Department of Health & Social Care

NIHR | National Institute for Health Research

From the Chief Medical Officer & Chief Scientific Adviser
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Dear Colleague

Randomised Evaluation of COVID-19 Therapy (RECOVERY trial)

I am writing to ask that you provide your fullest support for implementation of the RECOVERY trial in your Trust.

COVID-19 is a global threat to health for which we have no specific treatments. Whilst many products have been proposed to treat COVID-19 patients, none are proven. The RECOVERY trial aims to take all adult inpatients in NHS Trusts with COVID-19 and randomise to no additional treatment vs. a range of intervention arms. We wish to enrol a large number of patients so that we can identify benefits that may be modest but can improve overall health outcomes and reduce healthcare pressures. Conscious of the likely overburden on frontline staff and doctors, the trial has been kept extremely simple.

The RECOVERY trial has been categorised as an Urgent Public Health Research study by the Department of Health and Social Care and expedited through HRA and MHRA. It has the full support of the NIHR CRN.

Immediate action

1. Your Local Comprehensive Research Network will be contacting your staff in the coming days to identify sites and local investigators. Please take any action required to ensure that an appropriate investigator can be identified at your trust and supported in adopting the trial.

2. If your trust hosts LCRN research staff, please ensure that some are available to support your local investigator.

Thank you very much for your attention to this crucial piece of research during an extremely challenging situation.

Personal Data

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