NHS Tayside/University of Dundee: Joint Research Office:



Patricia Burns Senior Research Governance Manager

Boosting compliance rates at Universities: Where are we now?



• Accusation:

Sponsors, including Universities, the NHS, and Chief Investigators were behaving unethically in not reporting their clinical trial results.

A situation which harms patients, wastes taxpayers' money, and slows down the development of new treatments, vaccines and cures.

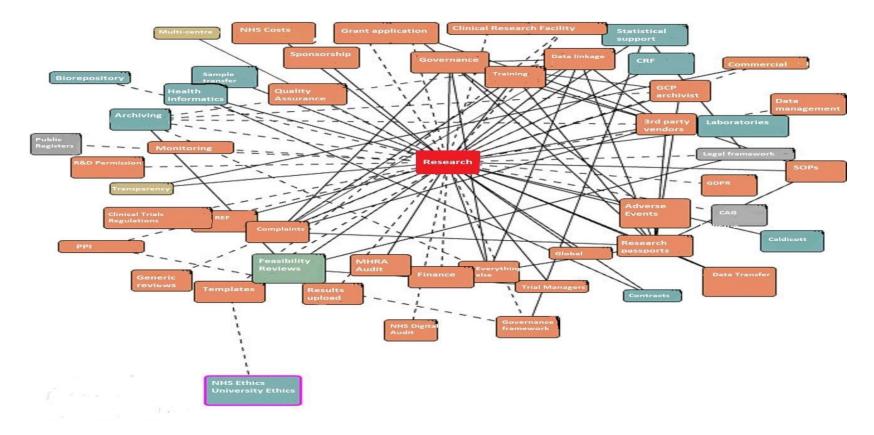
Lack of transparency

Not reporting results?!?! But we've been inspected.....



- Should we take this complaint seriously?
- 28/39 are published in journals
- 5/39 are not published despite completing >1 yr ago (so 13%, not 60%)
- 3/39 are under analysis but not yet published (mostly completed v recently)
- 2/39 either weren't completed or might have been completed but not published
- 1/39 is still ongoing
- UoD only 49/211 results uploaded (23%)
- Transparimed accusation correct. We had not been uploading results.
- RECOGNITION THAT THIS IS AN ISSUE THAT NEEDED ATTENTION!
- We cannot behave or be perceived to behave unethically!

Recognise the environment we work in-Tayside





Actions

- Employed a dedicated person
 - Still not always 100%....
 - Still face problems
 - Still sometimes late

To the Public therefore, are we still not being transparent?



Patient and Public Involvement

- Patient and Public Involvement with researcher
 - Reviewing participant information sheets
 - Contributing to the design of research
 - Contributing to the conduct of the research
- Sponsor expectations
 - Had there been involvement?
 - Requesting evidence of involvement



Which studies? Which Registers?

- All projects to be registered
- If not, why not?
- Cost of registration to be included in grant application where permissible
- NHS REC Committees now looking for this
- Eudract mandatory for CTIMPS
- ISRCTN for others
- No longer as Sponsor routinely approving registration on Clinicaltrials.gov



Possible areas for Sponsor involvement

• How do we manage expectations?

- Not all PPI suggestions are possible to carry out
- How do we help with an understanding of legal constraints?
 - Insurance
 - Data Protection
- How do we develop general knowledge of approvals processes?
 - What is Sponsor, REC, R&D



Was there a need for greater understanding?

- No one responding to short survey had heard of eudract
- No one responding knew what the Sponsor was
- Everyone had heard of 'ethics' but not the role it plays
- No one had heard of Clinicaltrials.gov
- Everyone said Pharma companies are in charge of drug trials
- No one correctly knew the role of NHS R&D



Sponsor / PPI

We are making ourselves available

- ZOOM meetings with PPI groups
- Q&A sessions
- Training events (on hold currently due to COVID)

Helping the public understand how we govern trials Explaining the role of other 'approvers' Encouraging involvement



pburns@dundee.ac.uk