

Collaborative Research to Benefit Patients with Wounds

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Background



Huge burden of wounds - 3.8 million adult patients with a wound in the UK, equivalent to 7% of the adult population, 1 million lower limb ulcers

Part of the remit of WWIC is research into new technologies and innovations to support wound healing and the patient experience

Engagement with research can be challenging

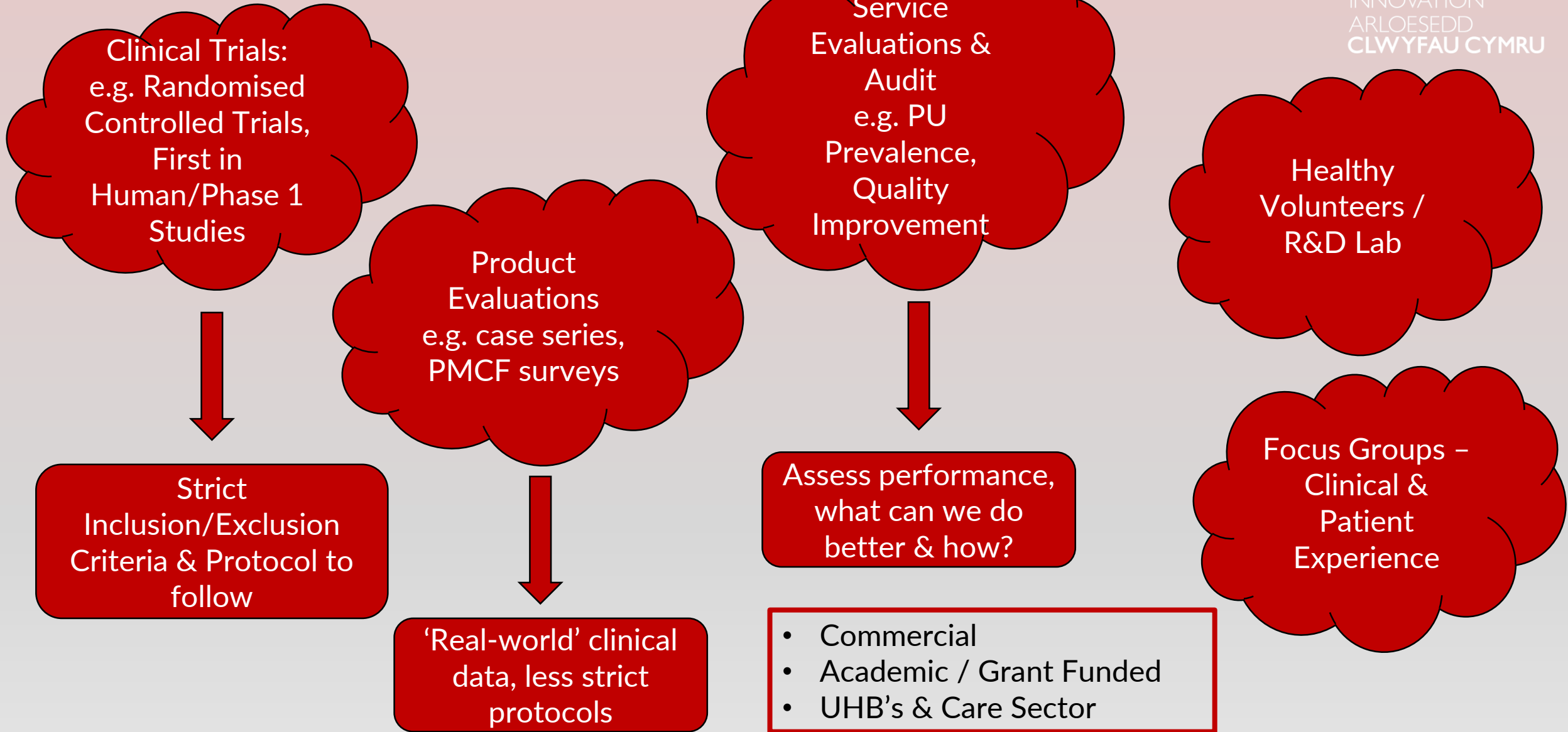
Explore potential benefits to patients, healthcare professionals (HCP's)/NHS and the speciality of wounds of focused patient participation in wound-related research

Aim to develop strategies to raise the profile of wound-related research, encourage patient participation and engagement from HCP's and the NHS with the research process

What research do we do?



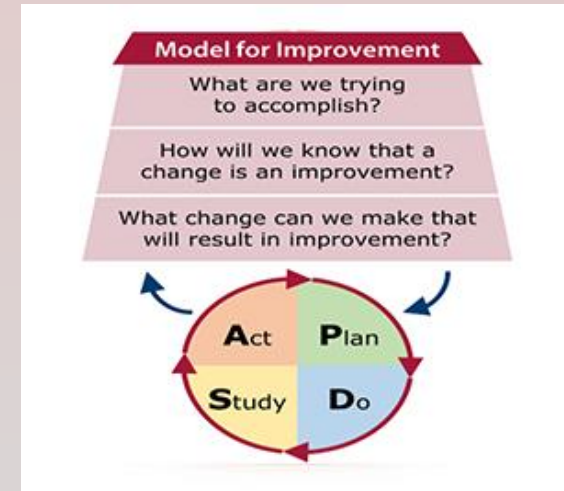
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Working with the NHS: Clinical Trials, R&D & Service Improvement



- Take a holistic view of the wound care innovation and translation journey to identify areas where support is justified and can make a difference
- Work with NHS R&D Departments with clinical trial set-up, establishment of clinical links and patient recruitment
- Clinical Research Monitoring & Project Management
- Advisory role for AI and precision medicine technologies
- Commissioned Consultancy and Advisory Boards
- Advocating on Value-Based Healthcare and service transformation approaches – QI projects, part of Procurement Framework
- Bespoke skills in statistical analysis, protocol development and independent report writing



Saving and Improving Lives: The Future of UK Clinical Research Delivery

Published 23 March 2021

- Aim to ‘create a world-leading UK clinical research environment which is more efficient, more effective and more resilient, with research delivery embedded across the NHS’
- Patient-centred research needs to be as easy as possible for patients across the UK to access and participate in

Patient & Public Involvement (PPI)

- Focuses on making trials more **patient-centric** – working with patients to identify areas of study that are relevant from their perspective and that respect the patient experience
- Considered essential to achieving true translational research
- Aids the design of future studies and achieve greater acceptance of research by HCP's and patients themselves

The integration of Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) as part of the research process provides opportunity to identify the questions to ask and the outcomes to assess **which are important for patients with wounds**



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Why encourage patient participation in research?

Access to a new or
advanced treatment
at no cost

Contribute to
generation of new
knowledge and
treatments for
future patients with
complex wounds

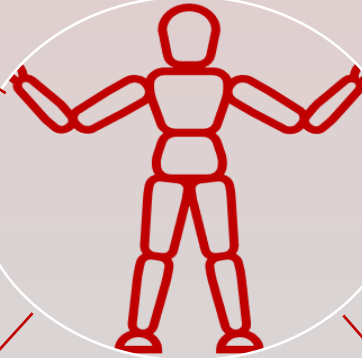
Patients can gain
additional clinical
information about
their condition which
may not routinely be
investigated

May provide an
alternative
treatment option for
patients with
recalcitrant wounds
unresponsive to
standard care

Opportunity for
patients to take a
more active role in
their health and
wound management

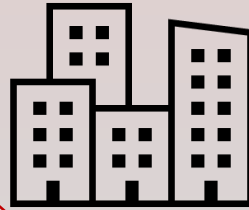
Increased access to
wound specialists
and overall clinician
contact

Personal altruism –
the 'social good'



**What are the
benefits to the NHS
for wound research
collaboration?**

NHS



Data shows NHS trusts that are highly research active have better outcomes for patients across their services, even if individual patients are not part of the research

Income generation for R&D and individual services

Underpins clinically and cost-effective wound prevention – reducing harm and improving patient safety

Increased Patient Engagement & Advocacy – Improved Outcomes & Better Value

Input and support from a team of specialist nurses / Shared care / Support with caseload

Vital component of effective healthcare provision and achieving value-based healthcare

Essential to providing a greater understanding of evidence-based treatments for patients with wounds

Quality Improvement and improved service delivery

Work with patients to identify areas of study that are relevant from their perspective and that respect the patient experience



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“Every patient and scenario are unique and requires individualised patient needs to be met. Contributing to and utilising high quality research evidence to underpin clinical practice will reduce uncertainty, improve care and outcomes and help build a better future for wound care”

**National Wound Care Strategy Programme
(NHS England)**

CHALLENGES CONDUCTING WOUND RESEARCH



- Wounds are still under-recognised compared to other health conditions and/or seen as a complication of underlying conditions - not recognised as a specific research entity
- Chronic wounds typically occur in patients with multiple comorbidities which leads to complexity when accounting for the variables involved – difficulties with recruitment/inclusion & exclusion criteria/rigorous study design
- Many patients are unaware of the option of participating in a clinical trial, as are the HCP's caring for them – yet an NIHR survey identified 89% of people would be willing to participate in a clinical trial
- HCP's quote high workload and lack of time as reasons for non-participation in research



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HEALTHCARE STAFF MUST FEEL EMPOWERED TO SUPPORT RESEARCH

Reduce fear of
research – build
confidence
through good
support

Engagement &
relationship
building across
the NHS

WWIC

Cwm Taf Morgannwg
UHB

Cardiff & Vale UHB

Aneurin Bevan UHB

Local R&D Departments

Wound
Cluster
Clinics

Podiatry
Service

Primary &
Community
Care

Tissue
Viability
Service

Podiatry
Service

Primary &
Community
Care

Tissue
Viability
Service

Podiatry
Service

South East Wales Vascular Network

Innovation: Wound Transformation across Wales

- Improve Pathways of Care
- Streamline services
- Reduce unwarranted variation
- Improve early accurate diagnosis
- Reduce ineffective practices
- Upskill the clinical workforce
- Implement evidence-based care
- Measure outcomes that are important to patients
- Reduce costs





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Thank
You!

