How the CCRH works

The core team consists of trialists, research nurses, developers, database managers, statisticians and research assistants. Activities are overseen by an Operations Management Committee with broad clinical trials experience. Work is undertaken on a cost-recovery basis. We are able to provide quotes for grant submissions.

CCRH was initiated with support from a 5 year grant from the University of Auckland Vice Chancellor’s Strategic Research Initiatives Fund.

Analytical Laboratory

The Liggins Institute has extensive laboratory facilities and specialises in the analysis of clinical trial samples. We offer industry-standard mechanised assays using commercial analysers, as well as a wide range of specialised tests using mass spectrometry, genomics and other platforms.

As a research laboratory we can process large volumes of samples in uninterrupted batches, minimising the impact of processing variation.

Our skilled technicians have extensive experience in developing assays for new compounds and in screening for potential biomarkers.

Laboratory capabilities include:

- Extensive clinical chemistry and hormone assays
- Liquid chromatography / triple quadrupole mass spectrometry (LCMSMS), including a wide range of steroid assays
- Q-Exactive high resolution quadrupole / orbitrap mass spectrometry for metabolic profiling
- Ultra-high-pressure liquid chromatography (UPLC), suitable for amino acids
- Magpix Multiplex Reader for measuring large numbers of related compounds in small volume samples
- ELISA microplate assays

We also offer a full genomics service including genotyping (SNP analysis), exome sequencing, transcriptome sequencing (RNA), and methylation analysis.

Contact us

researchhub@auckland.ac.nz
wiki.auckland.ac.nz/researchhub
Maternal & Perinatal Central Coordinating Research Hub

The Central Coordinating Research Hub (CCRH) provides methodological, data management and bio-statistical expertise to support maternal and perinatal clinical trials around New Zealand and internationally. It is hosted by the Liggins Institute and is operated in collaboration with the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, and Paediatrics: Child and Youth Health, University of Auckland. The CCRH is synergistic with the ON TRACK Network (ontrack.perinatal.org.nz).

Our Aims

- Support best practice in clinical trials research
- Develop essential infrastructure and resources to conduct high-quality maternal and perinatal clinical trials
- Provide cost-effective randomisation and data management solutions
- Streamline the process of setting up and running a clinical trial
- Build maternal and perinatal research capacity throughout New Zealand

Our Services

We can advise on trial design, set up and management and have particular expertise in pregnancy and neonatal studies, and long-term follow-up of perinatal trial cohorts.

Specific services include:

- Form design (hard copy or electronic)
- Custom web randomisation
- Drug allocation
- Database design (Microsoft SQL or REDCap)
- Online questionnaires and surveys
- Data entry and validation
- Data and document archiving
- Data repository and sharing
- Data analysis and statistical support

Analysis of study specimens can be arranged through the Liggins' laboratory (see over). The CCRH has developed a range of guides and resources to help with planning and running clinical trials. Visit our wiki site wiki.auckland.ac.nz/researchhub