Associate Principal Investigator Scheme

A brief overview

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No Conflicts of Interest

Associate PI scheme – What is it?

- My first thoughts -

    ' it sounds fancy '

        'Research isn't my thing'

            ' I am doing a clinical post'

What is it ?

- 6 month training opportunity to gain practical experience in research

- Open to any healthcare professional whereby research is not your core role. Research fellows can apply as long as you are not receiving funding for the study you want to enroll.

- Run by National Institute of Health and Care Research

- Mentorship to work on and deliver a clinical trial at your local site

How to get involved

- Find an enthusiastic local PI with an eligible study (plenty of those in the UK) and check study is registered.

- Designed for clinical staff who want experience in research above their normal role.

- Check it is registered for the PI scheme

 - [Public Associate Principal Investigator Scheme Dashboard | App overview - Qlik Sense (nihr.ac.uk)](nihr.ac.uk)   (includes commercial and non commercial studies)

Make sure study is open and recruiting

Then fill out your application (straightforward)

What does it involve?

Once trial has been set up and associate PI scheme approved

- Sign up to the **learning pathway on NIHR Learn** – complete a checklist of different study activities. Monthly learning goals and extra bitesize learning optional

For example :

- Good clinical Practice

- Delegation Log

- Your role in recruitment and consent process

- Checklist is signed off by Local PI and a member of the National Study Team
- **Certificate** of completion

	Team activities
1	• I confirm I have acted as a member of the research team and signed the study-specific site delegation log or site contact information as appropriate. [Insert trainee response]
2	• I confirm I have worked with the PI to ensure that the delegation log or site contact information has been correctly completed for each member of the research team. [Insert trainee response]
3	Outline how you have assisted in disseminating the study in your local environment this should include engaging with relevant departments. [Insert trainee response]
4	Describe a presentation you have given about the study to engage key members of staff and stakeholders.

	[Insert trainee response]
5	Detail your regular engagement with the Principal Investigator and the rest of the research team to help facilitate successful study delivery. [Insert trainee response]
6	Describe how you helped your PI to ensure every member of the research team submitted a signed CV to the research nurse, had up to date GCP training and was issued a GCP certificate. Enter 'Not applicable' if this is not relevant for your study. [Insert trainee response]
7	Describe how you assisted the PI to ensure all staff delegated to work on the study were adequately informed of protocol requirements and trained in study procedures.

Practical note for PI's

- Great opportunity for your trainees

- Increases support for the trial and enhances recruitment

- Awareness the programme exists

- Details about registering your study

https://www.nihr.ac.uk/health-and-care-professionals/training/register-your-study-for-the-associate-principal-investigator-scheme.htm

My personal experience

- Right timing – ST6 Speciality Year in IBD (1 session for research/ QI)

- Time invested is study dependent – on average 2/3 hours per week

- Structured approach

- Supported

- Clinical trial was GONDOMAR – mostly retrospective recruitment. Good starter for me

- Motivated to promote and recruit

- Support from the research nurses

No brainer

- Looks excellent on CV

- Usually acknowledged in the primary publication

- It is FREE

- Exposure to research without the commitment of MD/PHD - if you love it then great

- Can led onto many other opportunities in research to build a portfolio

- To be the best clinical gastroenterologist it is important to know about available clinical trials. Appreciating how these are run will help discussions with your patients

Thank you Any questions