

VOLUNTEER ROLE DESCRIPTION

Role Title: Patient Research Ambassador (PRA)

How long for: Successful applicants will be expected to contribute ideally around two hours or more a week to the role and attend local induction training plus any further training provided.

Minimum age: Minimum age of 18 years

Please note: A Disclosure and Barring Service Check (DBS) check is required for this role

Summary / Purpose of role:

A Patient Research Ambassador is someone who promotes health research from their point of view. They could be a patient, service user, carer or lay person who is enthusiastic about health research. They should be willing to communicate that to other patients, carers, members of the public and healthcare professionals. The Patient Research Ambassador Role is about promoting opportunities to take part in research within the NHS and will help ensure the patient experience of participating in research is clear and simple.

Key duties and responsibilities:

- Help raise staff and patients' awareness of research taking place and look at ways to make it easier for patients to access research
- Attend research study review meetings to provide advice on Papworth sponsored studies
- Act as the lay voice to researchers, prepared to raise issues that are important to patients, carers and the public. Working with Research staff to improve how a study might work for participants in hospital.
- Participate in media launch activities of PRA role (radio / newspaper /website / bulletins)
- Offer advice on how we can improve communications with patients about current research
- Provide a patient view on use of social media for communicating with patients about research
- Help to organise and run research events, forums and public stands
- Help to review leaflets / materials for patients about research
- Support NHS staff to help collect information about patients' experience of taking part in research (e.g. handing out questionnaires), and help to implement lessons learned from patients' feedback
- Liaise with other PRAs across the region to share learning and develop the role
- Assist in developing the PRA role by identifying ways in which research ambassadors can help to promote research
- Be a resource for patient careers and the public about taking part in research.

Useful skills and experience:

- Enjoy spending time with people
- Good communication skills
- Ability to relate to people well

Volunteer Role Profile for: Patient Research Ambassador (PRA)

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- Able to work on own or part of a team
- A willingness to be flexible and to follow the guidance of staff
- The ability to understand the broader range of patient / public perspectives beyond their own personal experience and to use that within the role

Training & Development:

- To attend mandatory training and regular mandatory updates as determined by Royal Papworth Hospital Foundation Trust
- Specific training / shadowing experience as required for the role
- Local induction to the ward, clinic or department

For more information about this role, please contact:

Royal Papworth Hospital PALS Team
Telephone: 01223 638896 / 01223 638963
Email: papworth.pals@nhs.net
Website: <http://bit.ly/researchambassador>
Twitter: @NIHR_PRAI @RoyalPapRes