

## IMPORTANT CHANGES FOR RESEARCHERS FROM 18 NOVEMBER

The new National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Coordinated System for gaining NHS Permissions (NIHR CSP) is being introduced in the NHS in England from **18 November 2008** for NIHR Clinical Research Network Portfolio studies.

NIHR CSP will streamline the processes by which NHS Trusts provide permission (sometimes known as R&D approval) for new research and reduce duplication in NHS review processes. NIHR CSP will have a single entry point, via the Integrated Research Application System (IRAS), so that researchers will be able to apply for permission from all NHS sites in England through a single gateway.

Researchers wishing to gain NHS permissions from **18 November 2008** should note the following important changes:

1. From 18 November, researchers submitting a new application for NHS permission for a study that is automatically eligible for the NIHR Clinical Research Network Portfolio, or that requires formal consideration prior to acceptance on the Portfolio, should apply for NHS permissions via NIHR CSP.
2. Initially, NIHR CSP will not be available for studies not included in the NIHR Clinical Research Network Portfolio. Researchers whose study is not eligible for the Portfolio should continue to seek permission directly from the NHS Trusts involved in the study.
3. The eligibility criteria for inclusion of studies on the NIHR Clinical Research Network Portfolio have been set out by the Department of Health and this guidance can be accessed at: [http://www.ukcrn.org.uk/index/clinical/portfolio\\_new/P\\_eligibility/mainColumnParagraphs/00/document/Eligibility.pdf](http://www.ukcrn.org.uk/index/clinical/portfolio_new/P_eligibility/mainColumnParagraphs/00/document/Eligibility.pdf)
4. Applications for NHS Permission through NIHR CSP must be made via the Integrated Research Application System (IRAS) at the following link: [www.myresearchproject.org.uk](http://www.myresearchproject.org.uk)
5. Further information on NIHR CSP is available at: [www.ukcrn.org.uk](http://www.ukcrn.org.uk). Please email queries to [csp@ukcrn.org.uk](mailto:csp@ukcrn.org.uk)

Researchers who have submitted an application for NHS Ethical Review via the NRES on-line application form (i.e. not via IRAS) should continue to seek permission directly from the NHS Trusts involved in the study.

Researchers who have started to complete applications in IRAS but have not yet made applications to R&D offices should contact the NIHR CSP Unit at [csp@ukcrn.org.uk](mailto:csp@ukcrn.org.uk) for guidance

Investigators based in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland and conducting a study with sites in England should contact the NIHR CSP Unit at [csp@ukcrn.org.uk](mailto:csp@ukcrn.org.uk) for guidance.