings and Best Practice**
- **Annual Compliance Meeting** between NCTO QWG and HPRA - October 2022
- NCTO and **NREC meeting** – 1st Meeting occurred in April 2023; Quarterly meetings planned.

NCTO QWG Mutual Recognition Scheme Update

What is the NCTO Mutual Recognition scheme?

- A programme of work undertaken by the NCTO QWG to develop, agree and implement **minimum standards for quality systems** across the HRB funded Clinical Research Facilities/ Centres in Ireland
- The mutual recognition scheme provides assurance to sponsors/potential sponsors of clinical trials and clinical studies that they can carry out **multicentre trials in Ireland** using sites which have **equivalent quality standards** which meet international best practice requirements
- Underwent major overhaul in 2021/2022. New iteration is based on **UK CTU registration process**
- 3 CRF/Cs have completed the process and been awarded letter of MR .
 - 1 in process
 - 1 CRF/C decided to postpone MR as they are merging QMS from 3 existing institutions
 - 1 non HRB funded CRF/C exploring option of voluntarily undergoing the MR

NCTO Pharmacovigilance Working Group

NCTO Team Lead: Dr Ruben Keane, Quality and Regulatory Affairs Manager

Email: ruben.keane@ucc.ie

- PvWG annual workplan agreed for 2023 with delivery and implementation work ongoing
- **Hot Topics:**
 - Device Vigilance and MDR/IVDR implementation
- Annual **PV activity report** for 2022 completed and submitted to HRB.

NCTO QWG and PvWG Engagement

NCTO QWG and PvWG are represented on:

- UK CRF Network Quality working group - **Mandy Jackson, RCSI CRC & Emma Deenihan, CRF-University of Galway**
- UK Clinical Research Coordination Registration committee - **Ruben Keane, NCTO** - external QA expert
- UK CRF Network Training working group – **Deirdre Hyland RCSI CRC**
- HSE REC Reform Working group - **Ruben Keane, NCTO**
- EU Accelerated Clinical Trials (ACT) Initiative – ***Shane Feeney CRF-SJH**
- Health Research Data Protection Network (HRDPN) - **Ruben Keane, NCTO**
- ECRIN Pv Working group – **Brenda Molloy UCD** nominated , however the ECRIN QWG and PvWG are inactive at present

*SF has just taken up a secondment to the **European Medicines Agency** in Amsterdam

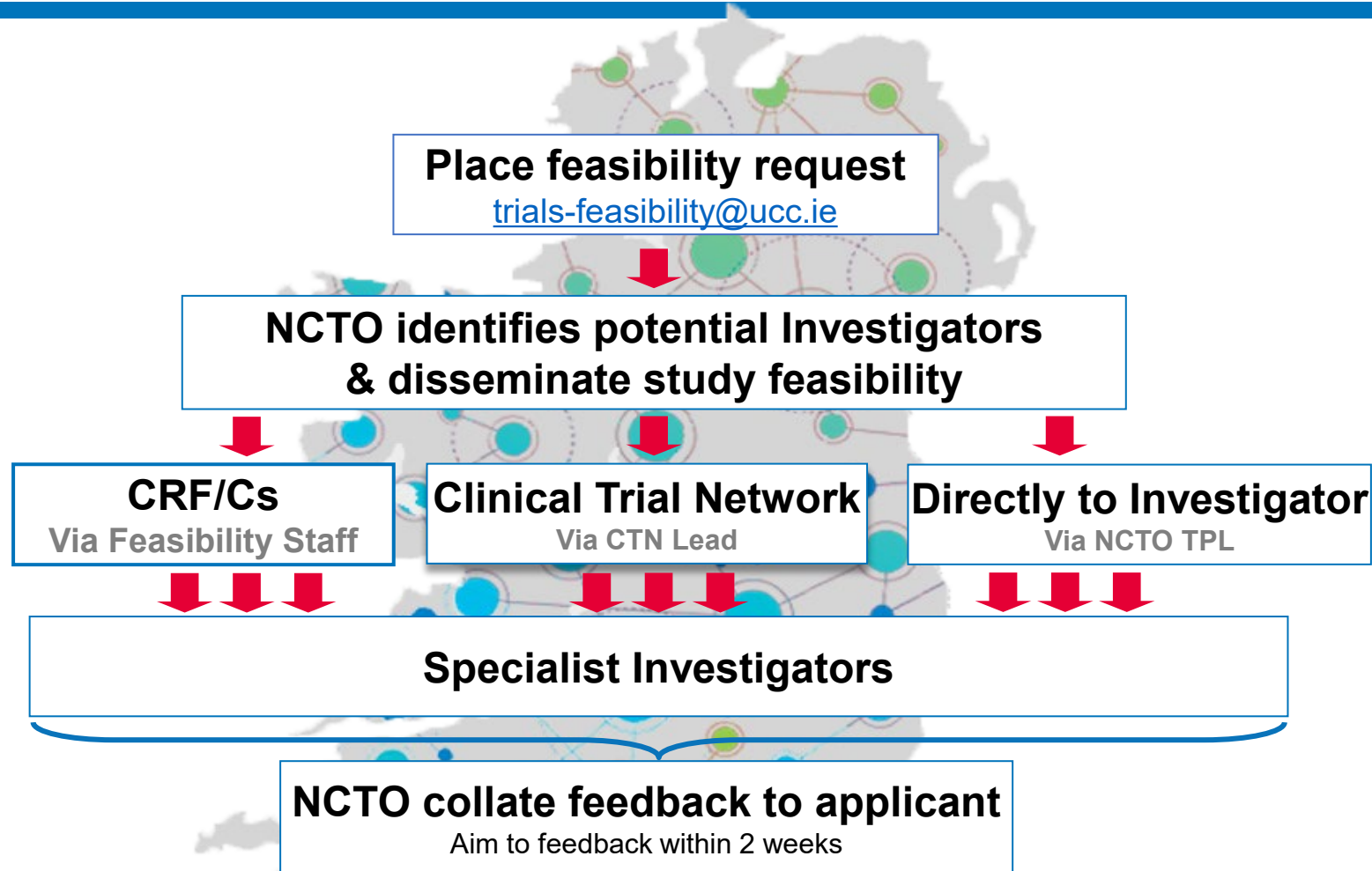
National Study Feasibility Programme

NCTO Team Lead: Ms Michèle Cunnane

NCTO Trial Platform Lead: Ms Jean Foley

- National Programme that covers **All Therapeutic Areas**
- HRB NCTO Trial Platform Lead works **in conjugation** with the Feasibility Coordinators in the **CRF/Cs, CTNs** etc.
- Oncology - **Collaboration** with **Cancer Trials Ireland**
- **Master Confidential Disclosure Agreement (mCDA)** are established with Applicant
- **CONTACT INFO:** trials-feasibility@ucc.ie

HRB NCTO National Study Feasibility Programme



NCTO Study Feasibility & Start-Up Working Group

NCTO Team Lead: Ms Michèle Cunnane, NCTO Trial Platform Lead

- Annual workplan agreed with delivery and implementation work ongoing

**Investigator &
Site Selection**

**Study Progress
Monitoring &
Reporting**

**Study Start-Up &
First Patient First
Visit Timelines**

**Promotion &
Membership of
HRB NCTO**

NCTO Budget Working Group

NCTO Team Lead: Ms Michèle Cunnane, NCTO Trial Platform Lead

- Annual workplan agreed with delivery and implementation work planned for 2023

**Clinical Trial
Costs for
Standardisation**

**Phase 1
Site Costs Budget
Template**

**Phase 2
Templates -
sponsor services**

Site Forum

CRFManager

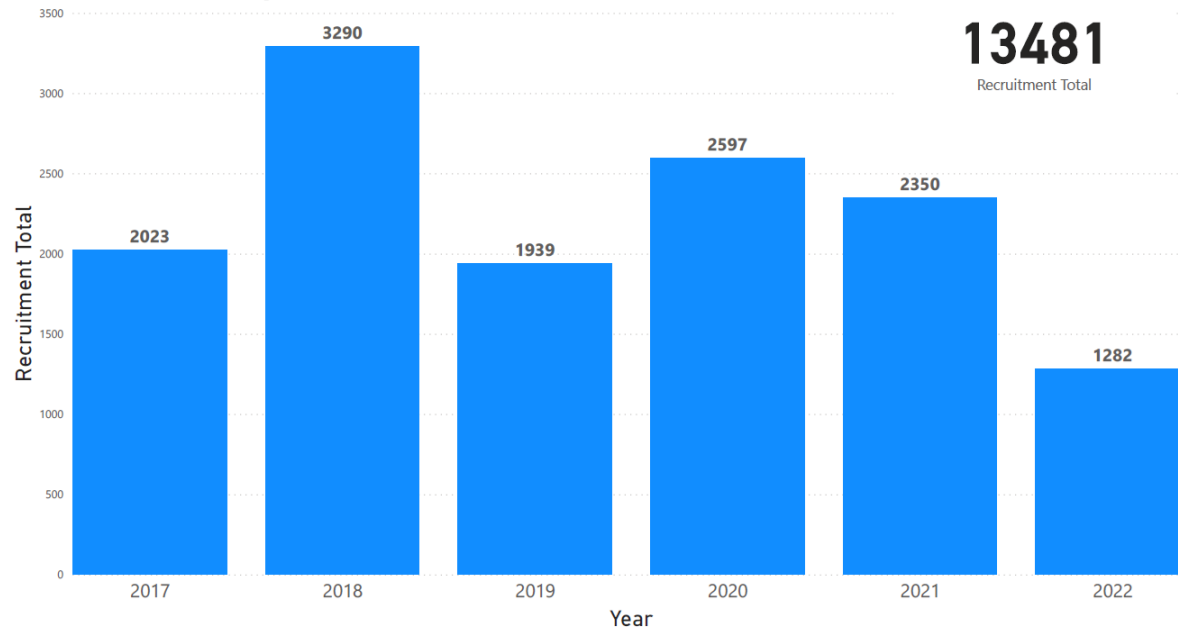
NCTO Team Lead: Evelyn Crowley Email: crf-manager@ucc.ie

CRFManager®

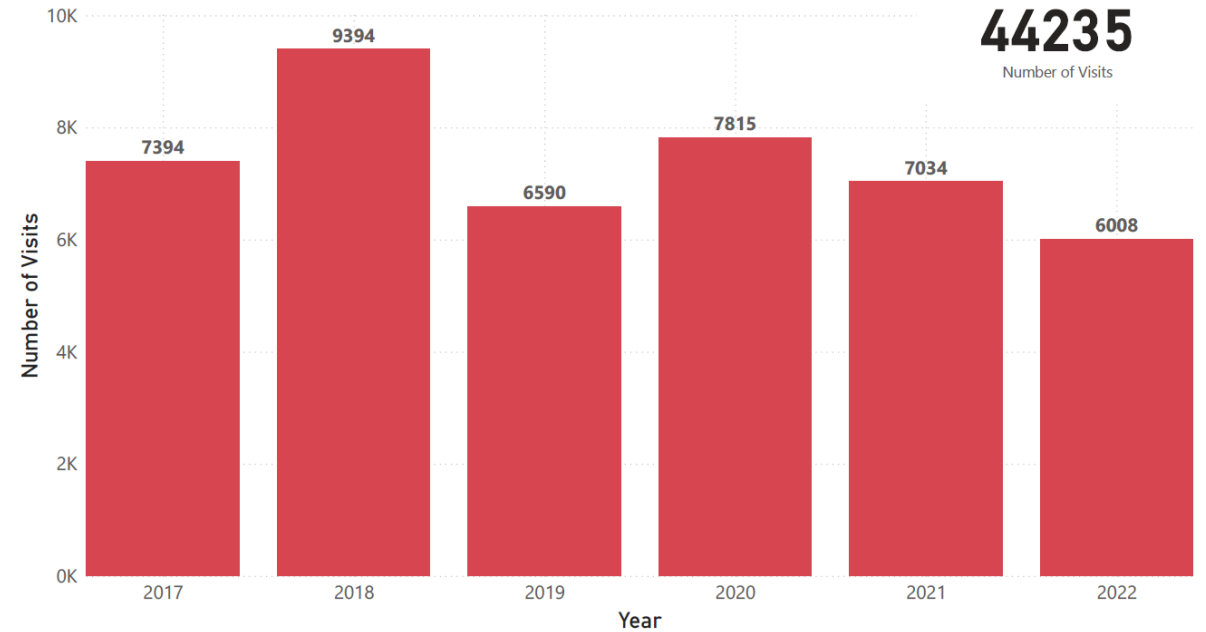
- CRF Manager is a web-based resource management system which facilitates the administration of clinical research studies and research facility management.
- Developed by the University of Edinburgh in 2005, it is widely used throughout the UK & Ireland.
- Currently, CRF Manager is utilised by 7 large University-affiliated Clinical Research Facilities across Ireland.
- The system enables the research facilities to organise and manage staffing and participant scheduling, record study data, track resource utilisation and allocation and report on study activity.

CRFManager

Recruitment Total by Year



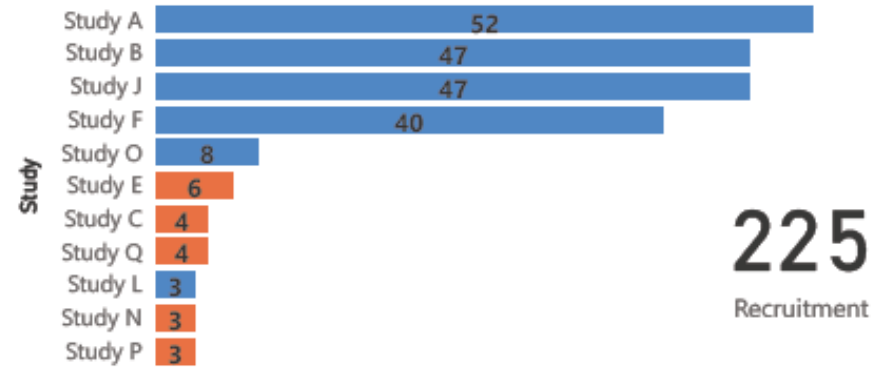
Number of Visits by Year



Patient Recruitment and Visits Weeks 1-47 2022

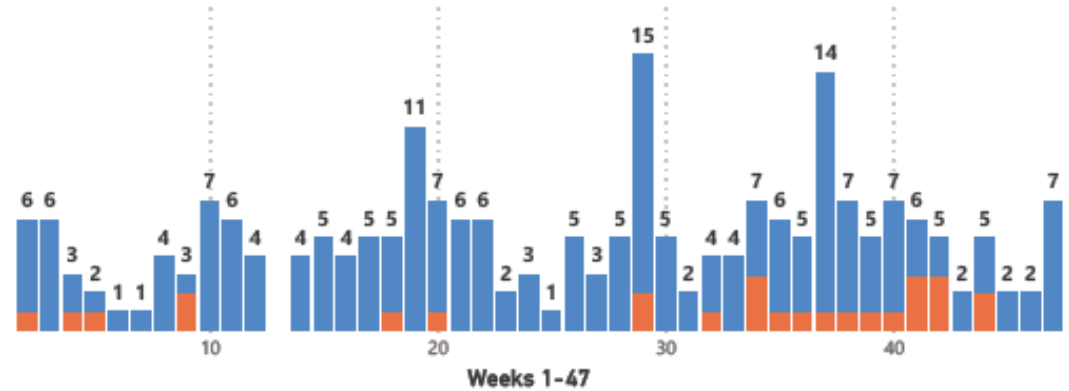
Number of Recruited Patients by Study Weeks 1-47

Trial Type ● Clinical Trial ● Observational



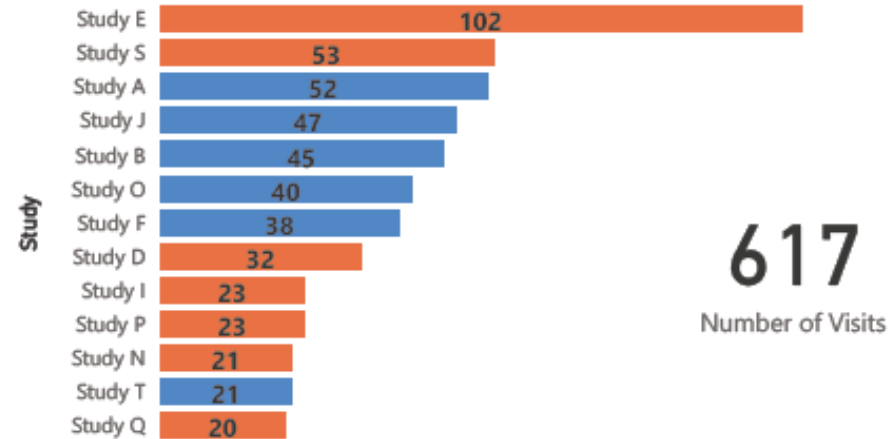
Number of Recruited Patients by Week

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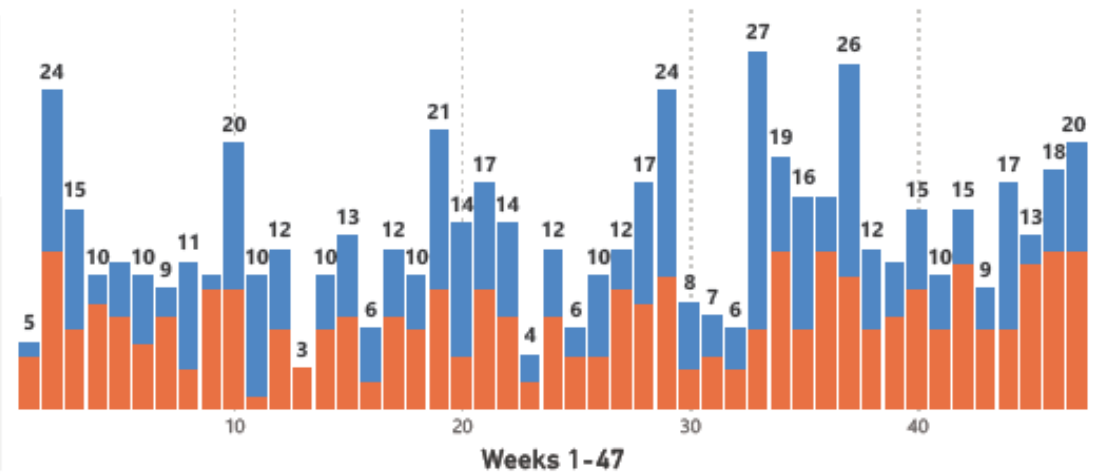
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Number of Patient Visits by Week

Trial Type ● Clinical Trial ● Observational



NCTO CILO: Clinical Industry Liaison Officer - MedTech

NCTO CILO: Ms Olive O'Driscoll, email: OliveOdriscoll@ucc.ie

Enterprise Ireland funded role to support MedTech Clinical Research

- Provide **Education and Outreach** services
- Identify and **evaluate strategic capabilities** of infrastructure in Ireland
- **Advise and signpost** support on regulatory requirements
- Support infrastructure for **international market access**
- Work closely with other MedTech supporting research organisations e.g. **Health Innovation Hub Ireland, HIHI**
- Provide **policy and benchmarking advice** to key stakeholders

NCTO CILO Plan

- **Understand Needs**
 - MedTech company/entrepreneur engagements
 - CRF areas of expertise
 - HIHI
 - Growth opportunities
- **Connect with Key Stakeholders**
 - HPRA, NREC-MD, Enterprise Ireland, Irish MedTech Association etc
- **Education and Outreach**
 - Toolkit
 - MDR and IVDR
- **MedTech Working Group**
- **Policy Input & Change**
- **Increase Clinical Investigations in Ireland**



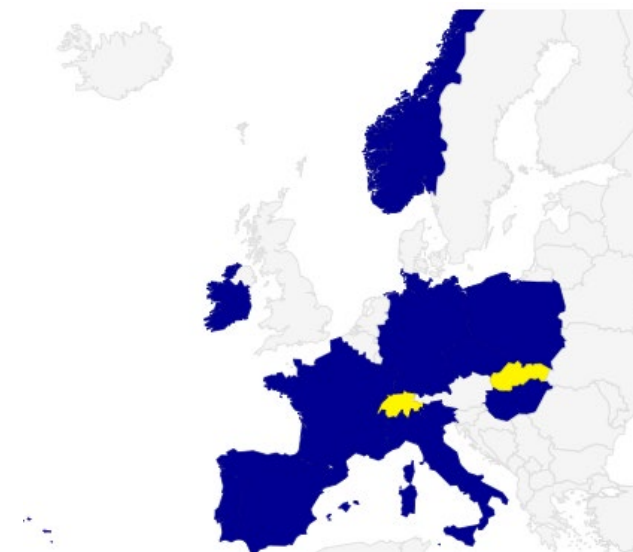
European Clinical Research Infrastructure Network

ECRIN's mission is to support the conduct of multinational clinical trials across Europe

- Distributed research infrastructure | 12 countries | 350 million EU citizens | 120 Clinical Trial Units | 70 clinical trials supported | 40 International Infrastructure projects
- ISO 9001:2015 certified for its core services

ECRIN activities

- **Coordinated support to multinational trial management:**
 - Collaboration on trial planning and design
 - Operational trial management services
- **Development of tools, methods and partnerships**

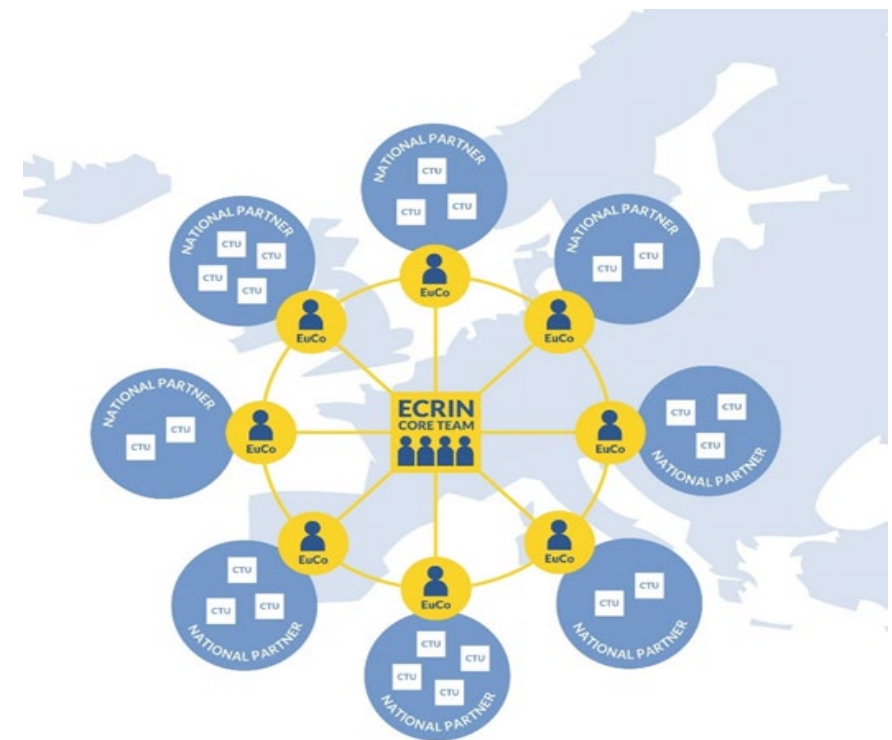


- ECRIN Member Countries
- ECRIN Observer Countries

European Clinical Research Infrastructure Network



- **HRB NCTO - National Scientific Partner** for Ireland
- Host **ECRIN European Correspondent** for Ireland
- Access to ECRIN supported **EU funded Clinical Trials and Infrastructure Development projects**
- Access to **ECRIN services** in Europe:
 - proposal development
 - study preparation
 - study implementation



Irish Involvement in ECRIN/EU projects

- Irish CRF/C is managing clinical sites in the UK



- Ireland is participating country with clinical sites



- Trials with an Irish Sponsor

EU-COVAT-2 BOOSTAVAC



ETAPA Trial

ICTD International
Clinical Trials Day
23 May 2023



Decentralised Clinical Trials

Challenges & opportunities



#ICTD2023

23 May 2023

REGISTER NOW

Join us in Warsaw or online

[Register to attend at https://ecrin.org/ictd-2023](https://ecrin.org/ictd-2023)

www.ecrin.org



HRB NCTO Website



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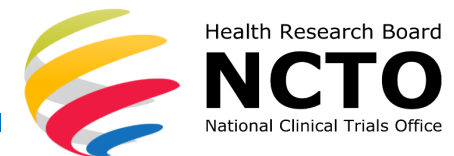
WELCOME TO THE NCTO

The HRB National Clinical Trials Office, (HRB NCTO), was established in May 2021 as an independent, integrated, national clinical research network, providing centralised support in conducting multi-centre clinical trials and investigations, both commercial and academic, across Ireland.

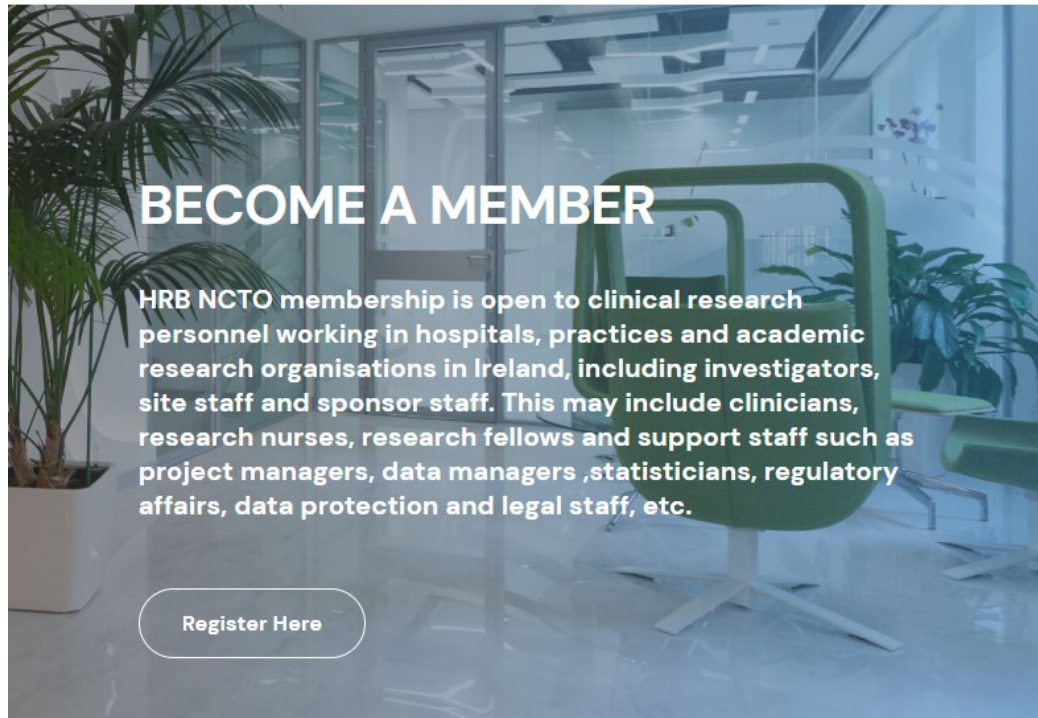
HRB NCTO is a National Network made up of a central office, the 7 University-based Clinical Research Facilities/Centres (CRF/C's) and the staff working in the delivery of the clinical research activities across the Network. The HRB NCTO central office provides overarching support and expertise, through a range of services and activities. The partner CRF/C's provide the infrastructure, physical space, facilities, experienced research and specialist support staff along with the necessary quality and oversight

NATIONAL CLINICAL TRIALS OFFICE

www.ncto.ie



HRB NCTO Membership



Category 1. HRB NCTO Standard Membership

Become a HRB NCTO member to connect with the HRB NCTO national integrated clinical research network. On application, you will be asked to provide your contact information so you can be kept informed of HRB NCTO activities and you will receive HRB NCTO newsletters periodically. Members can also avail of our services, including a range of advisory activities and supports. Your curriculum vitae is not required on application.

Category 2. HRB NCTO Investigator Membership

Investigator members get all of the benefits of a HRB NCTO standard member and are also eligible to participate in the HRB NCTO National Study Feasibility Programme. Investigator members will be informed of the latest research opportunities as they arise and can complete study feasibility assessments for studies of interest to them. On application, you will be asked to provide your contact information, your area(s) of clinical interest and your curriculum vitae, which will allow us to confirm your eligibility and quickly identify research of potential interest to you.

For more information: www.ncto.ie/hrb-ncto-membership/

ICTD Conference Support

We would like to thank the HRB for its continued support of NCTO and in relation to today's event.



ICTD Conference Support

We would like to thank RCSI for their support and hosting of our ICTD Conference today.



RCSI

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OF MEDICINE
AND HEALTH
SCIENCES



Health Research Board
NCTO
National Clinical Trials Office

ICTD Conference Support

**We would like to thank the following companies
for their support for this conference.**



This support is not linked in any way with product promotion and there was no company involvement in development of the agenda for this meeting.



Thank you

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