

**BE
SUPPORTIVE**

**BE
CAREFUL**

**BE
ALERT**

**BE
KIND**



Source: World Health Organisation

Be Part Of Research



**LPT
Research
and
Development
Team:
COVID-19
Research
Updates**

07/05/2020

Research is a central part of the global and UK response to COVID-19.

The UK Government outlined four components in their COVID-19 strategy:

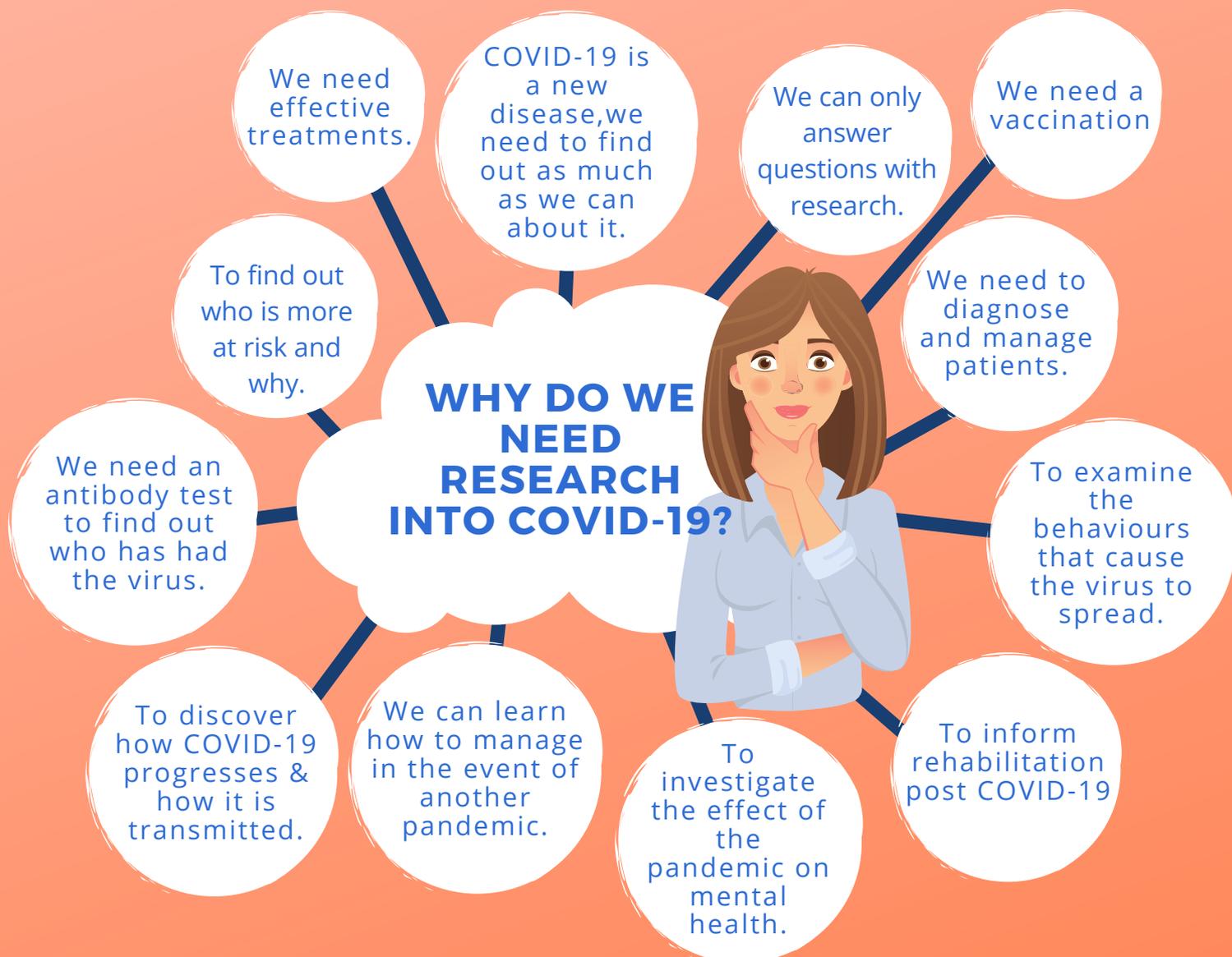
1 Contain **2** Delay **3** **Research** **4** Mitigate

- Throughout the COVID-19 outbreak the UK Government has been guided by the advice of scientific experts who are informed by research.
- Research is critical in shaping our understanding of the COVID-19 pandemic and informing measures to tackle it.
- As COVID-19 is a new disease we need to find out as much as we can about it, as quickly as possible.

“The world faces an unprecedented challenge in our efforts to tackle the spread of COVID-19 and it is vital we harness our research capabilities to the fullest extent to limit the outbreak and protect life.”

Chris Witty, Chief Medical Officer and NIHR Co-lead

Research is already underway into the diagnosis and management of patients with COVID-19, into identifying effective treatments for COVID-19, and of course to develop a vaccine. However research is also helping to understand other aspects such as:



What research is happening in the UK?

- To date the National Institute of Health Research (NIHR) and UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) have jointly invested a total of £25 million of funding into 26 research studies on COVID-19, including the first drug trial in primary care, studies on new vaccines, treatments, and research into disease transmission and behavioural interventions.
- Using international evidence and UK expertise the most promising potential treatments, at this stage, have been identified and are featured on the list of nationally prioritised studies which have been given urgent public health research status.
- Many of these studies are already underway and so far, over 44,000 participants are taking part in a range of NIHR supported COVID-19 research studies across the UK (source: NIHR 29/04/2020) .



What research is happening locally?

Across LLR patients are currently being recruited to the following studies:

To find out more about each study please click on each sub-heading to be taken to each study website



1) PRINCIPLE

- The aim of this study is to find out whether selected treatments given to people at higher risk of becoming more ill when they are infected with COVID-19 can help reduce the need for hospitalisation and the length of stay required. GPs across the UK are approaching patients to take part in this study.

2) ISARIC

- Run by the '*International Severe Acute Respiratory and Emerging Infection Consortium*' (ISARIC) this study collects information about patients admitted to hospital with COVID-19. The information will help better understand the disease, inform treatment decisions and shape the wider public health response. Researchers at UHL are currently collecting clinical data and samples from COVID-19 positive patients.

3) RECOVERY

- A study of hospital inpatients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19. Patients will be given one of three different medicines that have been used to treat other conditions, such as malaria or HIV, to see if they provide any benefits. This is an adaptive study, which means new therapies can be added to the trial as they become available. UHL are recruiting patients to this study.

4) SARS Cov-2 infection study

- Another study currently involving UHL inpatients. In this clinical trial, patients who have confirmed COVID-19 and pneumonia will be given either a nebulised version of interferon beta (a naturally-occurring protein that supports anti-viral responses in the body) called SNG001, or a placebo ('dummy' medicine).

5) Recovery-RS (respiratory support)

- This study aims to identify treatments that may be beneficial for adults hospitalised with suspected or confirmed COVID-19. It is for patients who need help to keep their oxygen levels high enough. Specifically, the trial compares three ventilation methods:
 - Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) – applies mild to high air pressure on a continuous basis through a tightly fitted mask.
 - High Flow Nasal Oxygen (HFNO) – oxygen that has been moistened and warmed is delivered very quickly through tubes into the nose.
 - Standard treatment – oxygen delivered via a normal face mask or tubes in the nose

6) REMAP-CAP

- This study will assess the most clinically effective package of treatments for adult patients admitted to an intensive care unit with both severe community-acquired pneumonia (CAP) and COVID-19. One arm of this study focuses on the use of convalescent plasma (the liquid part of the blood from donors who have contracted, and subsequently recovered from, COVID-19).

Check out the links below for detailed information on all approved studies:

- [Priority Studies](#) - [All currently approved](#)

What research can you get involved with?

1

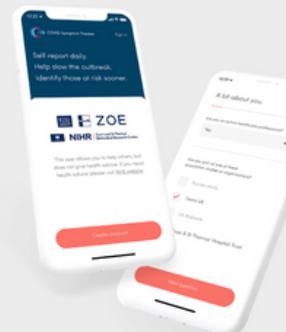


Download Today:



Please continue to support and share the Covid Symptom checker app.

- Currently over 2.5 million reporting users.
- The app allows anyone with or without symptoms to join and contribute to this research.
- Take 1-minute to self-report daily, even if you are well.
- UPDATE: The app that allows users to create profiles for other people on whose behalf you want to report



Some of the [early findings/ research updates](#) from this app.

2



Sign up to **RAMP Study** here.

The Repeated Assessment of Mental health in Pandemics (RAMP) study is a research project assessing the effect of COVID-19 on the mental health and well-being of the population:

- Anyone who is resident in the UK and over the age of 16 can participate in this study.
- You can sign up to take part online and complete an online questionnaire about your current living situation, your wellbeing and your mental and physical health.
- There will then be shorter follow up surveys every two weeks and also very short questionnaires after major government announcements.

3



Participate today and view data.

PanSurg SSAFE is a online survey open to all healthcare professionals taking care of patients with COVID-19. Staff do not necessarily have to be in direct contact with affected patients to take part. The survey has been created to investigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the wellbeing of healthcare professionals.



RESEARCH is not an optional extra – it is absolutely ESSENTIAL in the national response to this emergency.

Source: BGS.org.uk

Thank you for all of your support, in our next edition we aim to explore evidence to share with our LPT Staff. If you have a topic that you would like for us to explore please share your ideas to us via research@leicspart.nhs.uk

Keep Up To Date:

- **UHL Librarians:** Contact [Tanya McLaven](#), Deputy Librarian.
- **Current COVID-19 research in the UK:** Check out the NIHR [‘Be Part of Research’](#) website.
- **COVID-19 research that is ongoing in UHL, Leicester:** [Visit UHL website.](#)
- **Detailed information on all approved studies:** [Visit the HRA website.](#)

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