

Miss Sharmila Patel  
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Email: [hra.approval@nhs.net](mailto:hra.approval@nhs.net)  
[Research-permissions@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:Research-permissions@wales.nhs.uk)

10 August 2018

Dear Miss Patel

**HRA and Health and Care  
Research Wales (HCRW)  
Approval Letter**

<b>Study title:</b>	<b>The association between the temporal properties of the auditory nerve and its effects on auditory temporal processing and speech perception abilities in cochlear implant users</b>
<b>IRAS project ID:</b>	<b>244347</b>
<b>Protocol number:</b>	<b>n/a</b>
<b>REC reference:</b>	<b>18/LO/1241</b>
<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>University of Southampton</b>

I am pleased to confirm that [HRA and Health and Care Research Wales \(HCRW\) Approval](#) has been given for the above referenced study, on the basis described in the application form, protocol, supporting documentation and any clarifications received. You should not expect to receive anything further relating to this application.

**How should I continue to work with participating NHS organisations in England and Wales?**

You should now provide a copy of this letter to all participating NHS organisations in England and Wales, as well as any documentation that has been updated as a result of the assessment.

Following the arranging of capacity and capability, participating NHS organisations should **formally confirm** their capacity and capability to undertake the study. How this will be confirmed is detailed in the “*summary of assessment*” section towards the end of this letter.

You should provide, if you have not already done so, detailed instructions to each organisation as to how you will notify them that research activities may commence at site following their confirmation of capacity and capability (e.g. provision by you of a ‘green light’ email, formal notification following a site initiation visit, activities may commence immediately following confirmation by participating organisation, etc.).

It is important that you involve both the research management function (e.g. R&D office) supporting each organisation and the local research team (where there is one) in setting up your study. Contact details of the research management function for each organisation can be accessed [here](#).

### **How should I work with participating NHS/HSC organisations in Northern Ireland and Scotland?**

HRA and HCRW Approval does not apply to NHS/HSC organisations within the devolved administrations of Northern Ireland and Scotland.

If you indicated in your IRAS form that you do have participating organisations in either of these devolved administrations, the final document set and the study wide governance report (including this letter) has been sent to the coordinating centre of each participating nation. You should work with the relevant national coordinating functions to ensure any nation specific checks are complete, and with each site so that they are able to give management permission for the study to begin.

Please see [IRAS Help](#) for information on working with NHS/HSC organisations in Northern Ireland and Scotland.

### **How should I work with participating non-NHS organisations?**

HRA and HCRW Approval does not apply to non-NHS organisations. You should work with your non-NHS organisations to [obtain local agreement](#) in accordance with their procedures.

### **What are my notification responsibilities during the study?**

The document "*After Ethical Review – guidance for sponsors and investigators*", issued with your REC favourable opinion, gives detailed guidance on reporting expectations for studies, including:

- Registration of research
- Notifying amendments
- Notifying the end of the study

The [HRA website](#) also provides guidance on these topics, and is updated in the light of changes in reporting expectations or procedures.

### **I am a participating NHS organisation in England or Wales. What should I do once I receive this letter?**

You should work with the applicant and sponsor to complete any outstanding arrangements so you are able to confirm capacity and capability in line with the information provided in this letter.

The sponsor contact for this application is as follows:

Name: Dr Ferdousi Chowdhury

Tel: 02380 595058

Email: [rgoinfo@soton.ac.uk](mailto:rgoinfo@soton.ac.uk)

### **Who should I contact for further information?**

Please do not hesitate to contact me for assistance with this application. My contact details are below.

Your IRAS project ID is **244347**. Please quote this on all correspondence.

Yours sincerely

Aliki Sifostratoudaki  
Assessor

Email: [hra.approval@nhs.net](mailto:hra.approval@nhs.net)

Copy to: *Dr Ferdousi Chowdhury, University of Southampton, Sponsor contact*  
*Dr Deborah McCartney, St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust,*  
*R&D Contact*

## List of Documents

The final document set assessed and approved by HRA and HCRW Approval is listed below.

<i>Document</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Date</i>
Contract/Study Agreement template [Site Agreement]	1.0	01 June 2018
Evidence of Sponsor insurance or indemnity (non NHS Sponsors only) [Insurance Certificate]		28 March 2018
GP/consultant information sheets or letters [GP Study Notification Letter]	1.0	01 February 2018
HRA Schedule of Events [244347_SOE_Research sites_Assessed by HRA.docx]	1	19 July 2018
HRA Statement of Activities [244347_SOA_Research sites_Assessed by HRA]	1	19 July 2018
IRAS Application Form [IRAS_Form_25062018]		25 June 2018
Letters of invitation to participant [Participant Invitation Letter]	1.0	29 June 2018
Participant consent form [Participant Consent Form]	1.0	01 February 2018
Participant information sheet (PIS) [Participant Information Sheet]	2	09 August 2018
Research protocol or project proposal [Research Proposal]	1.0	22 June 2018
Summary CV for Chief Investigator (CI) [CV]	1.0	22 June 2018
Summary CV for supervisor (student research) [Summary CV Supervisor]		

## Summary of assessment

The following information provides assurance to you, the sponsor and the NHS in England and Wales that the study, as assessed for HRA and HCRW Approval, is compliant with relevant standards. It also provides information and clarification, where appropriate, to participating NHS organisations in England and Wales to assist in assessing, arranging and confirming capacity and capability.

## Assessment criteria

Section	Assessment Criteria	Compliant with Standards	Comments
1.1	IRAS application completed correctly	Yes	No comments
2.1	Participant information/consent documents and consent process	Yes	For the purpose of HRA assessment revisions were necessary to the participant information sheet and consent form in order to bring them in line with HRA standards.
3.1	Protocol assessment	Yes	No comments
4.1	Allocation of responsibilities and rights are agreed and documented	Yes	The Sponsor contact has confirmed that the model non-commercial agreement will be used with sites. The Sponsor has also provided a completed Statement of Activities and the Schedule of Events for information only.
4.2	Insurance/indemnity arrangements assessed	Yes	No comments
4.3	Financial arrangements assessed	Yes	This study is not receiving external funding.
5.1	Compliance with the Data Protection Act and data security issues assessed	Yes	The Applicant confirmed that no personal identifiable information will leave the sites.
5.2	CTIMPS – Arrangements for compliance with the Clinical Trials Regulations assessed	Not Applicable	No comments
5.3	Compliance with any applicable laws or regulations	Yes	No comments

Section	Assessment Criteria	Compliant with Standards	Comments
6.1	NHS Research Ethics Committee favourable opinion received for applicable studies	Yes	No comments
6.2	CTIMPS – Clinical Trials Authorisation (CTA) letter received	Not Applicable	No comments
6.3	Devices – MHRA notice of no objection received	Not Applicable	No comments
6.4	Other regulatory approvals and authorisations received	Not Applicable	No comments

## Participating NHS Organisations in England and Wales

*This provides detail on the types of participating NHS organisations in the study and a statement as to whether the activities at all organisations are the same or different.*

There is one site type in this study – research sites. Research sites will be responsible for all activity as listed in the Protocol.

The Chief Investigator or sponsor should share relevant study documents with participating NHS organisations in England and Wales in order to put arrangements in place to deliver the study. The documents should be sent to both the local study team, where applicable, and the office providing the research management function at the participating organisation. Where applicable, the local LCRN contact should also be copied into this correspondence.

If chief investigators, sponsors or principal investigators are asked to complete site level forms for participating NHS organisations in England and Wales which are not provided in IRAS, the HRA or HCRW websites, the chief investigator, sponsor or principal investigator should notify the HRA immediately at [hra.approval@nhs.net](mailto:hra.approval@nhs.net) or HCRW at [Research-permissions@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:Research-permissions@wales.nhs.uk). We will work with these organisations to achieve a consistent approach to information provision.

## Principal Investigator Suitability

*This confirms whether the sponsor position on whether a PI, LC or neither should be in place is correct for each type of participating NHS organisation in England and Wales, and the minimum expectations for education, training and experience that PIs should meet (where applicable).*

A Principal Investigator (PI) would be expected at this site type. The PI has been identified as the Chief Investigator.

A Local Collaborator (LC) would not be expected at this site type as the CI is already employed by the Trust.

GCP training is not a generic training expectation, in line with the [HRA/HCRW/MHRA statement on training expectations](#).

## HR Good Practice Resource Pack Expectations

*This confirms the HR Good Practice Resource Pack expectations for the study and the pre-engagement checks that should and should not be undertaken*

No Honorary Research Contracts, Letters of Access or pre-engagement checks are expected for local staff employed by the participating NHS organisations. Where arrangements are not already in place, research staff not employed by the NHS host organisation undertaking any of the research activities listed in the research application would be expected to obtain a Letter of Access based on standard DBS checks and occupational health clearance.

## Other Information to Aid Study Set-up

*This details any other information that may be helpful to sponsors and participating NHS organisations in England and Wales to aid study set-up.*

The applicant has indicated that they do not intend to apply for inclusion on the NIHR CRN Portfolio.