

HSRU facts and figures

- HSRU has a five-year rolling contract and receives a core grant from the CSO.
- This core grant is used to develop further external grant funding.
- HSRU staff contributed significantly to the Health Services Research unit of assessment in the most recent Research Assessment Exercise (RAE 2008). The submission was judged joint top in the UK.
- The Unit employs around 70 members of staff and receives research income from a wide range of funding bodies (EU, MRC, ESRC, NIHR).
- Disciplines represented in HSRU include health services research, statistics, health economics, organisational management, health psychology and clinical sciences.

Health Sciences Building location



- A** Institute of Medical Sciences
- B** Medical Physics Building
- C** Medical Library
- D** Medico-Chirurgical Hall
- E** Institute of Applied Health Sciences
- F** Link Building
- G** Polwarth Building - College Office
- H** Health Sciences Building

Travel by car

The main traffic routes into Aberdeen are the A90 from the South and the A96 from the North. Follow the A90 or A96 to reach the ring road (Anderson Drive).

To find the Health Sciences Building, follow the directions above to reach the ring road (Anderson Drive). Exit from the ring road at a set of traffic lights onto **Ashgrove Road West** and continue through the first set of traffic lights and then take a right turn into the IMS Building car park, which is signposted. Park in the left side of the car park (there is normally an attendant who will assist in finding a space). **Parking at Foresterhill site is difficult during normal working hours. Visitors may be permitted to park in one of the University car parks by contacting HSRU in advance.** Please descend the steps at the left hand side of the IMS Building. The Health Sciences Building is on your left hand side as you reach the bottom of the stairs (it has 4 storeys). Enter at the main door and report to reception.

Travel by air

Aberdeen's international airport is served by a number of major carriers providing an extensive network of routes throughout the UK, direct to Europe and worldwide through major hubs. British destinations include London airports, Manchester, Newcastle, Belfast, Birmingham, Bristol and Norwich, as well as the Scottish Highlands and Islands. Major continental destinations include Amsterdam, Copenhagen and Stavanger. The easiest way to reach HSRU from the airport is by taxi.

Travel by train

Rail services connect Aberdeen both north and south. There are regular direct trains to London and services from Edinburgh and Glasgow link with other mainline routes. Inverness, the scenic West Coast and the Highlands are reached northwards. The easiest way to reach HSRU from the station is by taxi.

Contact address

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Health Services Research Unit



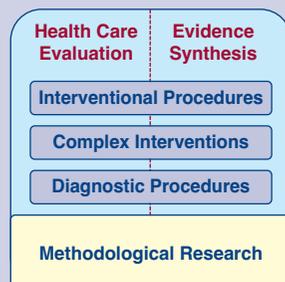
HSRU is supported by the Chief Scientist Office, Scottish Government Health Directorates

About HSRU

- The Health Services Research Unit (HSRU) was established in 1988 to research the best ways to provide health care, and to build capacity in health services research. More specifically, the Unit's remit is to:
 - Study or evaluate clinical activities with a view to improving effectiveness and efficiency in health care;
 - Work for the implementation of proven changes in clinical activities;
 - Encourage and support similar work throughout Scotland;
 - Build capacity in health services research through training and other development activities.
- The Unit is core-funded by the Chief Scientist Office (CSO) of the Scottish Government Health Directorates.
- The Unit has established an internationally recognised portfolio of health services research focusing on two main programmes; Health Care Assessment and Delivery of Care.
- An innovative programme of methodological research underpins this substantive portfolio of research.
- The Unit's work is characterised by being collaborative and multidisciplinary. This involves a range of national and international partners.
- HSRU also hosts:
 - the Centre for Healthcare Randomised Trials (CHaRT)
 - the NIHR Health Technology Assessment Technology Assessment Review (TAR) team.

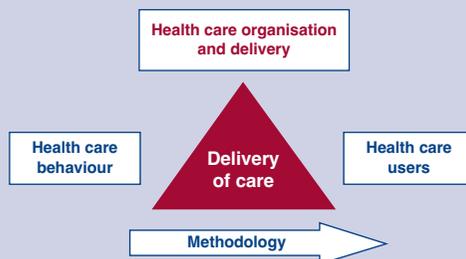
Health Care Assessment (HCA) Programme

- The HCA programme focuses on the rigorous evaluation of health care interventions.
- The underlying philosophy of the programme is the iteration between primary and secondary research: evidence synthesis (including modelling) informing new primary research (principally large scale clinical trials).
- The programme focuses on the evaluation of non-drug technologies, complex interventions, diagnostic procedures and is underpinned by methodological research.

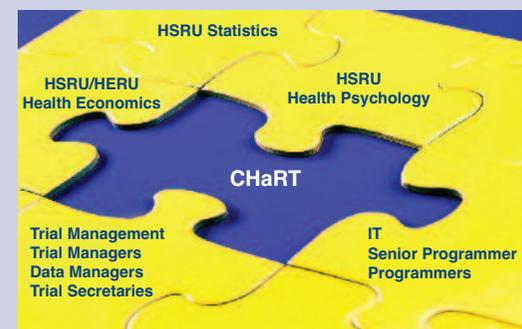


Delivery of Care (DoC) Programme

- The DoC programme focuses on research evidence that improves practice in relation to service organisation, delivery of health care services and the quality of patient care.
- The research draws on a broad range of health services research skills, employing theories, and both qualitative and quantitative methods. It is multidisciplinary in nature, with a strong basis in the social sciences.
- The programme currently has three interlinked themes: health care organisation and delivery of care; health care behaviour and health care users and the public.



Centre for Healthcare Randomised Trials (CHaRT)



- CHaRT's remit is the design and conduct of high quality randomised controlled trials (RCTs).
- CHaRT provides access to the core competencies of experienced trialists, trial management, data processing and management, statistics, and health economics.
- CHaRT addresses important health questions in the increasingly challenging scientific, legal and regulatory environment in which RCTs are conducted.
- CHaRT was awarded full registration with the UK Clinical Research Collaboration.
- CHaRT currently has a large portfolio of ongoing trials – for details see: www.chartrials.abdn.ac.uk

NIHR Health Technology Assessment Technology Assessment Review (TAR) team

- The NIHR HTA TAR team provides reviews of the clinical and cost-effectiveness of health technologies for specific conditions.
- It provides reviews primarily for NICE but also for a range of other external agencies eg National Screening Committee.
- The Unit is one of a small number of groups within the UK commissioned to undertake these reviews.