



Department
of Health



Your NHS care

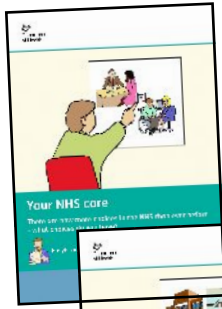
There are now more choices in the NHS than ever before
- what choices do you have?



EasyRead version

Leaflet 8 - Taking part in health research

This is one of 8 EasyRead leaflets about your choices in the NHS. They are:



Leaflet 1 **Choosing doctors**



Leaflet 2 **Choosing where to go for health tests**



Leaflet 3 **Choosing your hospital**



Leaflet 4 **Changing your hospital**



Leaflet 5 **Having a baby**



Leaflet 6 **Choosing services in the community and personal health budgets**



Leaflet 7 **Choosing services in other parts of Europe**



Leaflet 8 **Taking part in health research**



Leaflet 8 - Taking part in health research



You can choose to take part in health research, things like trying out new medicines that might help you get better.



You will be given all the information you need to help you make a choice. It is up to you if you take part or do not take part.



What is research?

Research means to look into something to find out more about it.



Health research looks at different illnesses, treatments and drugs and how to keep healthy.



It also looks at how patients and carers use health services.



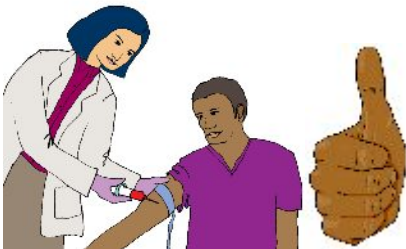
Who has made sure the research is safe?

The Health Research Authority makes sure all health research in England with patients is safe and good.



Why is it important?

New treatments and cures are found through health research.



Taking part in research is important to find the treatments that work best.



What choices do I have?

- you can choose to take part in research.
- you can choose not to take part.



When can't I make this choice?



You can't take part in research if:

- there isn't any research being done that would help you
- you do not meet the needs of the research.



Who should give me these choices?



Your GP, other health staff at a hospital or clinic.



Where can I find out more?

It is important that before you make a choice about taking part in health research you look at other information to help you.

You can find more information on these websites.



The National Institute for Health Research, which explains how patients can help with research on their website:

www.nihr.ac.uk (search for take part in research)



Health talk online, which explains what clinical trials are and why we need them on their website:

www.healthtalkonline.org



In the NHS Constitution. This tells you more about what the NHS should do for you, and what you should do too.

There is an EasyRead version on their website:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-nhs-constitution-for-england



What can I do if I would like to take part in research but I am not given the option?



1. Speak to your GP, the health staff caring for you or the person in charge of the service.



2. If you still feel you have not been given a choice you can make a complaint.



You can complain to:

- the service itself



- or NHS England who looks after the way the NHS in England is run.

go to their website:

www.england.nhs.uk



or call:

0300 311 22 33



or email:

england.contactus@nhs.net



If you are still unhappy with what your GP or NHS England have decided then there are other people who can help.

healthwatch



Get in touch with your NHS advocacy service through your local Healthwatch.

Go to their website:
www.healthwatch.co.uk



Credits

This paper has been designed and produced for the Department of Health by the EasyRead service at Inspired Services Publishing Ltd.

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www.inspiredservices.org.uk

It meets the European EasyRead Standard.



It has been user-checked by the **Making It Easier Group** of people with learning disabilities.



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