Streamlining the research application process

IRAS
INTEGRATED RESEARCH APPLICATION SYSTEM

www.myresearchproject.org.uk
Streamlining the research application process
IRAS is a new integrated research application system that captures the information a researcher needs to submit for the relevant permissions and approvals to enable the conduct of health and social care research. It will streamline the application process by allowing you to enter your study information in one place without duplication in separate application forms for each review body.
# Applications IRAS covers

## Review Body

- Administration of Radioactive Substances Advisory Committee (ARSAC)
- Gene Therapy Advisory Committee (GTAC)
- Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) – Devices
- Ministry of Justice (National Offender Management Service)

## Other Bodies

- NHS/HSC R&D offices
- NRES/NHS/HSC Research Ethics Committees
- Patient Information Advisory Group (PIAG)
Type of Application

Application for ARSAC certificate by nuclear medicine professional administering radioactive exposures in research

Application for ethical opinion on a trial of a gene therapy medicinal product

Notification of a clinical investigation of a medical device

Application to conduct health research involving prisoners (England & Wales only)

Application for NHS management permission

Application for ethical opinion on a research project, tissue bank or database

Application under Section 60 of the Health & Social Care Act to process identifiable patient data without consent (England & Wales only)
What IRAS does

- Contains the complete data set required for these permissions and approvals and allows you to make the appropriate applications

- Uses filters to ensure that data is collected at the appropriate time and is suitable to the type of study and the permissions and approvals required

IRAS is at its first stage of development, and is just one element of an integrated effort to reduce bureaucracy for researchers. It is likely that data requirements for other types of approvals and funding applications will be added in the future.
When to use IRAS

IRAS will be available for use from 29 January 2008.

You can make your applications using IRAS from this date, although it is not mandatory and existing systems will remain in place during this stage. In the meantime, we encourage you to use IRAS and give us feedback on its content, design and practical operation. Feedback can be sent to iras@nres.npsa.nhs.uk. Your feedback is important and will be used to improve IRAS before it replaces existing systems (summer 2008). From then, all new applications must be submitted using IRAS. Transitional arrangements will be put in place for existing applications.
Who has been involved

IRAS is a collaborative initiative supported by:

- Cancer Research UK
- Department of Health
- Medical Research Council
- National Institute for Health Research
- National Patient Safety Agency
- National Research Ethics Service
- PIAG
- R&D Office
- UKCRN
- Llywodraeth Cymru

Welsh Assembly Government
You can access the system directly at
www.myresearchproject.org.uk
Guidance and information can be found on that website.

Information can also be found at
www.nres.npsa.nhs.uk
www.ukcrc.org/iras.aspx
www.rdforum.nhs.uk

Feedback on the system can be sent to
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