

# The Academy for Healthcare Science award for Clinical Research Practitioner Leadership

*Sponsored by the Academy for Healthcare Science*

Clinical Research Practitioners (CRPs) have an important role in the delivery of high-quality clinical research. The continued development of career development, support and recognition of the role are all priorities as the CRP profession becomes an established part of the health and social care workforce. This year's award will focus on leadership and provide an opportunity to recognise the contribution of individual CRPs in enabling the development of the profession. Nominations are welcome from individual CRPs who can demonstrate how they have supported the development of the CRP role. This could include, but is not limited to, educational initiatives and workforce innovation such as role redesign, promoting understanding of the role, the continuing professional development of CRPs and activities that enable the development of the CRP community.

Nominees must be on the CRP Directory or Register; nominations can be for yourself or a colleague.

## Criteria

Nominees must be a clinical research practitioner practising within the UK and show evidence of:

- measurable achievements in research delivery
- leadership and team working
- impact on the care of research participants.

## Submission questions

1. Why should the nominee be considered for this award and what are their achievements? (100 words).
2. How have they raised the profile of their work and contributed to research delivery? (100 words)
3. How does the nominee demonstrate leadership and team working skills? (100 words).
4. Outline how the nominee is innovative and has contributed to research outcomes. (100 words)

Entries must be submitted online via the website forms – go to [www.AHAwards.co.uk/uk/](http://www.AHAwards.co.uk/uk/) and follow the **ENTER NOW** links.

## KEY DATES

Awards launch: October 2022

Closing date for entries: 24 Jan 2023

Judging: w/c 27 Feb & w/c 6 Mar 2023

Celebration Lunch: London 21 April 2023

FIND OUT MORE

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## 2022 WINNER AND FINALISTS

### WINNER

**Angharad Williams, Clinical Research Practitioner**

**West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust**

Angharad is an enthusiastic, professional Clinical Research Practitioner and a passionate advocate for the CRP role. Her positivity and drive for the role of the CRP in research is boundless and she has an ability to bring others on board. She has a can-do attitude and inspires others to champion the role of CRPs in clinical research and she actively supports regional and national CRP initiatives.

Angharad has raised awareness of her work, and of other CRPs, nationally. She contributed to local and national committees that champion the role and pushed for accreditation, inspiring others to be involved and responsible for the directory sign-ups regionally. In parallel, she delivers and champions NIHR research in her Trust. Alongside her team, Angharad works flexible shifts on COVID-19 positive wards in order to optimise recruitment to important COVID-19 research.

Angharad engages others to support her in her day-to-day work and inspires other CRPs with her passion and commitment. She has an ability to ensure all voices are heard which led her to participation and attendance on CRP Steering groups. Over several years she has been the lead for the regional CRP steering group where she has co-developed and led two regional workshops for CRPs.

These sessions offered training opportunities where CRPs could develop helpful skills for their roles, such as resilience. Angharad has recently completed the NIHR Advanced Leadership Programme where she has further developed her leadership skills.

“Angharad showed real strength in her ability to promote and showcase the ways in which Clinical Research Practitioners can develop themselves to work at senior levels within organisations, as well as at a regional and national level. The judges thought that Angharad was a great role model, advocate, and ambassador for her profession, and as such would be a worthy winner of this award.”

### FINALISTS



**Promoting inclusivity to ensure equitable research opportunities for all children and families**

**Nicola Phillips, clinical research practitioner**

**Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust**

Nicola has a passion for ensuring that research opportunities are available to all of the children & families in the Greater Manchester region, actively seeking learning and development opportunities to enable her to support children with additional needs to take part in research studies. She has attended training to enable her to best support families with hearing impairments and with additional needs and collaborates & coordinates with academic and clinical research teams to ensure families are accommodated in research facilities that best suit their specific needs.

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**CRP Competency steering group**

**Clinical research practitioners**

**Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust**

Sarah Betts, Glen Nishku, and Cherry Paice have made an outstanding contribution to CRP professional development and research delivery at the Trust. They have demonstrated exceptional commitment and leadership within their teams, playing an active role in the steering committee for a CRP competency toolkit pilot at the Trust. They have advised on effective implementation of the project and supported colleagues across the Trust to take part.

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## 2021 WINNER AND FINALISTS

### WINNER

**Tracey Collishaw, Clinical Research Practitioner, Lincolnshire Partnership Foundation Trust**

In one of the toughest years, Tracey has gone above and beyond to keep her team in high spirits and to innovate her normal practice to meet the new demands of the virtual world. She manages and engages our ENRICH network, building a rapport with more than 50 care homes. During lockdown she has supported forums to go virtual; increased the frequency of newsletters and arranged check in calls with the managers. She has taken a creative approach to promotion and being able to continue recruitment in lockdown; she uses social media including the staff Facebook page and Twitter to keep research on the agenda.

Tracey is exceptionally passionate about dementia research and manages a project that engages all GPs in the county to sign up to be JDR Champions. She offers dementia friend sessions as an innovative way to help discussion about research. She has presented both face-to-face (before lockdown) and virtually at GP team meetings, to care homes, at big promotional events such as Lincolnshire show.

“The judges said that Tracey was a passionate leader who goes above and beyond. She has delivered change and innovation within dementia research, an under represented area, by engaging across systems and working to break down or navigate around barriers. She role models not only excellent leadership skills but also influencing skills which enable her to be a real pioneer in her role.”

### FINALISTS



**Amy Clark, Senior Research Practitioner, Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust**

Over the past year Amy has adapted to working on complex clinical trials investigating treatments for COVID-19. She has quickly evolved to understand critical care research, and has created unforgettable bonds with patients along the way. Amy has been successful in recruiting patients into clinical trials as well as providing reassurance and compassion to the patients they are involved with. She has achieved so much over the past year.

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**Atiqa Begum Miah, Clinical Trials Practitioner, Barts Health NHS Trust**

Atiqa has a wide-range of research experience and an academic background in psychology with a dynamically holistic approach. She has a genuine enthusiasm to deliver research and make a collaborative and positive difference to people's lives. During the pandemic she has shown leadership and teamworking skills. She has been volunteering to help with the running of urgent COVID-19 studies, managing her time between multiple roles and working with a team of clinicians and data managers

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