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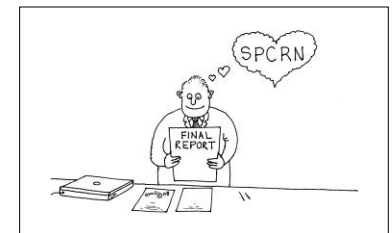
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or visit the SPCRn website at:

www.sspc.ac.uk/spcrn

Scottish Primary Care Research Network SPCRN

Guidance for Researchers



www.sspc.ac.uk/spcrn

Node	Health Board
East	NHS Tayside NHS Fife
South East	NHS Lothian NHS Borders
West	NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde NHS Ayrshire & Arran NHS Lanarkshire NHS Forth Valley NHS Dumfries & Galloway
North East	NHS Grampian NHS Orkney NHS Shetland
North	NHS Highland NHS Western Isles



What is SPCRN?

SPCRN is the national primary care research network operating in Scotland.

SPCRN is co-ordinated nationally by the Scottish School of Primary Care, and is operationalised at a regional level by five “nodes” based in Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Inverness.

Each node has a co-ordinator who:

- provides advice on study protocols and feasibility in primary care
- provides contact between the researcher and primary care professionals
- helps researchers to recruit practices and professionals
- provides local troubleshooting assistance where necessary
- calculates support costs and organises reimbursement of health care professional time involved

Researchers are encouraged to contact SPCRN **before** applying for funding in order to discuss:

- the feasibility of carrying out the project in primary care
- reimbursement of participating practices and professionals
- agreeing the level of SPCRN involvement in the study

What sort of projects are supported?

SPCRN has been set up to facilitate high quality research studies which are relevant to primary care.

SPCRN’s national network is well suited to projects which require the recruitment of professionals or patients from more than one region of Scotland, but can also assist with projects which are being carried out on a local level.

If your project covers more than one node please contact the Research Manager. If your project will take place in one node only, please contact the relevant Node Co-ordinator directly (contact details overleaf).

SPCRN prioritises projects as follows:

1. Studies which are funded by one of the CSO ‘eligible funders’ (<http://www.sehd.scot.nhs.uk/cso/>)
2. Investigator led, commercially funded studies
3. Commercially led studies

These priorities are used as a guide only and each project is judged on its own merits. Relevance to primary care, research quality and capacity are the most important issues when deciding which projects to accept.

How to Apply

You can apply for **FULL** approval if you have funding or **PROVISIONAL** approval if you have yet to receive funding.

Application forms can be obtained online or from the Central Administrator. Deadline dates (every two months) are on our website.

Please send your application form and a copy of your study protocol, and IRAS form (if applying for full approval), to the Network Administrator by the deadline date. This application is then forwarded to the SPCRN operational team for consideration.

Information we need in order to consider your application:

- Study protocol
- The role you expect SPCRN to fulfil
- Relevance of the project to primary care
- The nodes from which you would like to recruit
- Number of practices and health professionals required
- Whether reimbursement costs have been identified