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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Bae Abertawe  
Swansea Bay University  
Health Board



Meeting Date	26 July 2019	Agenda Item	3.6	
Report Title	Research & Innovation Update Report – July 2019			
Report Author	Jemma Hughes, R&D Manager Prof. Steve Bain, Assistant Medical Director (R&D)			
Report Sponsor	Dr Richard Evans – Executive Medical Director			
Presented by	Dr Richard Evans – Executive Medical Director			
Freedom of Information	Open			
Purpose of the Report	The purpose of this report is to provide and update to the Board on Research and Innovation Activity.			
Key Issues	<p>The report is provided to offer insight &amp; assurance to the Board on current research activity levels (appendix 1 – Health and Care Research Wales Business Intelligence Reports) and an update on recent key Research and Innovation (R &amp; I) achievements during the past year. It also provides a brief update on planned changes to the Research and Development funding formula and summarises work undertaken in managing the governance of trials following the transfer of the Bridgend boundary.</p> <p>The Board is asked to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Note the content of the report;</li><li>• The Research Activity Levels - Business Intelligence Report</li><li>• Updates on recent key achievements for the HB; and</li><li>• Planned work for re-modelling of R&amp;D Funding formula Cwm Taf Boundary change.</li></ul>			
Specific Action Required (please choose one only)	Information <input type="checkbox"/>	Discussion <input type="checkbox"/>	Assurance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Approval <input type="checkbox"/>
Recommendations	Members are asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>NOTE</b> the contents of this report</li></ul>			

## RESEARCH AND INNOVATION (R&I)

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The R&I report is provided to offer insight & assurance to the Board on current research activity levels (appendix 1 – Health and Care Research Wales Business Intelligence Reports) and an update on recent key R&I achievements during the past year. It also provides a brief update on planned changes to the R&D funding formula and summarises work undertaken in managing the governance of trials following the transfer of the Bridgend boundary. The Board is asked to note the content of the report.

### 2. BACKGROUND

#### **Business Intelligence:**

As noted in previous reports, Welsh Government (WG) research targets for the Health Board (HB) relate to numbers of non-commercial Portfolio studies (studies funded by a set list of main research funding bodies) and commercially sponsored studies open to recruitment in the HB and the number of patients of recruited to such studies. The R&D budget from Welsh Government is adjusted each year by activity according to an activity-based funding formula that applies tariffs & weighting depending on study complexity. The Business Intelligence pack contained within appendix 1, prepared by Health and Care Research Wales using national data platforms, contains in-depth detail on the trends of research performance across Wales. Overall, 20,879 patients have been recruited into research studies across Wales in 18/19; this is an increase of 5,067 from 17/18. As a Health Board, ABMU increased its recruitment against the national Welsh average with 99 non-commercial portfolio studies open and 2,276 patients recruited alongside 38 commercial studies open and 136 patients recruited. GP recruitment (across Wales) remains low, the challenge therefore is how we work with Health and Care Research Wales to ensure the proposed new 'Primary Care Delivery Network' and GP 'research super-hubs' are shaped within our region to maximise research opportunities within primary care and generate the requisite capacity to increase recruitment.

#### **Key Research Achievements in the current period:**

##### **1) Morriston Hospital is opened as a ARK-Hospital**

One of two Hospitals in Wales to be selected to participate in a 5-year research applied programme funded by NIHR. The overarching aim of ARK is to reduce the incidence of serious infections caused by antibiotic-resistant bacteria in the future, through substantially and safely reducing antibiotic use in hospitals now. Local PI : Dr Phil Coles

##### **2) Prof Steve Bain Was Chief Investigator of international trial 'PIONEER 6' sponsored by Novo Nordisk**

This double-blinded trial investigated the cardiovascular safety of oral semaglutide 14 mg compared with placebo, both in addition to standard of care, in 3,183 adults with type 2 diabetes at high risk of cardiovascular events. The trial achieved its primary endpoint by demonstrating non-inferiority of major adverse cardiovascular events (MACE) with oral semaglutide compared with placebo, both in addition to standard of care. The trial was presented at a special symposium at the American Diabetes

Association in June 2019 in San Francisco and simultaneously published in the New England Journal of Medicine.

**3) Five Swansea Bay UHB Clinicians appointed as Health and Care Research Wales Speciality Leads.**

Prof Steve Bain (Diabetes), Dr Ceri Battle (co-lead for Emergencies & Injuries), Prof Ian Whitaker (Surgery), Dr Chin Lye Ch'ng (Hepatology), Dr Manju Krishnan (Deputy Stroke Lead).

**4) Prof Alex chase and Dr Davie Smith were authors in a trial that was presented as a late breaking trial at the EuroPCR meeting in Paris.**

Swansea was the fourth largest recruiters for a complex angioplasty trial that was conducted in large cardiac centres throughout the UK and Ireland. The trial manuscript was simultaneously published online in the Eurointervention Journal.

**5) Appointment of Research Lead in OT (Laura Ingham)**

**6) Dr Anne-Marie Hutchinson awarded funding via Health Hack to develop an app with 'Think Orchard' to support patients in their ongoing managements of Achilles Heels injuries.**

**7) Five Health and Care Research Wales 'Pathway to Portfolio' Awards won** Areas funded : Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Surgery, Diabetes and Trauma. Research for and Patient and Public Benefit Award awarded to Prof Dean Harris 'Patient acceptability and clinical effectiveness of combined Raman-FIT testing for colorectal cancer diagnosis in primary care (CRaFT)'

**8) Health and Care Research Clinical Research Time Awards:** Dr Mark Davies (Consultant Oncologist), Dr Ceri Battle (Consultant Physiotherapist).

### **3. GOVERNANCE AND RISK ISSUES**

#### **Re-modelling of R&D Funding Formula**

Welsh Government have commissioned a review of the R&D funding formula with an aim to develop alternative models for funding R&D drawing on principles of value based healthcare. The Project Initiation Document (PID) confirms that the expectation is that the current activity based funding formula will change. A Task and Finish group has been set up. Objectives listed within the PID are:

**Objective 1:** Consider different models or factors within models, weighing up their relative value in delivering:

- Support for a Wales-wide ethos, in particular alignment to the S&D strategic framework
- Recognition for collaborative working across NHS organisations
- Support for cross sector initiatives (Primary Care Research Delivery Network, Dental Research Network, ENRICH)

- Agility, effectiveness and value of HCRW Support and Delivery funding. Consider how each model will drive positive behaviours

**Objective 2:** Consider feedback from stakeholder groups (Specialty Leads, Senior Research Leaders, HCRW funded grant holders, centres/units, HEIs, CTUs, R&D Directors, public and other stakeholder groups considered relevant.

**Objective 3:** Describe any changes required to wider systems and process required to implement model.

**Objective 4:** Make recommendations to Welsh Government R&D Division by September 2019 (TBC) on a future funding model.

**Objective 5:** Agree criteria for evaluating success.

### **Cwm Taf Boundary Change**

A governance exercise was undertaken in collaboration with Cwm Taf R&D department to manage the transition of studies which would remain open at Princess of Wales Hospital following the boundary transfer. Contract amendments have been implemented with respective study Sponsors. The R&D Budget has been adjusted to reflect the transferring activity.

## **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

None Quantified

## **5. RECOMMENDATION**

Members are asked to :

- Note the content of the report;
- The Research Activity Levels - Business Intelligence Report
- Updates on recent key achievements for the HB; and
- Planned work for re-modelling of R&D Funding formula Cwm Taf Boundary change.

<b>Governance and Assurance</b>		
<b>Link to Enabling Objectives</b> (please choose)	<b>Supporting better health and wellbeing by actively promoting and empowering people to live well in resilient communities</b>	
	Partnerships for Improving Health and Wellbeing	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Co-Production and Health Literacy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Digitally Enabled Health and Wellbeing	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>Deliver better care through excellent health and care services achieving the outcomes that matter most to people</b>	
	Best Value Outcomes and High Quality Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Partnerships for Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Excellent Staff	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Digitally Enabled Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Outstanding Research, Innovation, Education and Learning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Health and Care Standards</b>		
(please choose)	Staying Healthy	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Safe Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Effective Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Dignified Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Timely Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Individual Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Staff and Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Quality, Safety and Patient Experience</b>		
There are no quality and safety implications contained within this report.		
<b>Financial Implications</b>		
There are no financial implications associated with this report.		
<b>Legal Implications (including equality and diversity assessment)</b>		
Any legal implications relating to Welsh health circulars would be identified in the individual documents.		
<b>Staffing Implications</b>		
Further discussion is required with Health and Care Research Wales and the Health Board to agree staffing integration.		
<b>Long Term Implications (including the impact of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015)</b>		
N/A		
<b>Report History</b>	None	
<b>Appendices</b>	R&D Activity report.	