

William Harvey Clinical Research Centre **STRATEGY 2015-18**



The William Harvey Heart Centre





Professor Mark Caulfield
Institute Director

Introduction

The centre was established in 1997 and moved to the newly built William Harvey Heart Centre (part of the William Harvey Research Institute, Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry, Queen Mary University of London) in 2011. The Centre is part of the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Cardiovascular Biomedical Research Unit. We are part of the world leading cardiovascular research programme at the new Barts Heart Centre which is now the largest tertiary heart hospital in the UK.

Initially the centre focused on blood pressure and cholesterol studies (such as ASCOT, Pathway and ILLUMINATE). The centre has widened its portfolio to include diabetes/renal, endocrine, respiratory and cognitive decline studies. The centre runs all types of studies ranging from niche complex studies on rare diseases to large scale trials and health service interventions.

The CRC runs clinical trials (Phase II to IV) in multiple therapeutic areas. As well as clinical trials of investigational medicinal products (CTIMPs) the centre also runs device trials and other observational studies. We have a broad portfolio of studies and involve Principal Investigators from Barts Health Trust as well as from Queen Mary University of London (QMUL).

We are involved in a number of patient and public engagement activities and actively work with GP practices serving 500,000 people in East London.



Centre opening



Centre opening

Vision

Our vision is to be a world class clinical research centre conducting globally influential trials that make a positive impact on patient care locally.

We aim to:

- Build on our international reputation in translational and clinical research.
.....
- Play a key role in the cardiovascular research programme at the new Barts Heart Hospital.
.....
- Offer patients a large portfolio of clinical trials that they can participate in.
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- Promote the public understanding of clinical trials.
.....

Values:

Our values are central to how we work to achieve our aims. We work in a way that is:

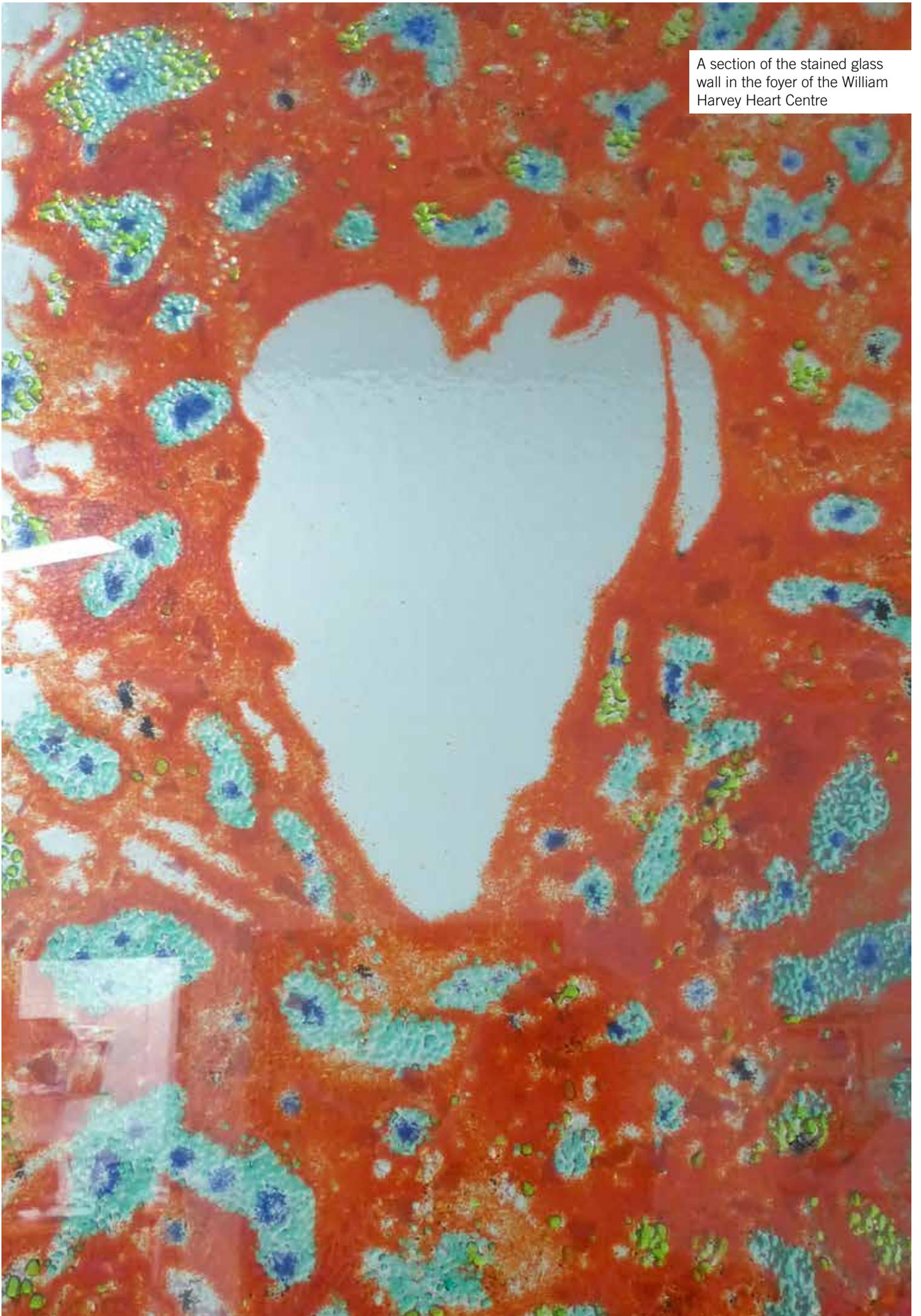
- Focused on safety and quality of patient care.
.....
- Conducive to building ongoing relationships with local GP practices and Principal Investigators within Barts Trust.
.....
- In line with Good Clinical Practice and provision of a quality service.
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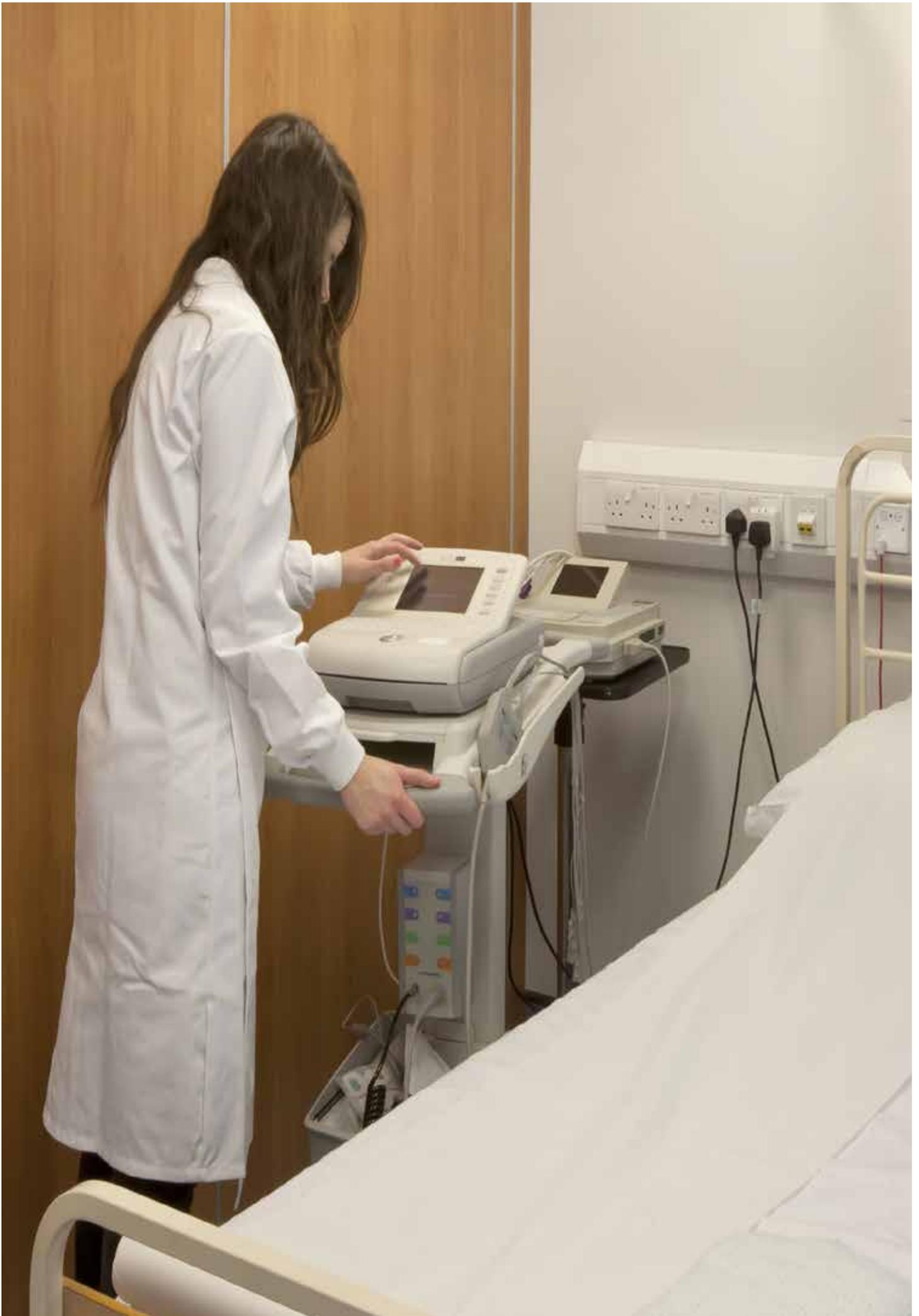
Mission

Our vision is to be a world class clinical research centre conducting globally influential trials that make a positive impact on patient care locally.

1. Increase patient participation in clinical trials.
.....
2. Diversify our portfolio of studies.
.....
3. Ensure the conduct of our trials is to the highest quality standards.
.....
4. Deliver our studies to time and target.
.....

A section of the stained glass wall in the foyer of the William Harvey Heart Centre





Action plan

1. Increase patient participation in clinical trials

Strategies:

- Increase recruitment to our studies.
.....
- Develop new recruitment models.
.....
- Survey our patients for feedback.
.....
- Expand the number of GP practices that we recruit from in our local community.
.....
- Develop our patient database to help us maximise future recruitment.

2. Diversify our portfolio of studies

Strategies:

- Increase both the range and type of studies within our areas of expertise.
.....
- Actively target Contract Research Organisations and Sponsors to promote our centre.
.....
- Actively engage and develop relationships with Principal Investigators to work with us.
.....
- Work closely with the Clinical Research Network (CRN) North Thames.
.....

3. Ensure the conduct and delivery of our trials to the highest quality standards

Strategies:

- Maintain and improve our facilities to continue to provide our patients with the best care.
.....
- Ensure that all of our staff are trained and developed.
.....
- Make safety and quality of patient care a high priority issue.
.....

4. Deliver our studies to time and target

Strategies:

- Set realistic targets for patient recruitment.
.....
- Carry out a rigorous feasibility of all studies.
.....
- Ensure that we have sufficient resources to deliver the studies.
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Context

The Centre is situated in central London on the Queen Mary University of London campus of the Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry and we have strong links with Barts Health Trust.

The Barts Health Trust is the largest in the UK and the new Barts Heart Centre is the largest tertiary heart hospital in the UK. Cardiovascular research will expand with the coming together of the research groups from the London Chest Hospital and the UCL Heart Hospital.

The University College London Partners (UCLP) Quintiles prime site based here, has now expanded across UCLP. It is the world's largest prime site. The prime site concentrates clinical trials across multiple therapeutic areas in a single hub and last year was the top recruiter worldwide. London is the most active research area within England and we have access to a large and ethnically diverse patient population in inner London.

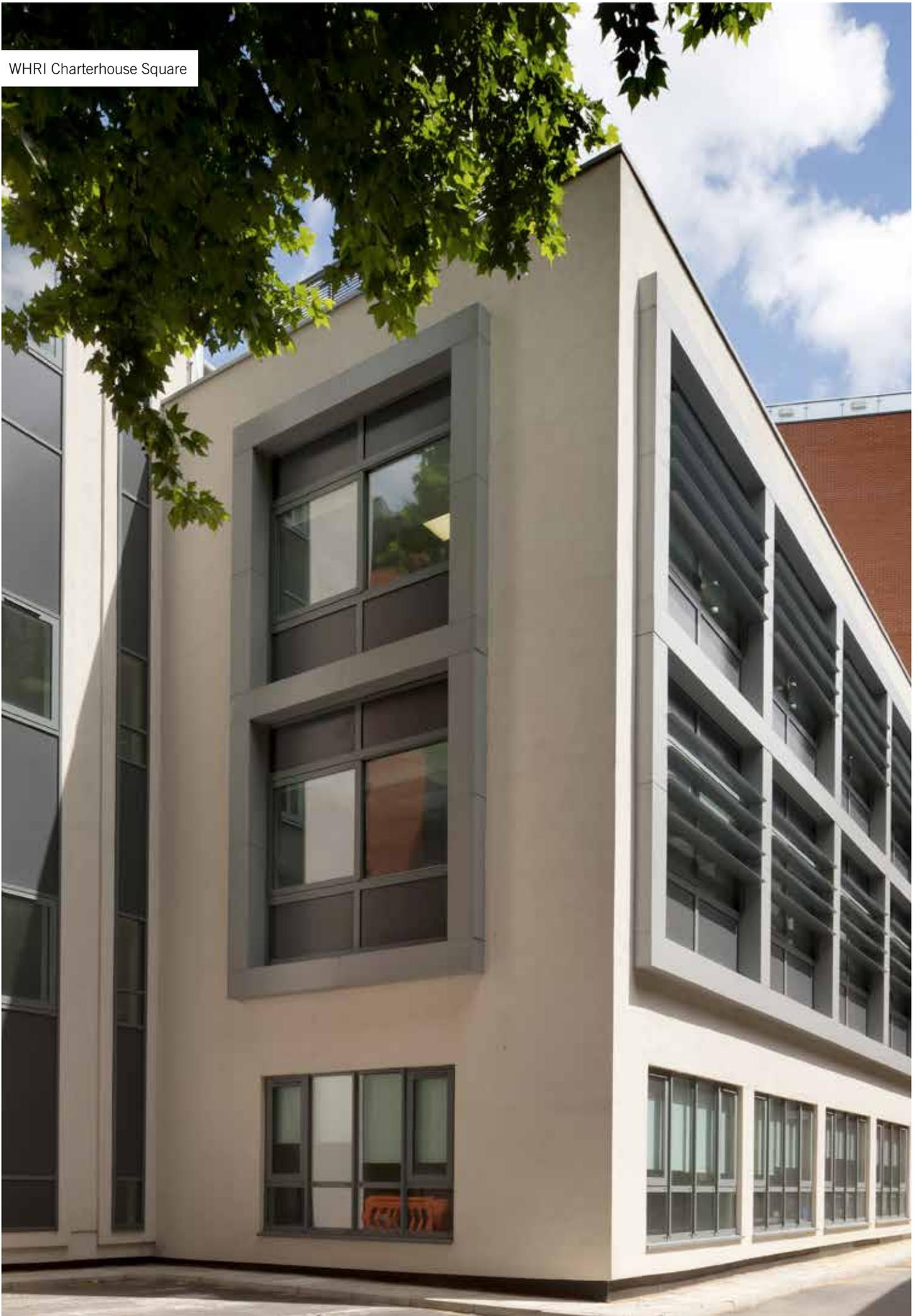
Achievements

- The first UK renal denervations were done here in 2008 and the first twin-artery denervations in the world. These studies have resulted in two Lancet publications.
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- ASCOT, now with a long-term follow-up study ASCOT-10, has been one of the most influential trials in cardiovascular prevention, with over 100 papers and atorvastatin has become the biggest selling medication in the world.
.....
- Hi-Lo with over 9,000 patients has been the highest accruing study on the NIHR portfolio for several years. After the Hi-Lo intervention Tower Hamlets went from worst to best for control of blood pressure and cholesterol control.
.....
- The CRC is often one of the highest recruiters globally on the studies on our portfolio.
.....
- The NIHR Clinical Research Network (CRN) awarded Dr Manish Saxena a 'Leading Principal Investigators 2015' award in recognition of being identified by NIHR CRN colleagues as a leading commercial principal investigator.
.....

Clovel David our Clinical Trials Pharmacy and Laboratory Lead with the Executive Chairman of Quintiles Dr Dennis Gillings CBE.



WHRI Charterhouse Square



Where are we now?

Currently the Centre has circa 40 clinical trials with about 30 open to recruitment. Breakdown of trials at the Centre by type: approximately 55% cardiovascular, 10% diabetes and endocrinology, 25% respiratory and 10% mental health and neurology.

The team at the Centre is made up of clinicians, research nurses and clinical scientists. We have our own dispensary and lab for the preparation of samples. We also have specialists in feasibility and start-up and in quality management.



Clinical facilities



Clinical facilities

Outcomes

Measures of success:

- Increase in patient recruitment numbers
- Increase in the number of trials open to recruitment
- Increase our GP referral base
- Increase the number of Principal Investigators that we work with
- Increase the percentage of our studies completed to time and target
- Maintain excellent feedback from our trial participants

Our team

- **Professor Mark Caulfield**
Institute Director / Centre Lead
- **Dr David Collier**
Joint Clinical Director
- **Dr Manish Saxena**
Clinical Lecturer
- **Dr Julian Shiel**
Clinical Lecturer
- **Dr Vivienne Monk**
Clinical Research Centre Manager
- **Anne Zak**
Research Nurse Manager
- **Ania Michalska**
Senior Research Nurse
- **Dr Oda Ackermann**
Clinical Neuropsychologist
- **Marion Benford**
Quality Manager
- **Clovel David**
Clinical Trials Pharmacy
and Laboratory Lead
- **Jane Pheby**
Senior Research Nurse
- **Patrizia Ebano**
Senior Research Nurse
- **Jo Hadley**
Clinical Scientist
- **Carolyn Dawson**
Respiratory Research Co-ordinator
- **Wai Yee James**
Research Co-ordinator
- **Achilles Radinos**
Research Technician
- **Armida Balawon**
Clinical Scientist
- **Enamuna Enobakhare**
Clinical Scientist
- **Mike Taylor**
Administrator
- **Mary Feely**
Feasibility Officer

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