



Food



Global Economy



Health and  
Wellbeing



Heritage, Cultures  
and Communities



Information  
and Security



Space

## Critical Care Nursing Research across the UK

**Professor Natalie Pattison**

*Florence Nightingale Foundation Clinical Professor of Nursing: University of Hertfordshire/ East & North Herts NHS Trust*

*UK Critical Care Research Group: Chair*

*NIHR CRN National Specialty Group: Vice-chair for PPI/Nursing*

# Overview

- How research and critical care research in the UK is configured
- Opportunities
- Career pathways
- UK Allied Health Professional and Nursing Network for Critical Care Research (UKANNCCR)
- Q&A

# Evolving landscape

- Health Education England (HEE)
- National Institute for Health Research
- Collaborations for Leadership in Applied Health Research & Care



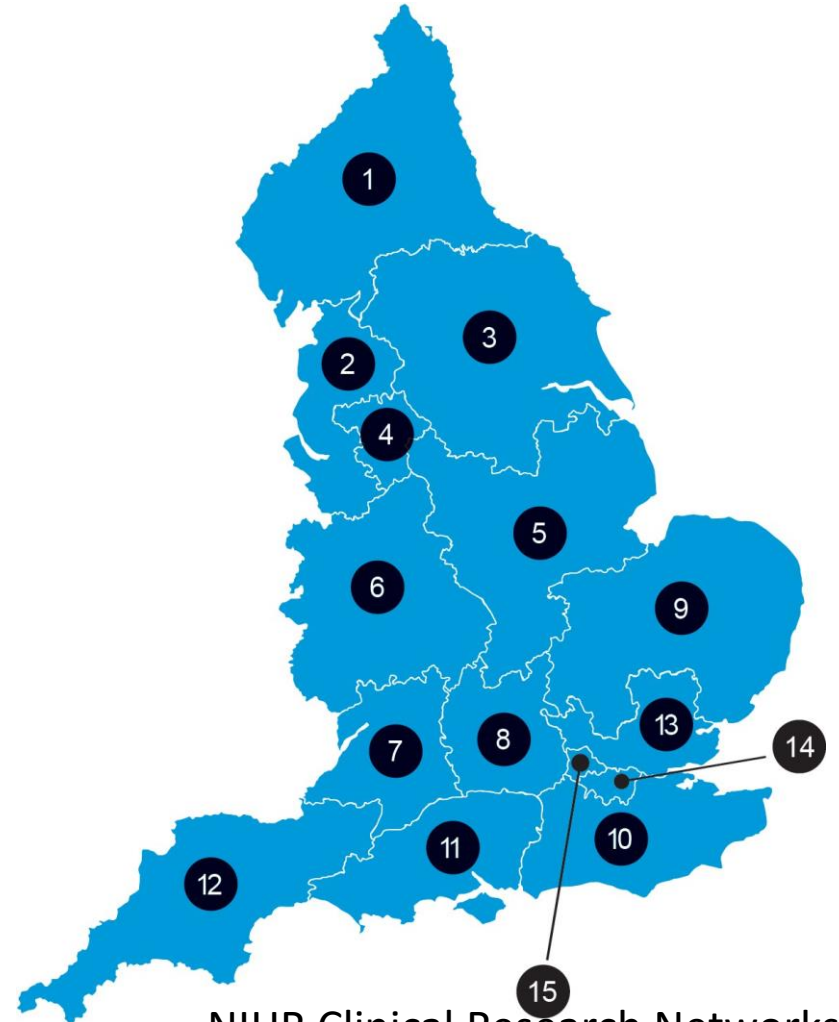
# National Institute for Health Research



National Institute for Health Research



**725,333** people  
in 2017/2018  
**99%** of all trusts  
in England



1. North East and North Cumbria
2. North West Coast
3. Yorkshire and Humber
4. Greater Manchester
5. East Midlands
6. West Midlands
7. West of England
8. Thames Valley and South Midlands
9. Eastern
10. Kent, Surrey and Sussex
11. Wessex
12. South West Peninsula
13. North Thames
14. South London
15. North West London

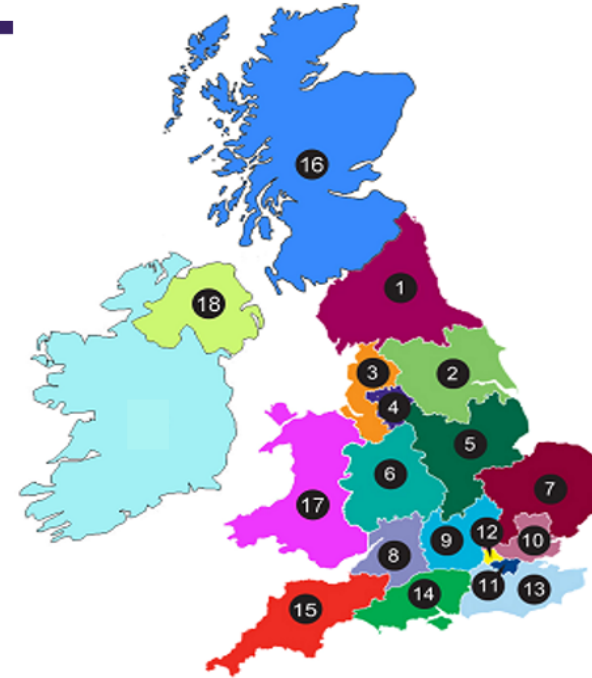
NIHR Clinical Research Networks

# Clinical Research Network

- Local Clinical Research Networks
- 30 therapy areas

## NHS Critical Care

- 250 UK NHS Critical Care Units  
(excludes cardiac and paediatrics)
- ~ 250,000 patient episodes (NHS Digital)
- Data (ICNARC, SICSAG)

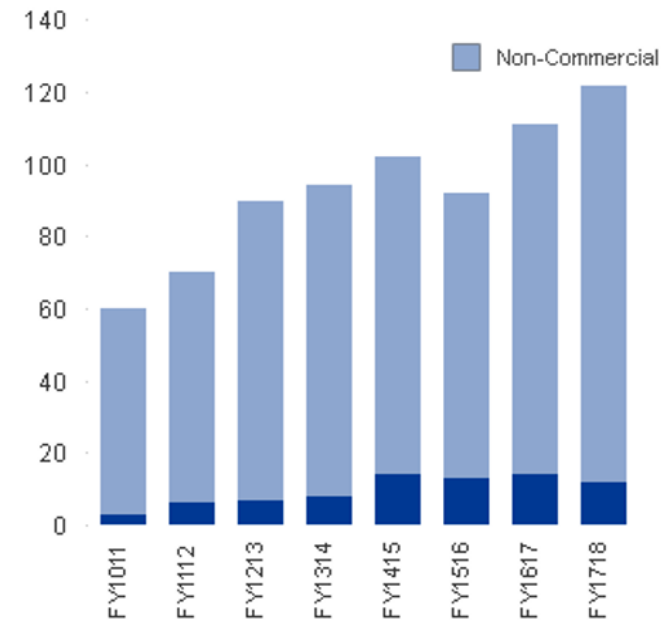
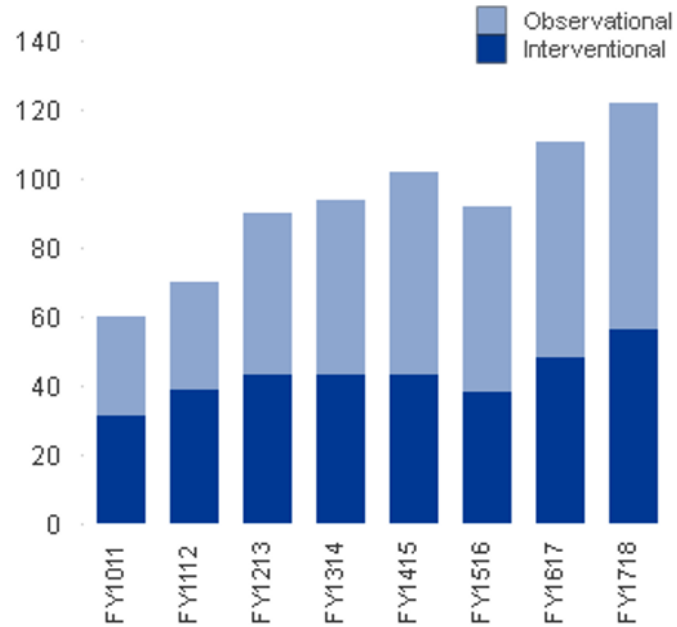


*(Source Data: NIHR CC SG, courtesy of Prof Paul Dark)*

# Key NHS research statistics

## NIHR CRN studies in critically ill adult patients

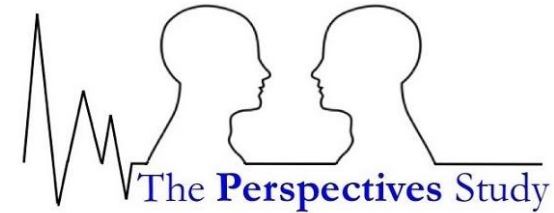
Number of Open Studies By Study Design



# Activity across the UK

- **109 studies supported in 2017/18**
- **55 Critical care specific studies currently active**
- **7 Open/11 set-up**

**N = 25,153** critically ill adult patients



**REFLECT**

**STARRT AKI**

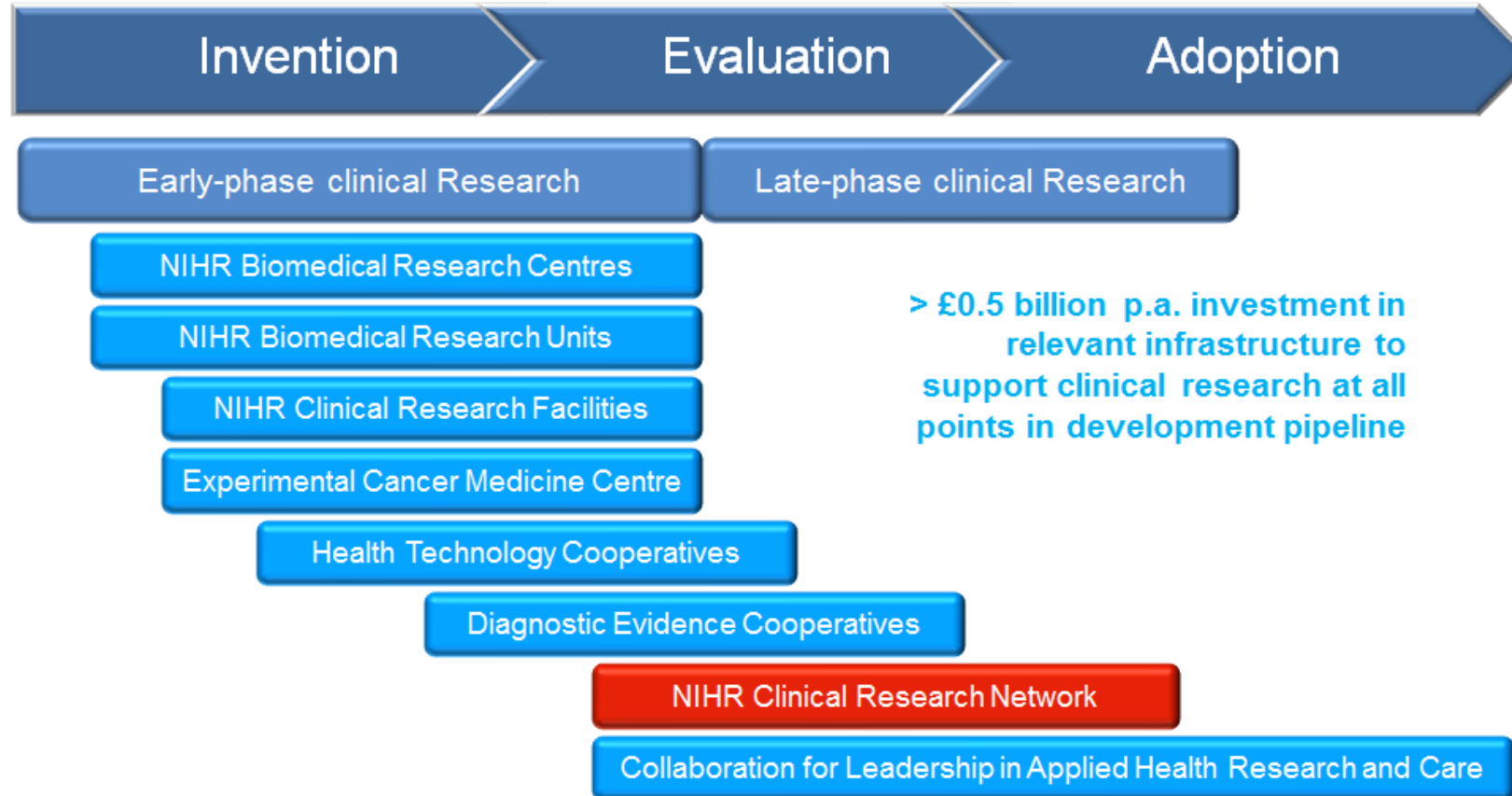
**DEL-CORS**



# Where the NIHR CRN fits in



National Institute for  
Health Research





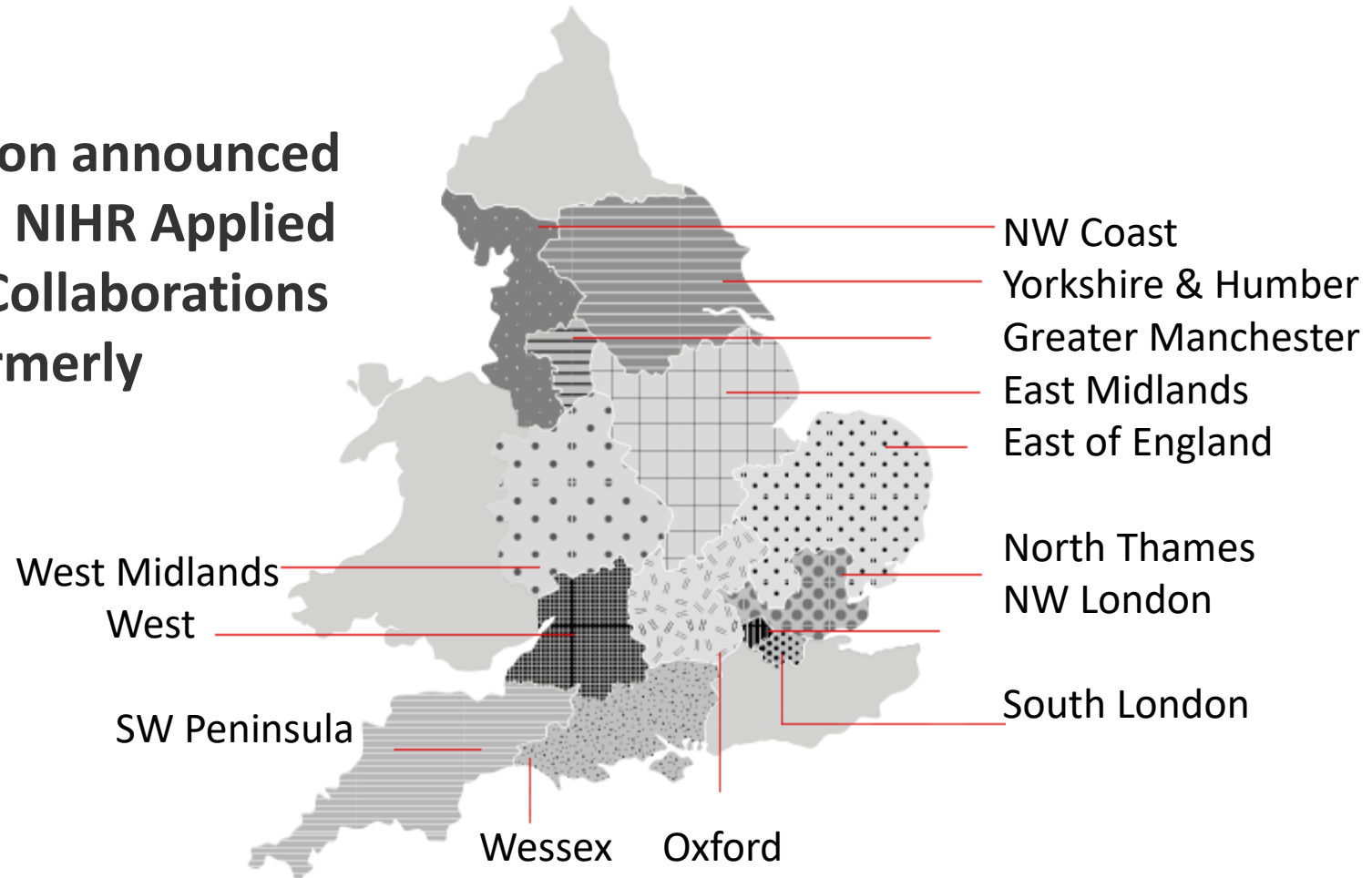
# How the CRN works

The CRN supports studies by:

- Funding research support posts in the NHS and providing training, so that researchers have access to experienced front-line staff, who can carry out the additional practical activities required
- Providing funding to meet the costs of using facilities, such as scanners and X-rays that are needed
- Helping identify and recruit patients, so that researchers can be confident of completing the study on time, and on target

# National Institute for Health Research

**£135 million announced  
to support NIHR Applied  
Research Collaborations  
(ARCs), formerly  
CLAHRCs**



# Research across the UK

## Professors of Nursing: Critical Care





- We aim to provide an environment for multi-disciplinary critical care professionals and academics to share experience, develop new research, and encourage the wide-spread participation in research studies.
- Our mission is to improve patient outcomes by developing new treatments, testing innovative ways to improve care delivery, and by identifying better ways to translate knowledge into practice

# UKCCRG Aims



1. **Create a network for by leading clinicians and researchers to share experience** and offer informal, multi-disciplinary peer review.
2. **Organise an annual conference and sub-meetings**, and participate in advisory councils of other societies.
3. **Develop the next generation of investigators** by facilitating co-operative studies between new and established researchers.
4. **Facilitate the implementation of well-designed critical care studies** across the United Kingdom and internationally.
5. **Develop and progress shared knowledge and infrastructure** by co-ordinating databases and evaluations, standardising operating procedures, and by developing national guidance and agreements.
6. **Provide specialist advice and formal peer review** to investigators and endorsement of important national and international studies.

# Sponsoring organisations



Clinical Research Network  
Critical care



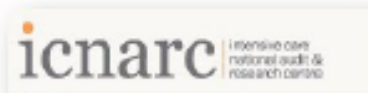
The Faculty of  
**Intensive Care Medicine**



Welsh Intensive Care Society **WICS**  
Cymdeithas Gortol Derys Cymru

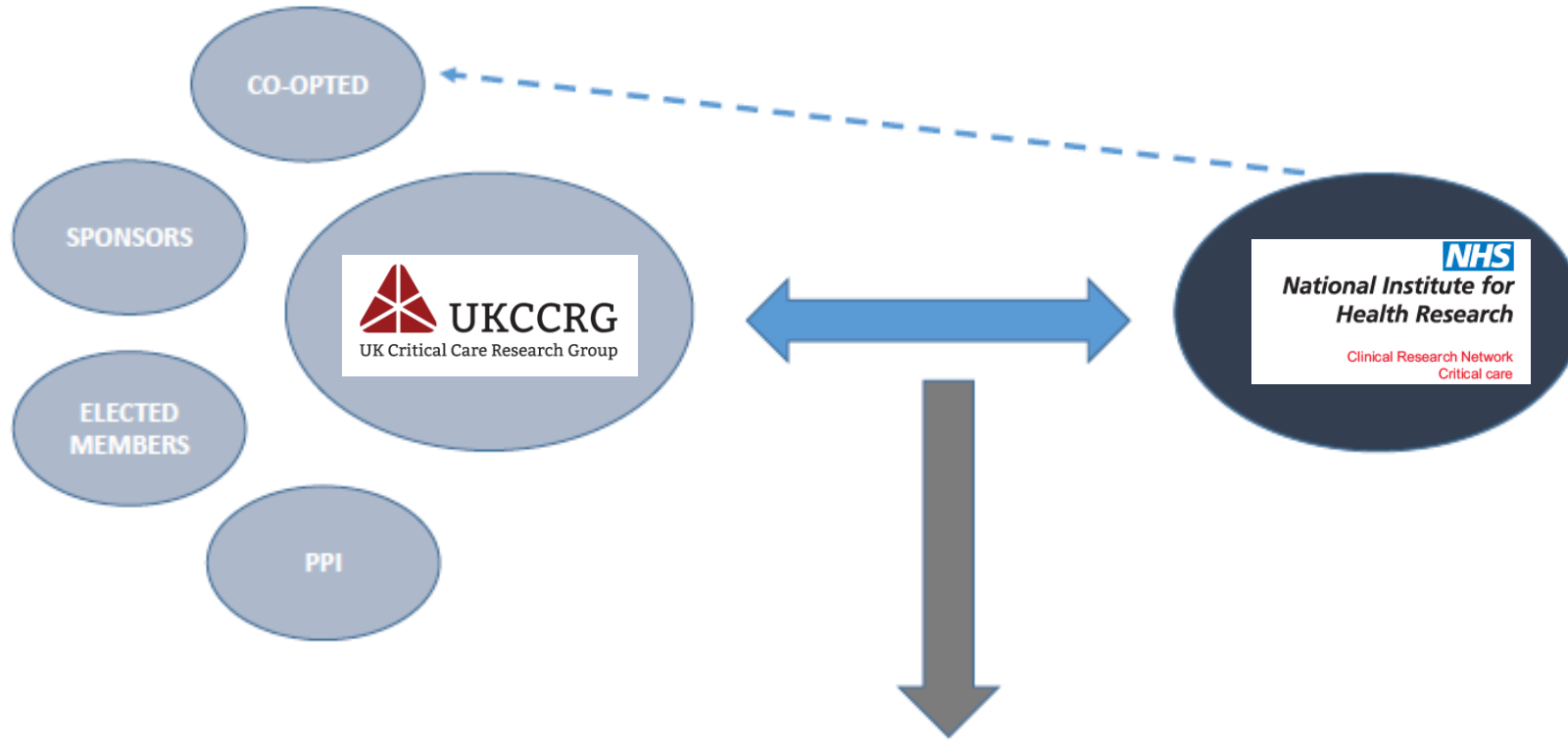


**Intensive Care Society**  
of Ireland



**intensive care  
society**  
care when it matters





# Research Funding

- Project/grant level:  
project based
- Individual level:  
fellowship based
- **NIHR** (largest funder)

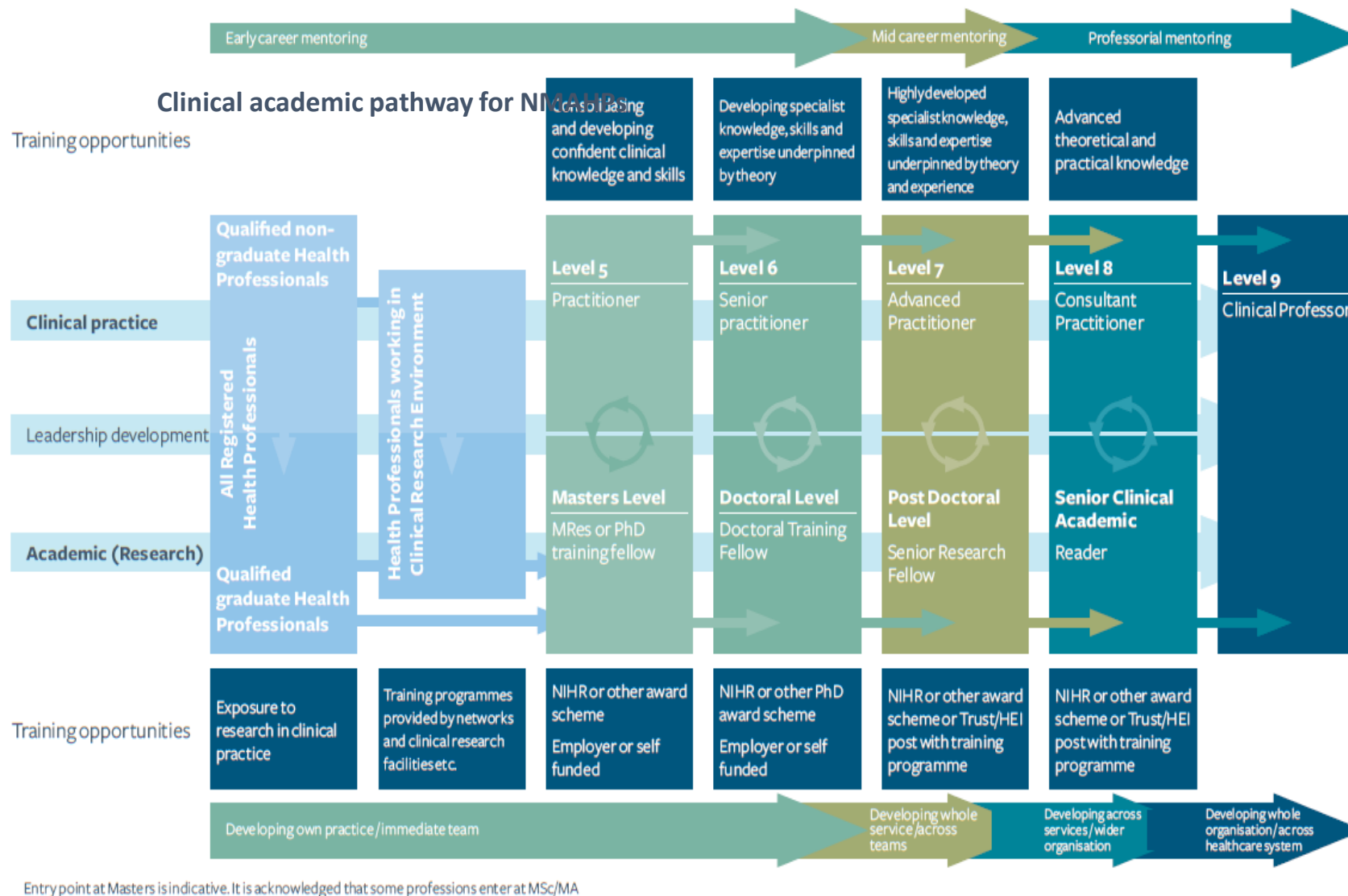
## **Other funders:**

- Wellcome Trust: fellowships
- MRC
- Churchill: fellowships
- General Nursing Council Trust
- Florence Nightingale Foundation
- BACCN
- Charities
- European Society of Intensive Care  
Medicine
- EfCCNa



# What is a clinical academic career?

- What are the routes?
  - National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)
  - Other fellowships (e.g. charities/Wellcome)
  - 'On the job' (e.g. hospital charities)
  - Post-doctoral v pre-doctoral
  
- Association of UK University Hospitals (AUKUH) guidance 2014: Clinical Academic Careers
- NIHR Clinical Academic Career Pathways: NIHR TRAINING ACADEMY 2019



DH (2012) Developing the Role of the Clinical Academic Researcher in the Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Health Professions

# Fellowships

- <https://www.nihr.ac.uk/funding-and-support/funding-for-training-and-career-development/fellowship-programme.htm>

## New for 2018

- Pre-Doctoral Fellowship 100% WTE strategic
- Doctoral Fellowship
- Advanced Fellowship
- Development and Skills Enhancement Award

# NIHR Clinical Academic Pathway

## **Pre- Doctoral**

- HEE/Integrated Clinical Academic Training (ICAT) internships
- Pre-doc Clinical Academic Fellowship (CAF)
  
- MRes/MClinRes\*
- PhD
- Prof Doc

## **Doctoral/Post-doctoral**

- Clinical lecturer (50/50)
- Senior Clinical lecturer (50/50)
- Clinical doctoral research fellowship (CDRF)
- Advanced (post-doctoral) fellowship
- NIHR Development and Skills Enhancement Award (post-doctoral)
- NIHR Research Professorships

# NIHR remit

NIHR supports training in clinical and applied health research, including social care research.

- The proposal must have clear potential for benefitting patients and the public within 5 years of its completion (but recognising the training element of the research).
- The research can involve: patients; samples or data from patients; people who are not patients; populations; health technology assessment; or health services research.
- NIHR does not support basic research or work involving animals or their tissue

# ICA

## HEE/NIHR Integrated Clinical Academic Programme



National Institute for  
Health Research

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>Internships</b>                               | "A pre-masters clinical research taster"  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 30 days salaried contact time over a 6-month period</li><li>• Exposure to leading research groups and clinical academics, experience to support further formal research training.</li></ul> |
| <b>Masters in Clinical Research Studentships</b> | "An introduction to clinical research theory and practice"                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 100 funded studentships p.a from 10 Universities</li><li>• Full-time (1 year) or part-time (2 years)</li><li>• Funds: Backfill costs and Course fees</li></ul>                              |
| <b>Clinical Doctoral Research Fellowships</b>    | "Obtain a PhD by research whilst still developing clinical skills"                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• salary costs</li><li>• PhD tuition fees</li><li>• costs of an approved research project</li><li>• training and development including clinical development</li></ul>                         |
| <b>Clinical Lectureships</b>                     | "Combine post-doctoral research in an academic position with continued clinical practice" | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• up to 50% of the award holder's total salary</li><li>• the costs of an approved research project</li><li>• training and development including clinical development.</li></ul>               |
| <b>Senior Clinical Lectureships</b>              | "Combine research and research leadership in a senior clinical academic position"         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• up to 50% of the award holder's total salary</li><li>• the costs of an approved research project</li><li>• training and development including clinical development</li></ul>                |

# Eligibility

Pre-doctoral/post-doc:

- NIHR - must be substantively employed by NHS
- Usually have a 'base' profession
- Other fellowships – e.g Economic and Social Research Council/Charities/CLARHC less restrictive criteria
- Must be committed to developing a clinical academic career
- NOT about the project – about the person
- **Training** is the key element – how that person will develop into an independent investigator
- Prof doc no longer a barrier (as long as 75% modules are at D level) and thesis >70000 words
- Incredibly competitive

# Fellowships

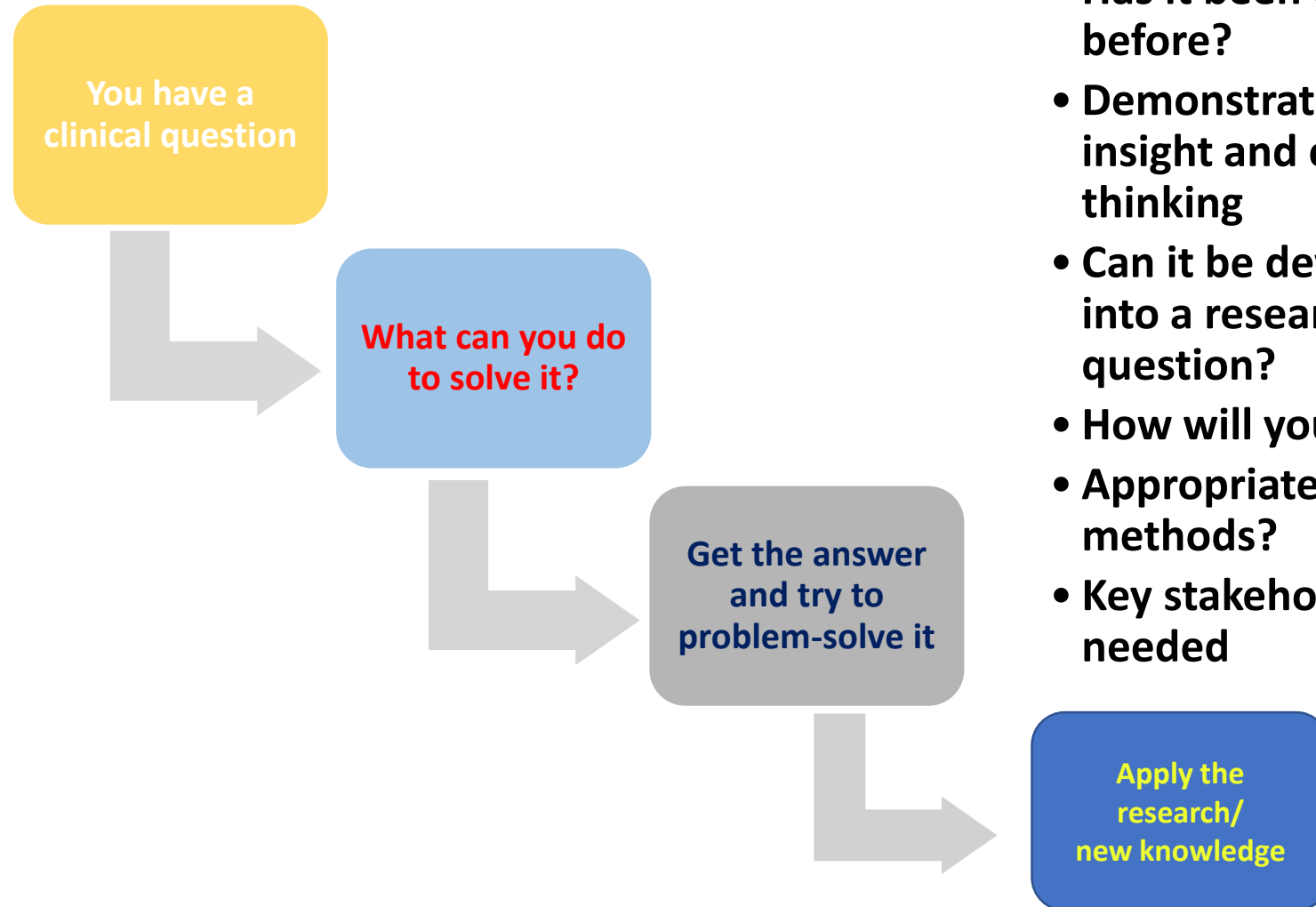
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New for 2018

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# Think of it as problem-solving



- Has it been done before?
- Demonstrating insight and critical thinking
- Can it be developed into a research question?
- How will you do this?
- Appropriate methods?
- Key stakeholders needed

# Identify your research question/s

- What is the most important issue/s to be addressed?
- Who is it important to?
- Is it achievable?
- How can you answer that research question?
- What research is already out there in that area?
- Who do you need to engage?
- What resources are needed?
- Scope it: PICO/PEO

- **Feasibility**
- **Interesting**
- **Novel**
- **Ethical**
- **Relevant**

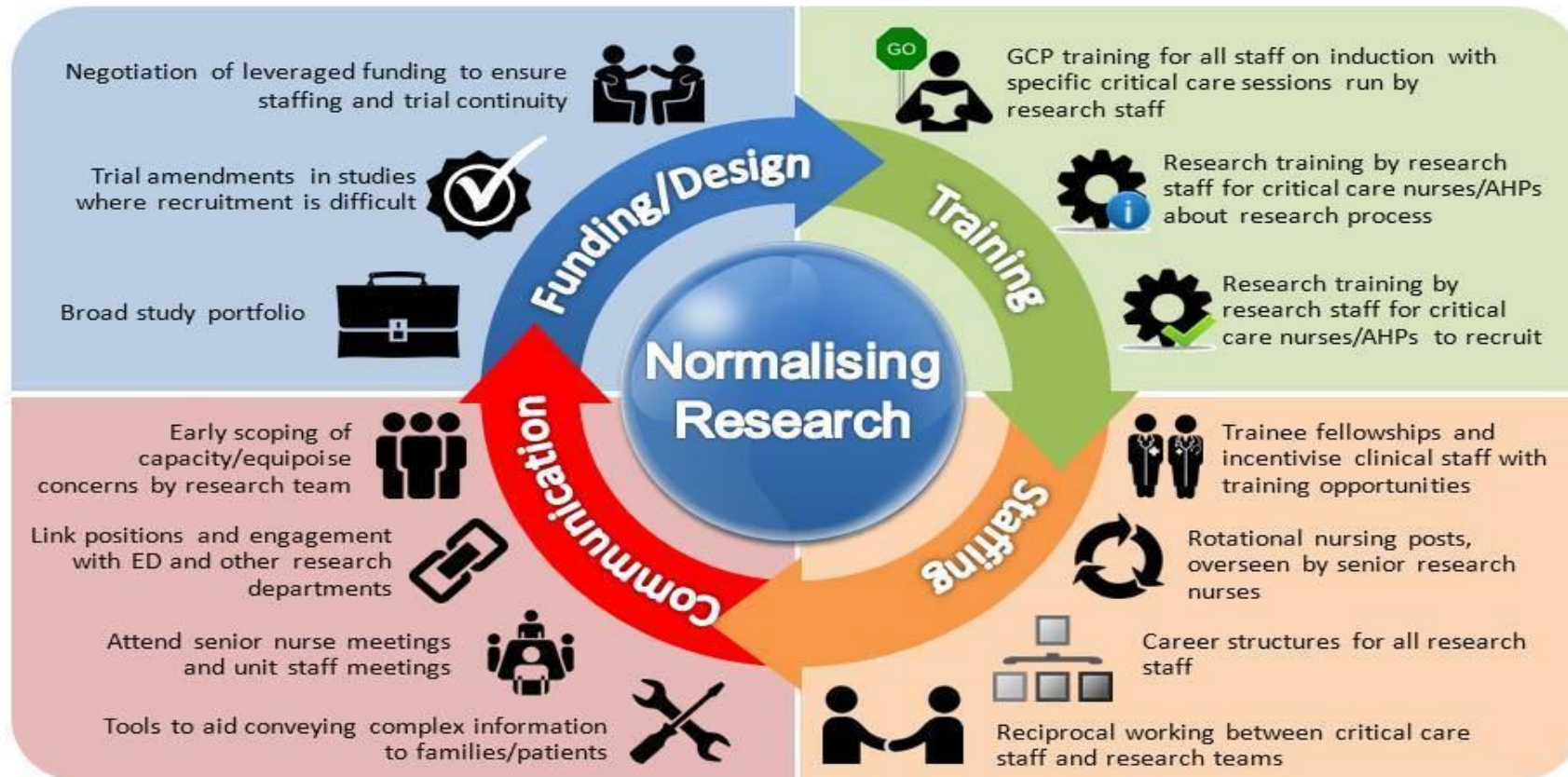
- **Sample**
- **Phenomena (of)**
- **Interest**
- **Design**
- **Evaluation**
- **Research type**

# Prepare the area



# Where do we want to be?

## Normalising Research in Critical Care



(Pattison et al Under review)

# UKANNCCR



@uk\_annccr

uk\_annccr@nhr.ac.uk

<https://sites.google.com/nhr.ac.uk/ukannccr/home>

# Encouraging Research



Questions?

Natalie.pattison@nhs.net