

<b>Meeting title:</b>	Public Trust Board	<b>Trust Board Paper L</b>
<b>Date of the meeting:</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	
<b>Title:</b>	R&I Quarterly Trust Board Report	
<b>Report presented by:</b>	Prof Nigel Brunskill, Director of R&I	
<b>Report written by:</b>	Prof Nigel Brunskill, Director of R&I	

<b>Action – this paper is for:</b>	Decision/Approval		Assurance	x	Update	x
<b>Where this report has been discussed previously</b>	N/A					

<b>To your knowledge, does the report provide assurance or mitigate any significant risks? If yes, please detail which</b>
No

<b>Impact assessment</b>
<p>The report highlights the delivery and performance of R&amp;I at UHL, progress of important research, engagement activities and newsworthy items.</p> <p>These elements have a largely positive impact on staff and patients and highlight efforts around engagement in research. Good research outcomes have had a positive impact on reputation.</p>

**Purpose of the Report**

To give assurance around UHL R&I activity and performance

**Recommendation**

To receive updates and to be assured

# UHL R&I QUARTERLY TRUST BOARD REPORT

## November 2024

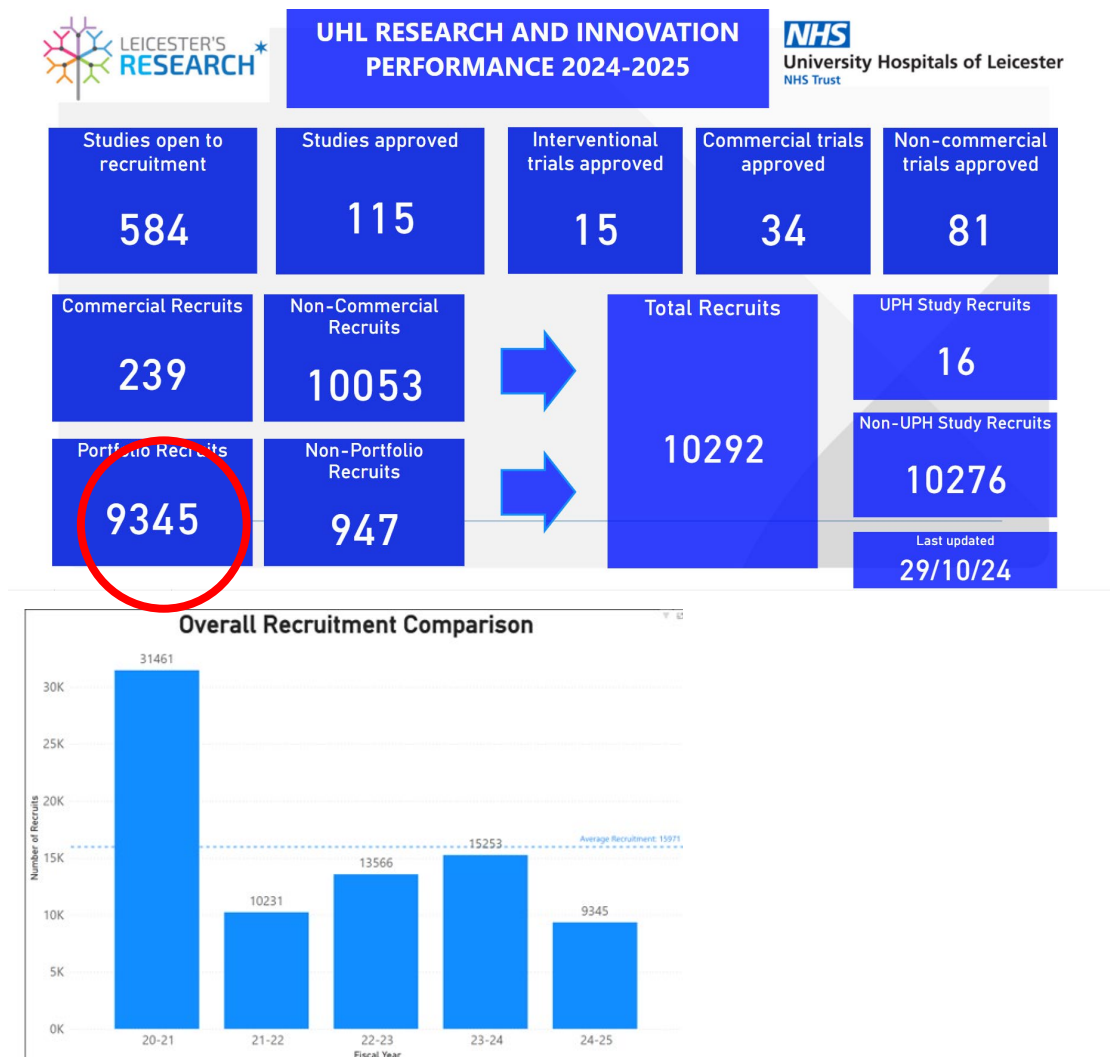
### 1. INTRODUCTION

This report describes UHL R&I activities, performance and delivery in the last few months.

### 2. RESEARCH PERFORMANCE AND DELIVERY

#### 2.1 Recruitment into and performance in CRN Portfolio Studies

This is a key performance metric and current recruitment is very healthy. The current trajectory predicts annual recruitment of around 17,000 although numbers can fluctuate over the year. The 24/25 research activity dashboard is provided below.



**Figure 1: Current and comparative UHL research study recruitment metrics up to mid-October 2024**

Numbers of new studies opening at UHL are also strong. It is important for our researchers and participants that the Leicester Joint Research Office is able to support rapid and efficient set up of studies.

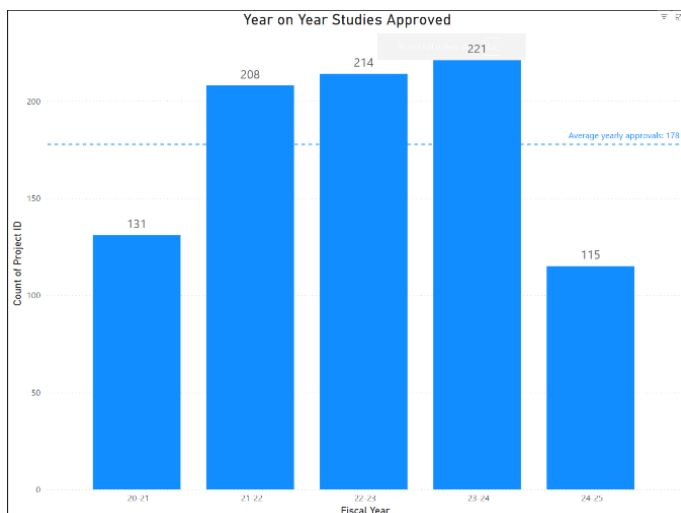
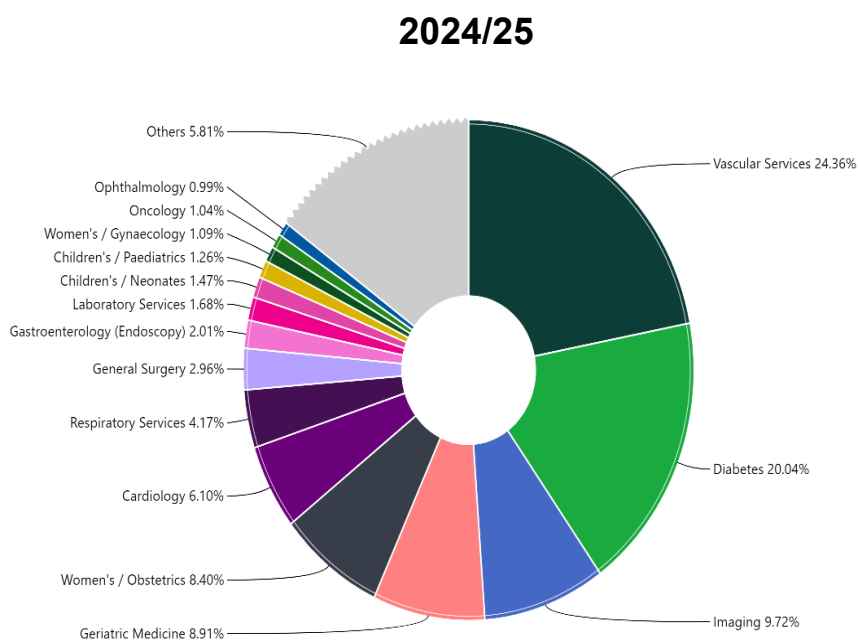
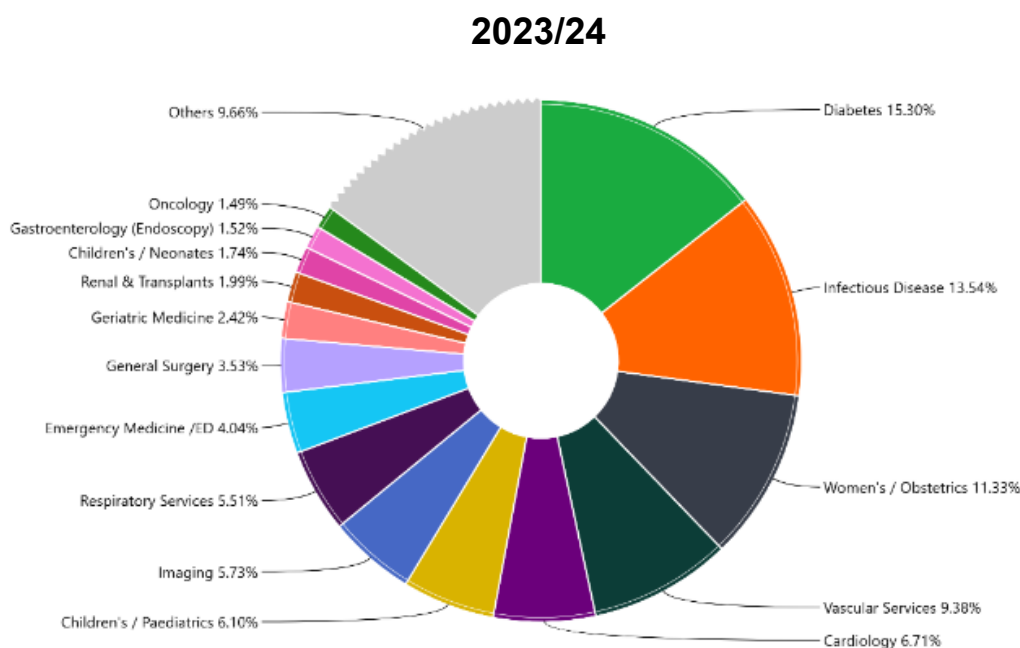


Figure 3: New research studies opening at UHL 2020-present (data complete to October 2024)

## 2.2 Dynamic profile of clinical trial recruitment at UHL

The profile of study activity at UHL varies from year to year:





### **2.2.1 Examples of current high-recruiting studies at UHL**

Recruitment into clinical studies at UHL is broadly spread across all areas. The highest recruiting studies are distributed across various specialities at UHL, see examples below.

#### **iGBS Study**

A study to help develop a vaccine against Group B Streptococcus infection in newborn babies

#### **Multi-Ethnic Lifestyle Study (diabetes)**

This study aims to explore different lifestyle behaviours in people with and without long-term conditions, in a multi-ethnic population, to be able to use this information to inform health care in the UK.

#### **CHARMER Study (geriatrics)**

CHARMER is a UK National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) programme of research to develop and test a behaviour change intervention to address the determinants of geriatricians' and pharmacists' proactive deprescribing behaviour.

***Professor Joe Fawke, Consultant Neonatologist, will attend to discuss his team's research in neonates.***

### ***2.3 Regional Research Delivery Network budget***

As the CRN transitioned to the new RRDN structure in October 2024 there was uncertainty about budget allocations for months 7-12 in 2024/25. UHL has now been allocated an indicative budget of £2,299,274 by CRN for the period 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. This represents a 'roll-over' budget for the second half of the 2024/25 year.

## **3.0 LEICESTER BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH CENTRE AND CLINICAL RESEARCH FACILITY**

Both the BRC and CRF have had positive feedback on their annual reports from NIHR. Both BRC and CRF have been RAG rated green by their funder.

## **4.0 RESEARCH AND INNOVATION EVENTS**

### ***4.1 Institute for Excellence in Healthcare***

The Institute for Excellence in Healthcare (IEH) was launched on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2024 partnership with the University of Leicester with the aim of delivering world-class research opportunities for healthcare colleagues in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

Although there are routes for doctors and surgeons to become more involved in research, there have historically been limited pathways for other healthcare professionals. The IEH will change this locally, opening new opportunities for colleagues and helping to embed research in day-to-day clinical practice.

Around 250 people attended a launch event at the University of Leicester's Bob Burgess Building, which featured keynote speeches from Joanne Cooper, Head of Nursing Research, NHS England, and Lisa Ledger, Assistant Director of Allied Health Professions at the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR).



#### **4.2 Launch of UHL Research Experience Programme (REP)**

Launched at the IEH inaugural conference the UHL REP will use R&I capacity building funds to provide opportunities for Nurses, Midwives allied health Professionals including Clinical Scientists to gain research experience. REP will provide salary back-fill to release colleagues from clinical roles into a research experience role supported by a mentor. Fourteen applications have been received in the first round. Applications are from a wide spectrum of clinical colleagues including dietitians, physiotherapists, nurses and biomedical scientists.

#### **5.0 UHL RESEARCH AND INNOVATION NEWS AND EVENTS**

- Colleagues from the STIMULATE-ICP and PHOSP-I Long Covid research teams were honoured with the Excellence in Research Award at UHL Recognition Awards.
- Dr Sam Khan, Consultant Clinical Oncologist, from the BRC Cancer Theme was awarded Best Poster at the myESMO conference in Barcelona.
- The Leicester team leading the PHOSP-COVID study have been highly commended for the Outstanding Team Impact Award at the MRC's Impact Prize.
- NIHR has awarded £5.5M to the University of Leicester to establish a new Health Protection Research Unit Led by researchers from the University of Leicester's Centre for Environmental Health and Sustainability and the Leicester BRC Environment Theme. This will enable creation of a step-change in the ability to assess and monitor environmental exposures and risks to health.

- The Stoneygate Trust has awarded £4.4M to support initiatives aim to translate research findings into clinical care for patients with chronic kidney disease

Prof Nigel Brunskill  
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