



Acronym Glossary for Research in the UK

BMA - British Medical Association

A professional association and trade union for doctors in the UK, providing support and advocating for medical professionals.

CI – Chief Investigator

The lead researcher who is responsible for the conduct and administration of a research study across all sites where the research is taking place.

CPD - Continuing Professional Development

Ongoing learning activities that professionals engage in to develop and enhance their abilities and stay updated in their field.

CQI - Continuous Quality Improvement

A process of constant evaluation and improvement of services or practices within healthcare to ensure optimal outcomes.

CRN - Clinical Research Network

A network that provides the infrastructure to support high-quality clinical research in the NHS.

EBP - Evidence-Based Practice

An approach to healthcare where decisions are made based on the best available, current, valid, and relevant evidence.

GCP - Good Clinical Practice

An international quality standard for conducting clinical trials involving human participants that ensures the protection of their rights, safety and wellbeing.

HRA - Health Research Authority

An organisation in the UK that protects and promotes the interests of patients and the public in health and social care research.

MHRA - Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency

The agency responsible for regulating medicines, medical devices, and blood components for transfusion in the UK.

NICE - National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

An organisation providing national guidance and advice to improve health and social care in the UK.



NIHR - National Institute for Health Research

A major funding body for health and care research in the UK, supporting the delivery of high-quality research to improve health outcomes.

PI - Principal Investigator

The lead researcher who is responsible for the conduct and administration of a research study at each specific site where the research is taking place.

PPI - Patient and Public Involvement

An approach where patients, carers, and the public are actively involved in the design, conduct, and dissemination of research.

RCT - Randomised Controlled Trial

A study design that randomly assigns participants into an experimental group or a control group to measure the effect of an intervention.

REC - Research Ethics Committee

A committee that reviews research proposals involving human participants to ensure they are ethically acceptable.