

June 2019

**ED CLINICAL RESEARCH UNIT
END OF YEAR SUMMARY
REPORT 2018/19**

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On behalf of the ED Clinical Research Unit
[@stgedresearch](#)

Report at a glance

Aims of the Clinical Research Unit:

To support individual researchers and aspiring researchers from research idea to implementation

To coordinate ED research activity, and to facilitate and optimise research capacity

To raise awareness of research amongst clinical staff

We recruited more patients into research studies than **any other Emergency Department** in the UK
see page 2

We received more than **£250,000 of external funding** for research nurses to recruit and support patients in studies

Our academic lead, **Professor Heather Jarman**, was awarded Royal College of Nursing 'Emergency Nurse of the Year' in 2018 for her work establishing and leading the research unit
see page 2

We launched our **small grants program** to support the academic work of our clinical staff

We were the **highest national recruiter** in 2018 to the multi-centre CRASH3 study

Over 1000 patients and staff were recruited to our research studies
see page 5

Over £700,000 of research grants awarded to our researchers
see page 4

2018 / 19 facts and figures



1327 patients screened to take part in studies



16 studies open to recruitment



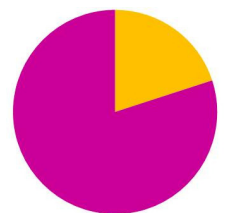
£700,000 grant monies awarded to clinical research unit investigators

12

number of conditions/disease areas covered by research



5 new principal investigators

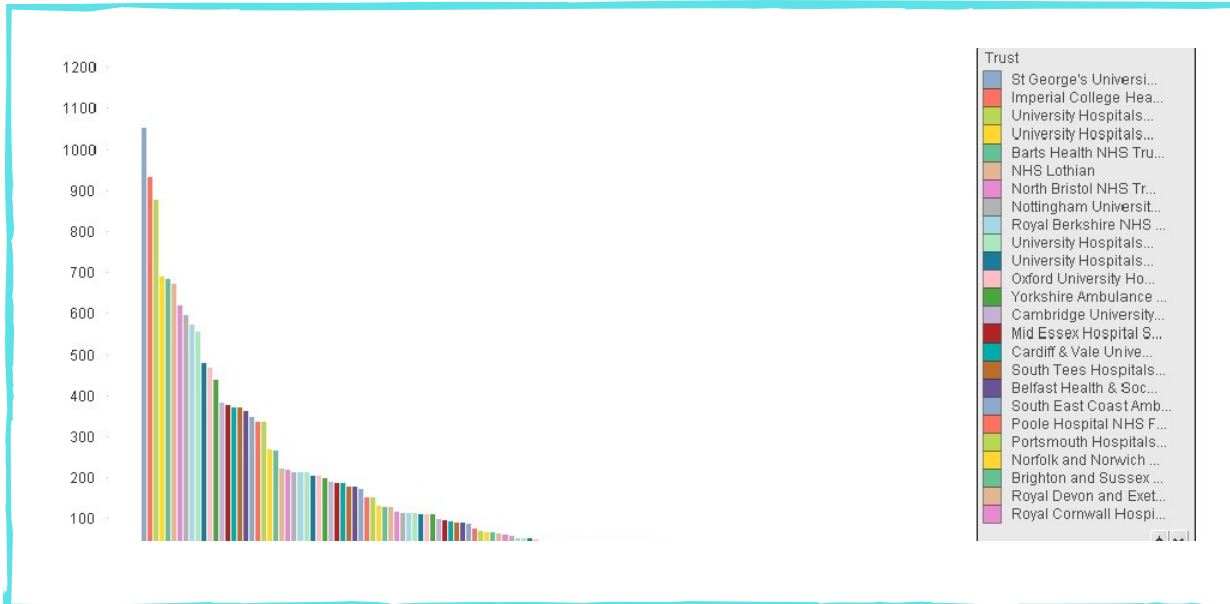


23% of studies recruited children

Research highlights and achievements

Research is vital to improve treatments and the way care is delivered in the Emergency Department. Our vision is to embed research as a core activity in the ED, and that every patient and member of staff in the ED should have the opportunity to be part of a research study if they wish. Studies are conducted to a set of quality, safety and monitoring standards specific to research.

We have gone some way to achieving our ambition in 2018/19, recruiting more participants to research studies than any other ED in the UK, with 1,049 participants.



The achievements of our research staff were recognised at a national level.

- Our academic lead, Professor Heather Jarman, was awarded the inaugural Royal College of Nursing 'Emergency Nurse of the Year' in 2018 for her work establishing and leading the research unit
- The whole research reached the final of the EDGE research management system 'Clinical Users of the Year' awards held in Birmingham



Achievements

We set some ambitious objectives for the research unit to achieve in 2018/19 and were successful in a number of key areas. A summary is below:

Research capability

- Opened 'The ED-CO study', our 1st study with a grant award and an ED Chief Investigator
- Developed 5 new ED Principal Investigators, including our 1st trainee principal investigator (tPI)
- Increased the number of academic publications from ED staff
- Funded a specific research space to enable a dedicated area for academics and others to learn and develop research skills
- Supporting a nurse researcher undertaking an NIHR pre-doctoral clinical academic fellowship (PCAF)

Research capacity

- Expanded the research delivery team to 5 full-time equivalent nurses to increase recruitment in to clinical studies. This has enabled 16 nurses to undertake secondments to the team to develop research skills
- Supported 4 research nurses to complete the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) 'Introduction to research' course

“ I wanted to do the secondment on clinical research because I think it's essential to improve patient care. It's been a very rewarding experience to be on the front line of implementing new treatments and develop the future best practices today. As a Clinical Research Nurse, I support the implementation and management of research projects. This experience has allowed me to expand critical thinking, audit and organisational skills, liaising with internal and external partners, representing the Trust in research meetings.”

RAUL MARQUES, CLINICAL RESEARCH NURSE ED



“ In August 2018 I joined the ED as a junior clinical fellow with a special interest in research. This has given me an opportunity to build strong foundations in the area of Clinical Research. I have gained a real appreciation of the necessary steps involved in launching national NIHR portfolio studies as well as on-the-job experience of ethically recruiting patients into those studies.

I have felt proud to be a part of this dynamic and continually growing Research Unit at St George's - a place where your research ideas are listened to, and evidenced based medicine is championed.”

LINSEY BEZZINA, CLINICAL FELLOW - RESEARCH ED

Research awareness and engagement

- Launched our website to promote the work of the research unit
<https://www.stgeorges.nhs.uk/service/emergency-department/research/>
- Introduced student nurse placements to enable pre-registration nurses opportunity to work with research team
- Held 'Introduction to research' sessions on all EM trainee teaching programs
- Continued our research star monthly awards to recognise the contribution of ED staff to research

The screenshot shows the website for the Emergency Department Clinical Research Unit. It features a navigation menu on the left with links to 'Services', 'Emergency Department (A&E)', 'Choose Well', 'Minor injuries unit', 'Major trauma centre', 'Emergency Department Clinical Research Unit', and 'ED & MIU Staff Portal'. The main content area includes the unit's name, a description of its role in participating in research projects, and information about its leadership by Professor Heather Jarman. A 'Related pages' section lists 'FRAIL-T: the frailty in major trauma study' and 'EDCO study: Screening for carbon monoxide in emergency departments'.

The screenshot shows a poster for the 'Research Star Awards 2018'. It is titled 'St George's Emergency Department Clinical Research Unit Research Star Awards 2018' and is awarded by the research team in recognition of an individual's contribution to supporting research in ED. The poster displays a grid of 12 award winners, each with a photo and their name and the month they were awarded: Ed Chaplin (January 2018), Matt Jarrett (February 2018), Paul Davies (March 2018), Will Glasbrook (April 2018), Vile Sellenius (May 2018), Alison Brittain (June 2018), Jay Sidani (July 2018), Ben Simpson (August 2018), Lindsay Dripps (September 2018), Georgia Biggins (October 2018), Jimmy Dill (November 2018), and Marco Marburg (December 2018).

Partnership working

It is important, in order to grow and have the greatest impact for our patients, that the ED Clinical Research Unit has strong links and partnerships with other research active departments in the Trust, academic partners and external research organisations.

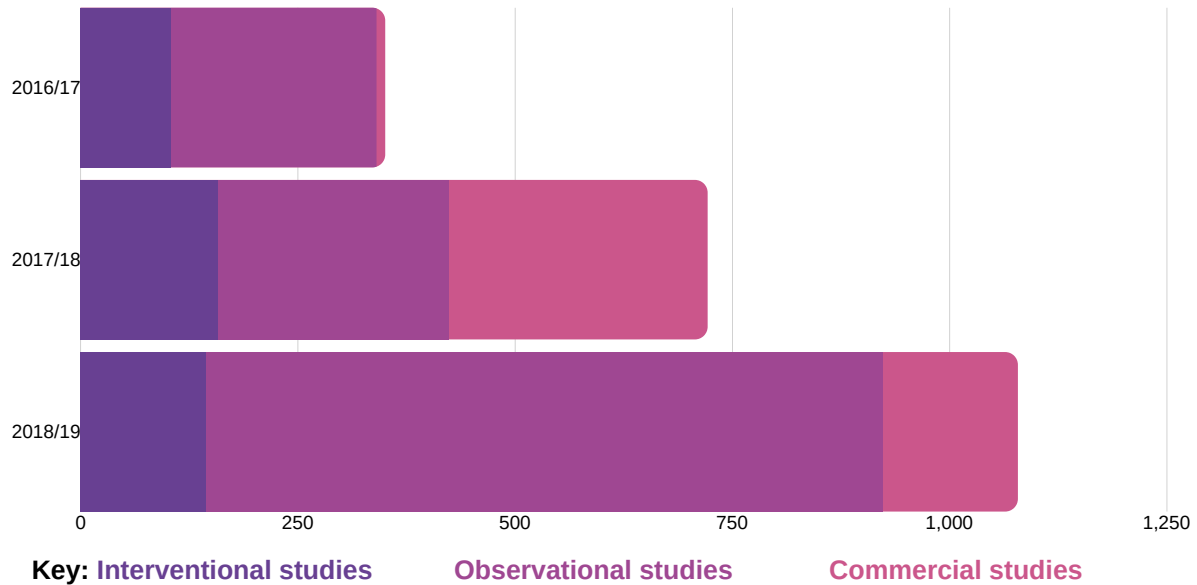
- We have continued our partnership with **SGUL** and the joint faculty through honorary appointments and links with the Institute for Population Health and the Emergency, Cardiovascular and Critical Care Research Group
- Professor Heather Jarman has continued in her role as **Clinical Research Network** specialty lead for Injuries and Emergency studies across all Trusts in South London
- We maintain strong links and involvement in the Paediatric Emergency Research in the UK and Ireland (**PERUKI**) network, collaborating on a wide range of studies and publications
- Professor Heather Jarman is on the leadership team for the Emergency Care Research Incubator, an **NIHR / RCEM** initiative aimed at enhancing research capacity in emergency practice

This block contains the logos of the partner organizations mentioned in the text. From top-left to bottom-right, they are: Kingston University London; St George's University of London; NIHR National Institute for Health Research; PERUKI Paediatric Emergency Research in the UK and Ireland; and The Royal College of Emergency Medicine.

Research outputs

Recruitment to research studies

In 2018/19, a total of 1,049 people were recruited into studies run by the research unit. This was an increase of 328 on the previous year. This figure has been increasing each year since the research unit opened in 2015.



Research grant awards

H Jarman (Chief Investigator) and other consortium members
The Gas Safety Trust
Sep 2018 - Mar 2020, £309,000

The ED-CO study: screening for carbon monoxide in the Emergency Department
The aim of this study is to find out how often patients presenting to the ED with symptoms suggestive of carbon monoxide exposure are actually exposed.

S Gillard (CI), **H Jarman** (Co-I) and other consortium members
NIHR Health Services and Delivery Programme
Jan 2019 – Oct 2020, £361,000

DECISION: evaluating mental health decision units in acute care pathway
The aim of the study is to ascertain the structure and activities of operational Mental Health Decision Units in England and provide an evidence base for their effectiveness, cost benefit and optimal configuration.

H Jarman (Chief Investigator) and other consortium members
The Burdett Trust for Nursing
Mar 2019 - Mar 2020, £58,000

FRAIL-T: the frailty in major trauma study
This study aims to determine if it is possible to accurately assess frailty in the Emergency Department (ED) in patients aged 65 or more admitted with major trauma.

Publications

In 2018/19, ED staff were published 6 papers in academic journals. There have also been a number of publications with St George's ED named as collaborators. This shows an increase on the previous year and is a huge achievement for those spending the time writing for publication.

Alghamdi, A., Howard, L., Reynard, C., Moss, P., Jarman, H., et al. Enhanced triage for patients with suspected cardiac chest pain: the History and Electrocardiogram only Manchester acute Coronary Syndromes (HE-MACS) decision aid. *European Journal of Emergency Medicine* 2018 [online, ahead of print]

Curry, N., Foley, C., Wong, H., Mora, A., Curnow, E., Zarankaite, A., Hodge, R., Hopkins, V., Deary, A., Ray, J., Moss, P., et al. Early Fibrinogen concentrate therapy for major haemorrhage in trauma (E-FIT 1): results from a UK multi-centre, randomised, double blind, placebo-controlled pilot trial. *Critical Care* (2018) 22:164

Reynard, C., Morris, N., Moss, P., Jarman, H., and Body, R. Optimising antiplatelet utilisation in the acute care setting: a novel threshold for medical intervention in suspected acute coronary syndromes. *Emerg Med J* 2019;0:1–8.

Smith, E. and Dasan, S. A System under pressure. *British Journal of Hospital Medicine*. 2018 (79) 9:495-499

Morton, S., Galea, J., Uprichard, J. and Hudson, A. The practicalities and barriers of using TEG6s in code red traumas: an observational study in one London major trauma centre. *CJEM* 2018;0(0)1-4.

Youngs J, Iqbal Y, Glass S, et al. Implementation of the Cobas Liat influenza point-of-care test into an emergency department during a high-incidence season: a retrospective evaluation following real-world implementation. *The Journal Of Hospital Infection*. 2019;101(3):285-288.

Publications with collaborators

Simone, L., Lyttle, M., Roland, D. et al. Canadian and UK/Ireland practice patterns in lumbar puncture performance in febrile neonates with bronchiolitis. *Emerg Med J* 2019;0:1–6. [Jarman, H. PERUKI collaborator]

Looking ahead

We know there is more to we can do to increase access to research for patients and staff. In 2019/20 we hope to build on future success and remain leading recruiters in to clinical studies.

Our main objectives for 2019/20 are:

Increase research capability

- Identify and support clinical staff wishing to pursue clinical academic careers
- Encourage applications to the small grants fund for development of research projects
- Fund post-graduate research training (PGCert, MRes) for clinical staff
- Increase the number of honorary contracts / joint clinical academic appointments with Higher Education Institutes to support research
- Identify opportunities for research mentorship for novice researchers
- Develop an Out Of Programme Research (OOPR) post for EM trainee and specific clinical fellow (research) post

Build a research culture

- Hold research awareness events and training for all staff groups
- Introduce 'taster' days with the research team for NMAHPs
- Expand student placement opportunities with the research team

Increasing research capacity

- Increase number of studies open to recruitment
- Increase the proportion of studies involving children
- Review the responsibilities and structure of the research team to maximise effectiveness of the roles

Acknowledgements

We are grateful to all those in the ED who continue to support the research team, including past and present research nurses. Most of all we thank everyone who participates in our research studies, sometimes in spite of the uncertainty of the benefit, so that our practice can continue to based on the best available evidence.