



Guy's and St Thomas'
NHS Foundation Trust

Pain and Neuromodulation Academic Research Centre

**Helping to shape the future for chronic
pain sufferers through research**



The Pain and Neuromodulation Academic Research Centre

We are dedicated to changing the future of chronic pain sufferers and their quality of life. We aim to achieve this by participating in innovative and groundbreaking clinical trials for different chronic pain conditions.

What is clinical research?

Research is a way of gaining knowledge and improving our understanding of diseases, treatments and the effects of current practise.

By helping with medical research, you will be helping to improve the health and future of other chronic pain sufferers. These studies are important to improve our quality of care.

Is taking part in research safe?

An NHS research ethics committee, the hospital research and development department, and the pain research team, ensure that all research conducted within our department is robust, valuable and safe.

Before placing you in a study we carefully consider whether you are suitable, and that the study is unlikely to pose any increased risk compared to the standard care you would receive.

What does taking part in research involve?

Your involvement and time will be dependent on the study you are taking part in. This information will be provided in the study's Patient Information Sheet, which you will get before deciding whether you would like to take part. Please take your time to read through it.

Research studies have specific rules about who can take part, so you may not be included in the study you are screened for, even if you are suffering from the illness that is being studied.

Do I have to decide to take part straight away?

No. It is better to take time to read through the study information and discuss the benefits and risks with other healthcare professionals (such as your GP) or family and friends before you decide.

The research team will also be able to answer any questions about the study.

Will I get paid?

You will not be paid for your participation, but you may receive reimbursement for your travel expenses, up to a limited amount, depending on the distance you have travelled.

Who will see information about me?

If you take part in a study, staff other than your doctors might need access to your health records. Everyone who sees your records has to follow hospital confidentiality guidelines.

During your time in a study, you may be required to fill out pain diaries and questionnaires. All the information you give us will have all identifying details taken out before being sent to any necessary third parties.

What happens after the trial is over?

At the end of your trial, you will have a final study visit with us. After this visit, the research team will no longer be your primary contact for care, but we will make sure that your follow-up visits are arranged with the appropriate medical team or with another specialist consultant.

Your rights

If you agree to take part in a study, you will be asked to sign a consent (permission) form. This is a legal requirement. If you change your mind, you are able to leave the study at any time without having to give an explanation. This will never affect the quality of care being given to you.

Useful sources of information

Guy's and St Thomas Hospital Research

For more information on research we do, and the benefits of taking part, please visit:

www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk/research/patients/get-involved.aspx

Pharmacy Medicines Helpline

If you have any questions or concerns about your medicines, please speak to the staff caring for you or call our helpline.

T: 020 7188 8748 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday

Patient Advice & Liaison Services (PALS)

For advice, support or to raise a concern, contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS). To make a complaint, contact the complaints department.

T: 020 7188 8801 (PALS)

E: pals@gstt.nhs.uk

T: 020 7188 3514 (complaints)

E: complaints2@gstt.nhs.uk

Language Support Services

If you need an interpreter or information about your care in a different language or format, please contact

T: 020 7188 8815

Contact us

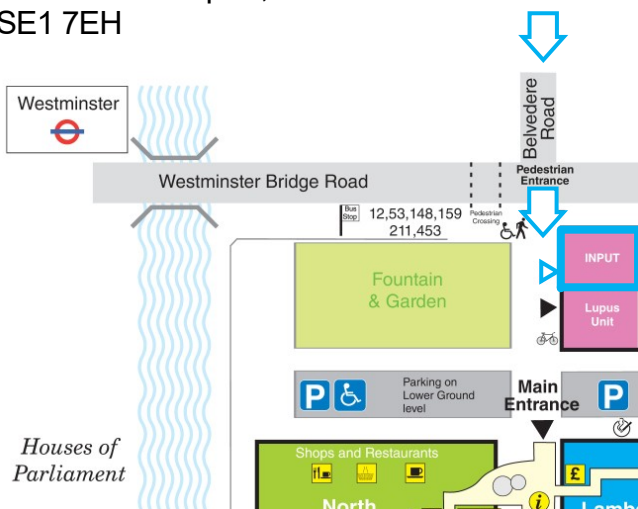
If you would like to take part in a trial or have any questions, comments or suggestion about pain research.

Please call **020 7188 3237** (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm) to speak to one of the research team.

You can also send an email to:
gst-tr.PANARC@nhs.net

Our Address

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