Management of Prioritisation, Resources and Site Permissions for COVID-19 Clinical Trials and COVID-19 Research Data Collaborations

R&D have set-up a COVID-19 Taskforce Group (chaired by R&D Director). The purpose of this is to oversee and prioritise COVID-19 Clinical Trials and Research Data Collaborations for site permissions, set-up and delivery.

COVID-19 clinical trials will be prioritised as follows:
- Designated as *Urgent Public Health Research*
- Have approval from national CSO/CMO
- Adopted to NIHR Portfolio
- Complementary rather than competitive to existing studies
- Strong scientific rationale with evidence of likely benefit and low risk of harm **
- Feasible within the limits of the reduced R &D workforce
- Minimally burdensome to front-line clinical staff and all supportive services
- Sufficient supply of the drug or other intervention has been confirmed to complete the trial (including confirmation of funding if not standard of care)

** Assessed by Scientific Sub-committee for locally led projects (chaired by Prof Iain McInnes)

Prioritisation of COVID-19 Research Data Requests
COVID-19 research data requests will be prioritised as follows:
- Research Data collaborations which contribute to national/international collaboration platform(s) supported by research funding bodies (e.g MRC, HDR-UK, NIHR, EPSRC)
- Research Data collaborations which will allow rapid turnaround analysis and synthesis of information to support direct clinical care and/or clinical service operations

For covid-19 Clinical trials, Chief Investigators and Principal Investigators are advised to refer to the most recent update from NIHR available at:
https://www.nihr.ac.uk/covid-19/

The HRA have also issued COVID-19 Guidance for sponsors, sites and researchers. In summary:
- There is an expedited review process available for new studies relating to COVID-19. The first point of contact for these studies should be HRA Mainline on 020 797 22545 (Out of hours please contact 07968 149916)
- There is an expedited pathway for amendments to existing studies to address COVID-19 elements. Amendments are to be submitted through usual email routes including “IRAS ref# Amendment - COVID-19” in email title,

Please note: All communications from clinical staff and clinical academic staff with respect to requests for COVID-19 trial(s) and/or research data should be sent to: RandDRecruitment@ggc.scot.nhs.uk. This is a monitored in-box.