

**Westminster Health Forum policy conference:  
Next steps for clinical trials and research in the UK**

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> January 2026

\*\*\*Taking place online\*\*\*



**WESTMINSTER  
HEALTH FORUM**

Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Dr Scott Arthur MP**
- 9.05 **Assessing current issues in clinical research design and delivery, and opportunities for growth**  
**Professor Raghb Ali**, CEO, Chief Investigator and Chief Medical Officer, Our Future Health  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Updated UK clinical trial regulations and priorities for practical implementation**  
**Dr Kingyin Lee**, Head of Clinical Trials, Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency  
**Clive Collett**, Head, Policy and Engagement, Health Research Authority  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.05 **Implementation of updated clinical trial regulations and strategies for increasing public engagement**  
*updated UK Clinical Trial Regulations | responsibilities for safety and monitoring | delivering trials in primary care and community settings | role of ICBs in supporting clinical trials | recruitment and accessibility | digital inclusion and reducing barriers to participation, including geographic disparities | use of the NHS App | data governance | tackling underrepresentation | use of Inclusion and Diversity Plans | trial design flexibility for rare diseases | pathways for highly personalised medicines | public messaging, confidence, and trust*  
**Toni Mathieson**, CEO, Niemann-Pick UK  
**Dr Philippa Brice**, Associate Director, Research and Impact, NHS Cambridgeshire and Peterborough ICS  
**Professor Pamela Kearns**, Chair, IMPACCT (Initiative for Multi-stakeholder Partnership to Accelerate Children's Cancer Trials); and Emeritus Professor, Clinical Paediatric Oncology, University of Birmingham  
**Dr Andrew Garrett**, Executive Vice President, Scientific Operations, ICON  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.00 **Chair's closing remarks**  
**Dr Scott Arthur MP**
- 11.05 Break
- 11.15 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Dr Louise Newport**, Head, Clinical Trials Engagement and Governance, Department of Health and Social Care
- 11.20 **'What should the priorities of the Health Data Research Service be to transform clinical trials and research in the UK?'**  
**Professor Cathie Sudlow**, Review Lead, *Uniting the UK's Health Data: A Huge Opportunity for Society*; Director, Usher Institute and Head of School of Population Health Sciences, University of Edinburgh  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 **Streamlining clinical trial delivery - key considerations for innovative technology, funding, the workforce, and data frameworks**  
*150-day target practicalities | impact of the Combined Review | sponsor confidence | Health Data Research Service and public trust | interoperability across NHS datasets | potential use of AI to support trial design and conduct | workforce recruitment and retention | joint NHS-university roles | new delivery centres and regional research hubs | UK attractiveness for global partnerships | wearable technology and real-time data collection | data quality and coding standards | funding for research infrastructure | expanding both commercial and non-commercial trial capacity | immigration, visas, and international recruitment | regional consistency in career pathways and roles*  
**Taly Dvorkis**, Director, Fieldfisher  
**Stuart Young**, CEO, Panthera Biopartners  
**Professor Terry Jones**, Director, Liverpool Head and Neck Centre; Director, Research, LUHFT and Cheshire and Merseyside ICS; and Director, NIHR Cheshire and Merseyside CRDC  
**Dr Joanna Jenkinson**, Director, Research and Development Policy, Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Next steps for clinical trials and research policy in the UK**  
**Dr Louise Newport**, Head, Clinical Trials Engagement and Governance, Department of Health and Social Care  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Health Forum closing remarks**  
**Dr Louise Newport**, Head, Clinical Trials Engagement and Governance, Department of Health and Social Care  
**Tess Mitchell-Thomas**, Westminster Health Forum