**DR. MARIA**

[**MARIA.336465@2freemail.com**](mailto:MARIA.336465@2freemail.com)

***Committed research professional with over 15 years experience working in Clinical and Academic research. Highly skilled hands on experience of setting up, recruiting & monitoring research trials ranging from Phase III, Interventional or Observational, CTIMPS Commercial and Academic. With an outgoing, dynamic character, I have a strong technical background in biological sciences with a well-developed understanding of the leading technologies in the health sector area. I have successfully acquired managerial qualifications and practical experience in order to orchestrate the smooth flow of operations within my network.***

***Key Skills***

**Leadership, Managerial & Teamwork skills**

* Direct line management responsibilities of staff based across partner organisations in the North East of England.
* Recruited, trained, supervised and evaluated clinical and academic research staff (nurses, AHP or non-medical) in the performance of their duties.
* Pro-active leader of a successful team.
* Ability to manage and work to tight timescales.

**Communication Skills**

* Proven ability to communicate with academic and commercial colleagues nationally and internationally to progress a project successfully.
* Extensive experience in scientific communication
* Regular presentations of oral reports to a mixed audience.
* Communication of data and project direction in less formal progress meetings.
* The capacity to exercise sound and independent judgement on projects.
* Have delivered oral presentations – Integrating Research in the NHS, Acute Trials to A&E staff, Stroke Research to Research Nurses and ward staff (throughout posts in Clinical trials) and within Academia.

**Technical, Information Skills & Problem solving**

* Extensive experience in troubleshooting both my own and colleagues scientific techniques.
* Analysis and presentation of complex statistical data.
* Experience in setting up new projects.
* Experience in setting up new biology facilities.
* Excellent knowledge of Microsoft packages, medical databases

**Achievements**

* Awarded by the Stroke Research Network a **highly commended award** for **Clinical Research (September 2012).**
* Successful academic research career publishing in peer reviewed journals.
* Reviewer for Journals (Macromolecular Symposia & Biomaterials)
* Set up successful collaborations, including sole responsibility for collaboration with MIT, USA.
* Member of the technical programme committee in reviewing manuscripts
* Selected for the Annual Presentations by **Britain’s Top Young Scientists at the House of Commons**
* Presented at numerous national and international conferences – received a prize for an international talk.
* My work has been published on the Science Section.
* Reviewed grant proposals and sourced specialist reviewers for the British Council
* Development of patient informed consent assessments for new members of staff.
* Organised Patient Carer Panel members to be involved as lay members locally to both Chief Investigators & researchers to support with study design, recruitment and data collection.
* Served on the Steering group for Learning & Development for the NIHR CRN (2014-2015)
* Winner of a £500 grant as best speaker at the NESCI research day, Newcastle University.
* Winner of a Travel Award to attend the 18th European Conference on Biomaterials, Stuttgart, Germany

**Courses attended & certified.**

* ILM Introductory & Level 3 Certificate in Management
* PRINCE 2 Foundation project management qualification
* An Introduction to Pharmacovigilance (PTI, CPD certified)
* Intermediate Pharmacovigilance Training (PTI, CPD certified)
* Executive Mini MBA in Pharma & Biopharm
* Clinical Project Management (PTI, CPD certified)
* Good Clinical Practice (CPD certified)
* The Mental Capacity Act
* Completed Phlebotomy course (Standard of Practice)

**Teaching**

2010- 2015 Stroke Clinical Trials, Gateshead NHS Foundation Trust (specifically for A&E staff, research nurses & Junior physicians).

2005-2008 Medicine (Level 1), Biology of Disease (Level 3), Development (Level 1) and Biotechnology (Level 2), Tissue Engineering lectures – Newcastle University

1995-1997 Private tutoring in Biology.

***Professional Work History***

**Clinical Trials Coordinator (Cardiology, Stroke & Oncology) – Gateshead NHS Foundation Trust (October 2015 – present).**

Delivering high quality Cardiology (Novartis pharmaceutical trials), Stroke (Bayer) & Oncology clinical research. My main responsibilities are to train and mentor the new team consisting of medical staff, research nurses and health care professionals to enable them to run research trials independently. I am also heavily involved in managing the screening, recruitment following up patients as well as maintaining paper work in accordance to GCP. I have been extensively involved in the informed consent process including discussions with research participants, including answering any questions pertaining to the study. I am involved in the Research & Development committee regarding the approval of new studies. As well as, reviewing Clinical trial agreements for the trust. I have also conducted monitoring of research trials within North East hospitals (Stroke research). I am currently a Principal Investigator for two clinical trial studies: DREX (Stroke trial) & Latte (Oncology trial. I have overall responsibility for these studies at this trust. Please see previous two clinical trials posts for more in depth list of responsibilities.

**Health Informatics Researcher – Omnity.io (October 2015 – present).**

Working with a San Francisco based start-up Omnity (https://www.omnity.io) on a new semantic search engine. Responsibilities include making it possible to understand and visualize connections between documents and topics, whether or not they link to one another online. Other responsibilities include the development of end-user interfaces, applications and back-end services.

**Clinical Trials Team Leader – Division 2 NE & N Cumbria CRN: Stroke Speciality (September 2014 – October 2015). Please note have been in same company since 2010.**

Managed, supported and developed the research workforce. Regularly travelled between Partner Organisations (POs) working across the North East. Assessed and developed potential in each PO to unblocked impediments to research activity, developed the workforce, provided training, maximised recruitment and shared best practice.

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| **Duties and Responsibilities of the Post entailed:**     * Act as an expert resource in the management of clinical research studies. * Use knowledge of Regulatory and legal frameworks throughout planning, undertaking and the closure of clinical research studies. Managing research studies. * I had to take an active lead in setting-up, co-ordination and management of research studies, working with NHS clinicians within North East & North Cumbria * Involved in processes associated with coordination and delivery of research studies – this involved meeting with various research teams to ensure there was a seamless process. * I was heavily involved in identifying barriers to participation in research studies and to develop strategies in order to overcome the barriers and to increase participation in trials. * I led education and research support to ensure that staff participating in research received appropriate training with regards to on-going developments in treatment and legislation. * I led on developing and updating Standard Operating Procedures. * I was the Patient, Public Involvement and Engagement Lead. This involved ensuring user/patient representatives and NHS members were resourced, advised and supported when acting on the panel’s behalf. * Communication was an important aspect of the role. I established and maintained working relationships within the Clinical Research areas to ensure clinical trial excellence. |
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**Clinical Trials Officer – North East Stroke Research Network & NHS (September 2010 –August 2014)**

* Responsible for running several stroke trials singlehandedly at hospital sites.
* Responsible for the recruitment, education and monitoring of trial patients and the collection and documentation of accurate data.
* To ensure that the trial specific investigations are undertaken as required per protocol.
* Act as a resource and support to patients and their significant others, explaining practical aspects of clinical trials.
* Work with Clinical teams to map the patient pathway for each trial.
* To be responsible for Clinical Report Forms (CRFs)
* To maintain an up-to-date knowledge of stroke research.
* To keep all appropriate staff informed of the progress of Clinical Trials
* To ensure that Clinical trial recruitment records are accurately maintained.
* To maintain study site files and documentation
* Ensure that REC, R&D approval and indemnity are in place.
* Liaise with the members of the MDT
* To comply with all Trust policies and procedures to protect the health, safety and welfare of anyone affected by the Trust’s business.
* To identify strategies and barriers for recruiting patients to clinical trials

**Consultant – Medical Research Council & British Council (November 2012 – present)**

Identifying suitable expert reviewers for research proposals, which involves liaising with scientists and liaising to ensure reviewing is adhered to the MRC & BC peer review process.

**Senior Research Associate –*Re-innervate and Durham University* (March 2005-October 2010)**

This involved the collaboration between Biology & Chemistry at Durham University to develop 3D scaffolds for Tissue Engineering. The end goal of the project was to produce a product for commercialisation.

**Research Associate -– *INEX, University of Newcastle upon Tyne* (Jan 2004-March 2005)**

This project was developed for the aim to develop a range of medical implants. Responsibilities entailed liaising and networking with collaborators. Also involved in research delivery as well as training staff.

***Academic Qualifications***

* **PhD. In *vitro* Tissue engineering (November 2000 – December 2003) at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne.**
* **MSc. Applied Molecular Biology of Infectious Diseases (Oct 1995 – June 1996) at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine.**
* **BSc Honours in Biomedical Sciences (2.2) (Oct 92-June 1995) Westminster University.**

**References available on request.**

**Published papers available on request.**