

HPC registrants participating in clinical trials

1. Introduction

1.1 The Health and Care Professions Council is a statutory UK-wide regulator of health, social work, and psychological professions governed by the Health and Social Work Professions Order 2001. We regulate the members of 16 professions. We maintain a register of professionals, set standards for entry to our register, approve education and training programmes for registration and deal with concerns where a professional may not be fit to practise. Our main role is to protect the health and wellbeing of those who use or need to use our registrants' services.

2. Participation in clinical trials

2.1 This short paper outlines our position on our registrants participating in clinical trials.

- We are supportive of registrants participating in organised clinical trials as such trials are designed to gather evidence about the efficacy of medicines, treatments, therapies and other interventions for the benefit of service users and the public.
- A registrant participating in an organised clinical trial which has received all the necessary ethical and other approvals would **not** be placing their registration at risk by doing so.
- We require all registrants to practise safe and effectively within their scope of practice, meeting our standards of proficiency and standards of conduct, performance and ethics, and adhering to any policy or legislation that is applicable to their practice. In this instance this would include adhering to the policies and procedures expected as part of the clinical trial.
- If a registrant had any concerns about their participation in a clinical trial, or about any aspect of the arrangements for the trial, we would encourage them to discuss these with their employer and/or the research team involved.

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