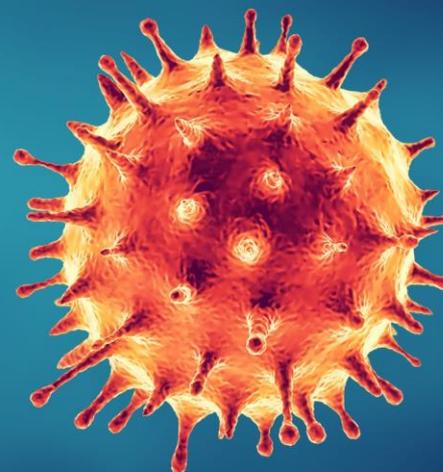


# HRA update



Janet Messer  
August 2020



Health Research  
Authority

# Reflections on COVID-19 research

# A global research response

- Lots of varied research
- Rapid funding and set-up
- Rapid publication

# A global research response

- Lots of *variable* research
- *Rushed* funding and set-up
- Rapid publication *in the media*

# UK approach

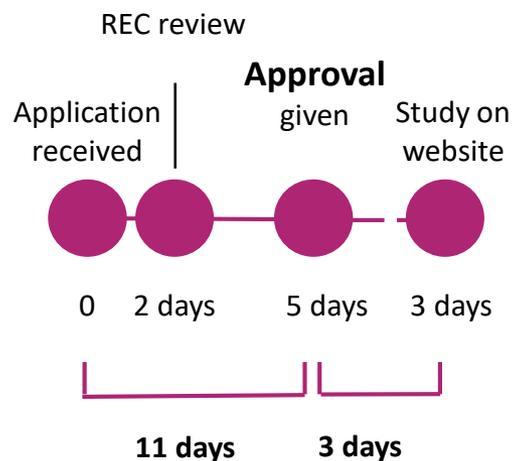
- Prioritise key projects
- Encourage patient involvement
- Ensure public visibility of research
- Rapid approval and set-up

# HRA Service

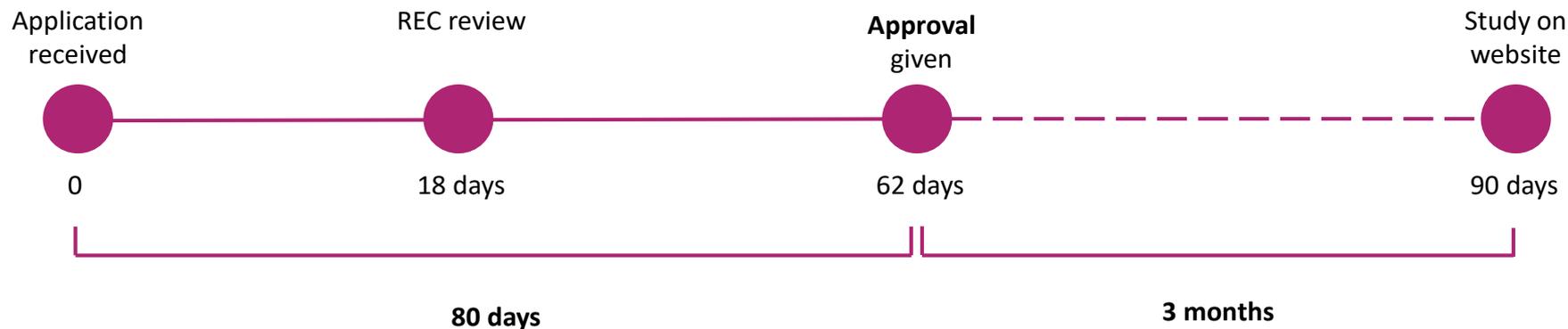
- Out of hours service
- A dedicated senior approvals advisor
- Bespoke advice on public involvement and signposting
- COVID-19 specific guidance
- Swift access to a Zoom-based REC

# How do timelines compare?

## COVID-19 fast-track review



## Standard review



# Impact: our help to the system

- Liaising across regulators
- Assisting with site set-up
- Pharmacy and radiation assurances
- Providing guidance on proportionate approaches eg monitoring

# Reflections

- Study organisation
- Platform trials
- Designs embedded in clinical practice
- Consent
- Diversity of participants

What does a sustainable future  
model look like?

# Amendment Tool

<https://www.myresearchproject.org.uk/help/hlpamendments.aspx>

- The amendments process is often confusing – it needed simplifying and clarifying.
- The tool will help us test and develop how to automate the amendment process within IRAS.
- Amendment tool is supported by all review bodies and is UK wide.

# Online booking



- Phone booking was limited to office hours
- Phone booking was restricted by team capacity
- Online booking open 24/365
- Online booking questions replicate previous options

# Learning resources

<https://www.hra.nhs.uk/planning-and-improving-research/learning/>

# Innovative trial designs

Podcasts to explore innovative trial design and delivery - working with the Experimental Cancer Medicine Centre (ECMC) and the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)

<https://soundcloud.com/user-484575643>

# Technical assurances

# Pharmacy Assurance

	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III	Phase IV
Oncology	✓	✓	✓	✗
Non-oncology	✓	✓	✓	✗

# Radiation Assurance

- ✓ cardiology
- ✓ neurology
- ✓ oncology
- ✓ rheumatology

“Streamlining the process through a central contact and inbox has also taken a lot of the burden away from the research teams. Reviewers are quickly identified, and we are always kept up to date on progress. Overall it has been a very positive experience for our centre.”

Commercial sponsor

# Student research – developing proposals



Encourage other  
ways of learning  
about research



Set standards  
for student  
projects



Place  
responsibility  
on HEIs

# Transparency Strategy



# What is research transparency?



**registration:** making it public that a study has started



**reporting results:** making it public what the study has found



**informing participants:** letting those who took part know what the study has found, and



**sharing study data and tissue:** enabling further research.

**NHS**

Health Research  
Authority

# MakeltPublic

Transparency and openness in health and social care research





[www.hra.co.uk/makeitpublic](http://www.hra.co.uk/makeitpublic)



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