

**Agenda Item: 5i**

<b>Report to:</b>	<b>Board of Directors</b>	<b>Date: 1 August 2019</b>
<b>Report from:</b>	<b>Director of Research on behalf of the Medical Director</b>	
<b>Principal Objective/ Strategy and Title:</b>	<b>RESEARCH &amp; DEVELOPMENT Research Update</b>	
<b>Board Assurance Framework Entries:</b>	<b>Unable to improve cardiothoracic care in the wider health care community BAF numbers: 730 and 731</b>	
<b>Regulatory Requirement:</b>	<b>None</b>	
<b>Equality Considerations:</b>	<b>None believed to apply</b>	
<b>Key Risks</b>	<b>Failure to give R&amp;D strategic recognition resulting in damaged reputation. Adverse changes to funding streams resulting in reduced opportunity for education and training.</b>	
<b>For:</b>	<b>Information</b>	

**Summary:**

During 2018/19 the Trust recruited to 63 studies of which 58 were portfolio studies (2017/18: 67 studies and 58 portfolio studies). Participant recruitment figures for National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) portfolio studies were slightly down on the previous year, reflecting the drop in patient numbers across the Trust and the impact of the preparation for the move to Royal Papworth House and Royal Papworth Hospital. There was a similar profile of complex interventional and observational studies. Royal Papworth Hospital ranked as the top recruiting site in the UK for over 20% and in the top three highest recruiters for over 50% of the multicentre NIHR portfolio studies we supported.

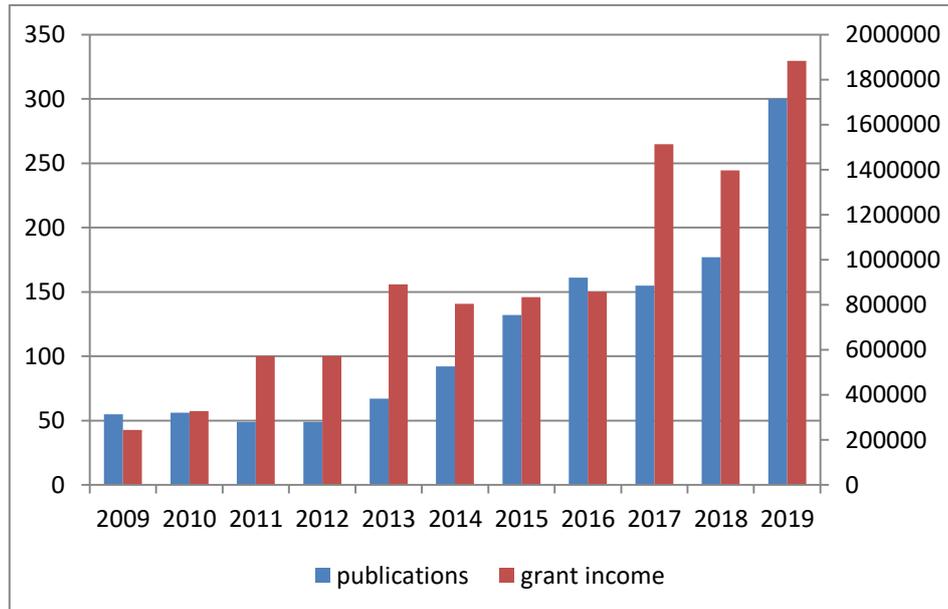
There have been a significant number of successful grant applications over the previous 12 months. These include:

- a multi-centre study looking at patients' quality of life following cardiac surgery funded by the Moulton Trust (Mr S Nashef £815K),
- a collaborative Medtech Accelerator grant with a local SME looking at a novel sleep study device (Dr Ian Smith £125K),
- a collaborative grant with CR-UK to study circulating tumour DNA in early stage lung cancer (Dr R Rintoul £2.6m with £850K coming to Papworth)

The Trials Unit were successful in gaining full accreditation status from the UKCRC in October 2018. In addition the Trials Unit have been involved in two successful grant applications with the University of Cambridge, and they will be managing the studies for these groups:

- Precision Surgery for Glioblastomas with Mr Stephen Price (Dept Surgery)
- Cardiac Acoustics (developing an intelligent stethoscope) with Dr A Agarwal (Dept Engineering)

Annualised grant income continues to increase as does the number of publications – see charts below. (2019 figures are projections based on current activity).



These show the strength and diversity of research across the Trust and highlight how having Research PAs for consultants has a significant impact.

The R&D Department is raising its profile and that of the research carried out at Royal Papworth Hospital. Following on from the highly successful Research Symposium in November 2017 a further event is happening on the 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019 in conjunction with the University of Cambridge. Our Patient and public involvement is now fully established and our Patient Research Ambassadors help represent the Trust at events such as the Health Education week event in the central Cambridge Library and at local and national PPI events. The first PPI training event will be held in September at the hospital, which aims to inform people who sit as a PPI member on Trial Steering Committees about clinical research.

The R&D Department has a number of aims to strengthen the existing research infrastructure and preparation for the move to the HLRI. These include:

1. Enabling the R&D Directorate to directly manage the consultant research PA funding to allow for more accountability with the distribution of the funding and allow for redistribution to more active researchers, including the creation of further 50:50 posts if the funding envelope allows.
2. Increasing and strengthening collaborations with the University of Cambridge and other CBC partners.

**Recommendation:**

**The Board of Directors is requested to note the contents of this report.**