

Public involvement in Research

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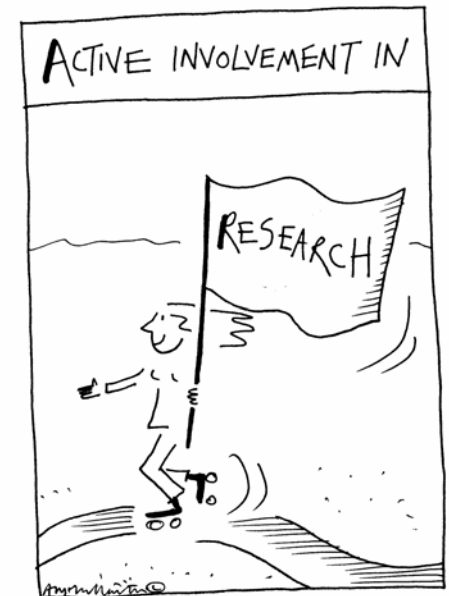
**National advisory group established
in 1996. Funded by The National
Institute for Health Research**

**Promoting active involvement
of the public in NHS, public health
and social care research**

We use the term ‘public’ to include patients, service users, carers, and representatives of people who use services

Research carried out ‘with’ or ‘by’ the public rather than ‘to’, ‘about’ or ‘for’

Involvement can take many forms from consultation and collaboration through to user controlled research



- **Public Involvement and the NIHR**
- **Why public involvement is important**
- **Barriers and challenges to involvement**
- **Work and resources of INVOLVE**

Public Involvement and the NIHR

- **Best Research for Best Health (2006)**
- **Research Governance Framework (2001 & 2005)**
- **Requirement of evidence of involvement in funding applications**
- **Public involvement in review process e.g. peer review, commissioning boards**

Best Research for Best Health (2006)

Mission:

We aim to create a health research system in which the NHS supports outstanding individuals, working in world-class facilities, conducting leading edge research, *focussed on the needs of patients and the public*

Research Governance Framework (2005)

‘Participants or their representatives should be involved wherever possible in the design, conduct, analysis and reporting of research’

‘..major advisory bodies in NHS R&D programmes should normally have at least two consumer representatives’

Requirement of evidence of involvement in funding applications

- **Details of plans for involvement in grant applications**
- **Criteria for assessing funding**

Public involvement in commissioning process

- **Priority setting**
- **Peer review**
- **Commissioning boards / selection panels**

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Promoting public involvement
in NHS, public health and
social care research

NHS

*National Institute for
Health Research*

Why is public involvement in research important?

Why?

The Department of Health and the National Institute for Health Research support the importance of public involvement -

- **people should have a say in research that is potentially for their benefit**
- **it can improve the quality of the research**

- Helps to improve the relevance of research to patients and carers
- Helps to improve the quality of research design, methods and findings
- Can assist in the dissemination and implementation of research



Relevance of research

- **Highlighting issues of importance to public**
- **Identifying outcome measures reflecting concerns of patients and the public**

Quality of research

- **Influencing research design and methods**
- **Improving information provided to participants**
- **Helping to increase participation in research (recruitment and retention)**

Dissemination and implementation of research

- **Disseminating findings in accessible language and format**
- **Disseminating to wider audiences**
- **Encouraging the implementation of findings**

Barriers and challenges

- who to involve
- how best to involve
- how to find people to get involved
- resources and support needed



Help and support -

INVOLVE

- website (www.invo.org.uk)
- newsletter
- databases
- publications
- enquiries
- building an evidence / knowledge base

Research Design Services

- public involvement leads
- remit to advise on public involvement

Thoughts to consider ...

- **start somewhere**
- **avoid tokenism**
- **see the public as your allies**
- **be prepared to change your research**

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