

## Help us celebrate International Clinical Trials Day 2020 virtually

International Clinical Trials Day (ICTD) is celebrated every year on the 20 May to mark the anniversary of the first clinical trial by James Lind in 1747, which investigated the causes of scurvy on board the HMS Salisbury. In previous years, we've celebrated the day by hosting events and running activities to raise awareness of research amongst our patients and the public. This year, due to the coronavirus outbreak, we're unable to celebrate ICTD in the same way, but research is important now more than ever before. Barts Health NHS Trust is running several [Urgent Public Health Studies](#), as well as many locally-led studies, all with the express aim of learning more about the virus and finding better ways to diagnose COVID-19 or find a vaccine and/ or treatments for the disease.

Never has there been more hope placed on the clinical research industry and in recognition of this, we invite you to join us in our efforts to raise awareness of COVID-19 research on International Clinical Trials Day this year. Listed below are just a few ideas for how you can get involved, whilst keeping safe and well:



### 1) Have you been treated for COVID-19 in hospital and enrolled into a research study?

If so, we'd love to hear about your experience of being part of research. Get in touch if you're interested in answering a few questions about it, by emailing us at [patientsinresearch.bartshealth@nhs.net](mailto:patientsinresearch.bartshealth@nhs.net) or by tweeting us at [@BartsHealthResearch](https://twitter.com/BartsHealthResearch)

### 2) Learn more about taking part in COVID-19 research?

You can check out videos about taking part in interventional and observational research, in a variety of languages including Hindi, Polish and Russian on the [COVID-19 studies open at Barts Health](#) page.

On our [COVID-19 research](#) page, you can read about the Barts Health COVID-19 Research PPIE advisory group, which has recently been set up to bring together those who are interested in promoting COVID-19 research and related patient and public involvement/engagement.

On this same page, you can also read about the experience our Patient Research Champions have had getting involved with COVID-19 research and have a look at the answers to some of the most commonly asked questions about COVID-19.

### 3) Talk to your family and loved ones about COVID-19 research

Talk to your loved ones, perhaps in a family Zoom or Houseparty call, about how you'd each feel about taking part in research if you were taken ill with COVID-19. Those who would like to be considered for a research study in this scenario can then download a [‘research volunteer’ card](#) from the Trials Connect website, to carry in your purse/wallet. (NB: Carrying this card does NOT give automatic consent to joining any study. You or a relative will always have to give ‘informed consent’ after having any study details explained, but it does make this process easier if you’ve already had the conversation).

### 4) Active on social media?

Keep an eye on our Barts Health Twitter account and re tweet our important messages about International Clinical Trials Day and COVID-19 research to your followers:

Retweet @BartsHealthResearch: use hashtags #ResearchMatters #BePartofResearch #COVID19 #Red4Research and tag the handles @BartsHealthResearch @NHSBartsHealth

You can also follow the National Institute of Health Research (NIHR), who will be promoting ICTD on their [NIHR news page](#) and share/retweet their posts/tweets on Facebook and Twitter (@NIHRRResearch/@NIHRTakePart)

### 5) Stay in touch with us

Join our Research Community mailing list (if you haven't already done so) and be kept up to date with opportunities to get involved in research locally. Email [patientsinresearch.bartshealth@nhs.net](mailto:patientsinresearch.bartshealth@nhs.net)

