

Research Engagement Newsletter

October 2023

PPIE News

Record Number of PRES Responses in 2022/23

More participants shared their experiences of taking part in research in 2022/23 than ever before. A total of 32,603 participants from over 2,400 research studies completed the PRES, an increase of 27% on the previous year. 30,705 adult participants and 1,898 children and young people completed the PRES. Thank you again to all our researchers who supported the delivery of the survey at Barts last year.

If you would like further information on the national results, please read the [2022/23 PRES Executive Summary](#). The annual report for PRES 22/23 is now available on our PRES section of the [JRMO webpage](#).

Improving information for people taking part in research

The HRA state there are two factors which seem to make the biggest difference to how well people understand and retain information about a study they have been invited to join:

1. meaningful public involvement in developing participant information
2. a high-quality consent conversation

Earlier this year, they set out to:

- set minimum quality standards for participant information
- require public involvement in the design of participant information
- develop a framework for research teams and ethics committees to use

After analysing feedback from over 200 people who gave their views about their ideas for improving participant information, the HRA has recently published two documents to improve information for people taking part in research:

- [Participant Information Design and Review Principles](#)
- [Participant Information Quality Standards](#)

From December 2023, both documents will be applied to all research applications submitted for review across the UK. The Standards set out the basic criteria that all participant information must meet, and cover language, accessibility, and mandatory content. The aim of the Quality Standards and Design and Review Principles is to make participant information better and to make the way that RECs review that information more consistent. More details can be found on the [HRA website](#).

NHS Equality, Diversity and Inclusion improvement plan

The improvement plan sets out targeted actions to address the prejudice and discrimination – direct and indirect – that exists through behaviour, policies, practices and cultures against certain groups



and individuals across the NHS workforce. Co-produced through engagement with staff networks and senior leaders, the plan:

- Sets out why equality, diversity and inclusion is a key foundation for creating a caring, efficient, productive and safe NHS
- Explains the actions required to make the changes that NHS staff and patients expect and deserve, and who is accountable and responsible for their delivery
- Describes how NHS England will support implementation
- Provides a framework for integrated care boards to produce their own local plans.

To find out more, please see the improvement plan on the [NHS England webpage](#).

Funding Opportunities

Developing Innovative, Inclusive and Diverse Public Partnerships - Round 2 Now Open

The [NIHR Programme Development Grants](#) (PDG) scheme invites applications to the second round of our ground-breaking [Developing Innovative, Inclusive and Diverse Public Partnerships](#) Call. This annual funding opportunity supports the development of inclusive and/or new ways of partnership working between researchers, people and communities.

The NIHR are seeking applications to develop, carry out, and evaluate novel and equitable partnership-based development activities that break new ground in research involvement and engagement. Applications involving groups who have been under-served by research are particularly welcome.

Please note: the deadline for the [second funding call](#) is **13:00 on 25 October 2023**. NIHR is looking to fund more research projects that are led by the community. Research projects should also explore a new and/or more inclusive way of working together with the researchers. More information can be found on [the call's page](#).

Queen Mary University of London Small Grants

The Centre for Public Engagement Small Grants funding scheme is now open to applications for 2023-24. The [Small Grants](#) are a monthly opportunity for students and staff to apply for up to £1,000 to support public engagement, community engagement, or patient and public involvement projects. The deadline for the next round is **15 November 2023** and the scheme will run every month until May 2024.

