



RESEARCHER TESTIMONIALS



SHARE 171 Acute Cardiac Care for Patients with Severe Mental Illness (2024)

It's been great working with SHARE from start to finish and we've been very happy with the helpfulness of staff, prompt and effective communication and the commitment from staff in actively progressing recruiting participants for our study in a very short time frame. Soha has been excellent.

Researcher, University of Edinburgh

SHARE 173 RSVoice Vaccine trial (2024)

"SHARE was very responsive to our needs and extremely helpful in finding suitable volunteers for a study that was struggling to recruit to target. SHARE was able to hone down on exact inclusion and exclusion criteria to limit the amount of screen failures. The whole process was a lot easier, faster and smoother than imagined and the costs were fair. My suggestions for improvement would be to include ways to limit geographically on the application form (currently only has the 4 nodes to choose from)."

Researcher, NHS Grampian

SHARE 145 DecodeME (2022)

"The SHARE team was, at all times, helpful and responsive. It was surprisingly straightforward and cost-effective for appropriate SHARE participants to be contacted."

Researcher, Edinburgh University

SHARE 139 Development and Validation of a Patient Reported Measure of Treatment Burden in Stroke. (2023)

"I found the team very hard working and easy to work with, they were flexible in their approach and overall we had an excellent experience using SHARE."

Researcher, Glasgow University

QUICK STUDY (2024)

"Working with SHARE was simple, straightforward, and efficiently helped us to meet our recruitment target for a questionnaire study. Thanks to Louise and Shobna for all their support and for getting the invitations out so seamlessly."

Researcher, University of Aberdeen

SURMOUNT Study (2023)

"We'd like to thank the SHARE team for helping to link us to participants for the SURMOUNT clinical trial. The inclusion/exclusion comprised a long and complicated list. SHARE team provided an initial assessment for eligibility and the interested contacts were then pre-screened in more detail by the research team. We were able to advance 12 participants to the screening visit and from these, randomize 5. SHARE team were responsive and helpful at all stages and it was a pleasure to work with SHARE."

Researcher, University of Dundee

Inflammation and Heart Health Study (2023)

"Everything was on top standard. It was brilliant experience. I could not thank you enough for your unwavering support."

Researcher, University of Dundee

MISSION Study (2023)

“The team were great to work with, helpful, responsive and supportive with all queries. The online tracker worked perfectly and is easy to navigate. Thank you for all the assistance towards us meeting the recruitment goal for this project.”

Researcher, University of Strathclyde

NextCOV (2023)

“SHARE provided invaluable support throughout the recruitment process. The team demonstrated exceptional responsiveness and their efforts significantly contributed to a seamless and reliable recruitment experience. Thank you for all your help”.

Researcher, NHS Lothian

“The SHARE team were very responsive when asked anything and kept in touch re recruitment. One suggestion would be on the database to have an more options between contacted and recruited to reflect someone who is considering participating.”

Researcher, NHS Lothian

“Communication was smooth and the team were very helpful, quick to respond and always happy to provide further contact names as required. Additional notes regarding participant availability were very helpful. A number of potential participants were subsequently unsuitable after contact was made by our nursing team due to medical histories, We think this is unavoidable given the nature of the SHARE database. We are unable to comment on cost effectiveness as this was funded by other means. Overall a positive experience, 9 out of 17 randomised participants were provided by SHARE.”

Researcher, NHS GG&C

“This is the second time I have used the SHARE facility to aid recruitment for Research Studies and Clinical Trials. I would highly recommend the service from initial contact until the end of recruitment. The database is easy to navigate, the volunteers are initially well briefed enabling smooth communication from the first call. The team also responded to suggestions on modifying the database to meet our particular needs as our recruitment progressed.”

Researcher, NHS Tayside

Medication Adherence User Interface (2023)

“The SHARE team have been instrumental in helping me achieve my recruitment goal for my PhD research project. The team’s accessibility, high level of professionalism, attention to detail and timely transfers, have led to the successful recruitment of participants for my study. The process, for me, has been seamless and I am very grateful for the dedicated support I have received from SHARE. I would highly recommend this brilliant service!”

Researcher, Edinburgh University

Diabetes Long COVID Study (2022)

“Overall the use of the SHARE register has provided a large boost to the study in a timely fashion and it has enabled us to move forward in a significant leap. SHARE is obviously very well suited for helping with remote surveys and we are delighted to see the large geographical spread of participants from across the whole of Scotland. The strategy of using SHARE has worked out better than we could have hoped for.”

Researcher, Dundee University

PIVUC Study (2022)

“The SHARE Team has been fantastic and extremely helpful in assisting us to recruit volunteers for the PIVUC study. I don’t think we could have recruited the number needed without help from SHARE.”

Researcher, Dundee University

Atrial Fibrillation Study (2022)

“This is an incredible service. Very proactive and efficient. The communication from the whole team was frequent and again very efficient. The application process was straightforward and the response very quick. We particularly appreciated/admired the web-based service for participant information sharing. We are now going to ensure we incorporate SHARE into any future bids.”

Researcher, Napier University

UNIQUE Study (2022)

“Thanks so much to the whole SHARE team for your help with this study. Not having used SHARE before, I was very grateful to have the opportunity to discuss the study with you before applying and the flexibility re: budget and your commitment to helping us meet our recruitment goals with the funds we had available was hugely appreciated. The only challenge I think was around finding suitable people quickly, but this was down to our study requirements of needing to find people in employment and also needing potential participants to also complete a screening questionnaire. Thank you for all of your help – it would have been very, very challenging to have met our recruitment target on time without your support!”

Researcher, University of Aberdeen

“Thanks so much for all of your help with this study. All of your work helping to find suitable people and to help us meet our recruitment target is hugely appreciated! Thanks so much – it’s been great working with you.”

Researcher, University of Aberdeen

COVBOOST Study (2021)

“SHARE did a fantastic job in helping us to recruit to COVBOOST.

I just wanted to thank you and the SHARE team for your outstanding help with identifying and contacting potential participants for CovBoost. We wait in anticipation for the response. We are grateful to you for undertaking this work in such a short timeframe and will ensure that we publicise and acknowledge the work of the SHARE team.”

Researcher, NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde

COVID-19 Antibody testing (2021)

“Lovely to hear from you and of course, please do share the news! We are currently working on 2 manuscripts and your contribution will be acknowledged for these, but it would be great if you can also share that your samples played the key part in the assay development! Delighted for that!

Researcher, University of Aberdeen

UKRI Childcare and Wellbeing in Times of Covid-19: Developing Crisis-resilient Care Solutions (2021)

“Working with SHARE was just a great experience. Professionalism, friendly environment, competent service. From the beginning until the end of our fieldwork, we were extremely satisfied with SHARE’s highly competent service and friendly approach. We had very demanding sampling requirements and no matter how hard this was, SHARE approached it positively, gave us relevant guidance and did their best to achieve what we asked for. The communication was amazing, they always answered our questions quickly and adapted to our instructions in a blink of an eye. Finishing the fieldwork of our rapid-response project on time would never be possible without SHARE!”

Researcher, University of Edinburgh

Healthcare Improvement Scotland Citizen's Panel (2021)

“SHARE provided a very good service at a reasonable cost, and was also very efficient. We never quite reached the numbers we hoped for but that was up to individual SHARE members to decide to join our Citizens’ Panel or not. The process was clear from the start, and SHARE kept us up to date and were always available to answer questions.”

Researcher, Healthcare Improvement Scotland

CovidLife survey (2020)

“SHARE helped us enormously to recruit participants. Without SHARE our sample size would have been considerably smaller.”

Researcher, University of Edinburgh

Use of Surplus Bloods from Patients with Cancer to Identify Tumour Antigens Presented on HLA Molecules (2020)

“SHARE has proved to be an excellent resource to rapidly identify and source relevant patient materials. The staff have been outstanding in their response to questions and have all been extremely helpful. SHARE is a resource that I fully anticipate to be using many times in the future”.

Researcher, School of Medicine, University of St Andrews

Artificial Intelligence for treatment and management of COPD (2018)

“We needed SHARE to distribute a questionnaire to people with COPD. The questionnaire sought patients’ views on an artificial intelligent APP for managing COPD. Given the demography of people with COPD we did not expect a great response to a request involving smartphones and AI and hoped for between 30 and 50 responses. SHARE turned around the request in around two weeks and delivered 187 responses! I would advise everyone doing research with patients in Scotland to use SHARE and will certainly use it again.”

Chief Executive, Pharmatics

Eye Tracking (2016)

“We used the SHARE database to assist with the recruitment of control participants for our Visual Fields Study. The SHARE team did a great job identifying the correct individuals required for the study. The tailored database, which was provided, had all the information we required in order for us to contact and track the individuals who agreed to take part and were pleased with the resulting numbers recruited to the study. Without the use of the SHARE database we would not have been able to meet the target number of control subjects required. As a research coordinator with the University I would definitely use SHARE to assist with other projects that I am involved in. We definitely benefited from using the SHARE database service, it would have been extremely difficult to reach our goal in terms of the number of ‘control’ participants otherwise.”

Researcher, University of Edinburgh

Reversing endometrial glucocorticoid deficiency in heavy menstrual bleeding

“Our experience of using the SHARE register was good. Identifying potentially suitable women for the DexFEM trial from SHARE was quite difficult, given the condition we were studying (conditions such as diabetes or COPD for example would I think be much more straightforward) so we did not recruit large numbers to our study, but nevertheless appreciate the support and input we received from all SHARE staff.”

Researcher, University of Edinburgh

A randomised controlled trial comparing laparoscopic cholecystectomy with observation/conservative management for preventing recurrent symptoms and complications in adults with uncomplicated symptomatic gallstones (2016)

"In brief, that the SHARE register was helpful to identify people who had had surgical removal of their gallbladder but not so helpful to identify those with gallstones (and even then there were some learning issues around identification of those with uncomplicated disease) who had not had surgery (twitter was better for this)"

Researcher, University of Aberdeen

Structural CNS changes, neuropsychological impairment and sleep disorder in type 1 myotonic dystrophy: a genotype-phenotype study (2016)

"We identified highly suitable control participants, who were well briefed before being contacted by me, and I found the electronic interface easy to use."

Researcher, University of Edinburgh

Helicobacter Pylori infection and acid secretory function of entire gastric mucosa and of mucosa close to the gastroesophageal junction in healthy volunteers (2015)

"The SHARE register has been invaluable in helping us recruit healthy volunteers into our study. In previous years it has been extremely difficult to find asymptomatic volunteers who are willing to undergo an invasive procedure like endoscopy. SHARE has made recruitment a much easier process and as a result we are close to achieving our target number well within our time frame."

Researcher, University of Glasgow

The Effect of Spironolactone on Pain in Older People with Osteoarthritis (2014)

"I encourage all older people to register with SHARE. A key way to improve the health and life of older people is to increase opportunities for their participation in research. As a clinical researcher I use the SHARE register to recruit to clinical trials involving older adults. The SHARE register is a great asset which is improving month-by-month as more people join".

Researcher, University of Dundee

[SHARE, the Scottish Health Research Register and Biobank](#), is an NHS Research Scotland (NRS) initiative created to establish a register of people, aged 11 years and over, who:

- have consented to be contacted for medical research
- can also consent to their left-over blood (following routine tests), to be used for anonymised research

SHARE CAN HELP YOU:

- **ACHIEVE RECRUITMENT OBJECTIVES** by providing eligible and willing participants for studies
- **OBTAIN PSEUDONYMISED RESEARCH SAMPLES FOR STUDIES**
- **ADVERTISE YOUR STUDIES INVOLVING SHARE** on our website

HOW THE PROCESS WORKS

- 1) You can call us or submit a feasibility form if you just want to “look and see” if SHARE has the potential participants / samples you are interested in.
- 2) You submit a [FULL STUDY APPLICATION](#) for the Register and/or Biobank; this should include NHS ethics and R&D approvals.
- 3) The SHARE Studies Access Committee review the application and respond with a decision (usually within 5 – 7 days).
- 4) Once you have received approval, the Health Informatics Centre ([SAFE HAVEN](#)) carry out the search for suitable participants based on the selection criteria on the application form.
- 5) Contact details for potential participants are sent to SHARE on a web-based tracker.
- 6) SHARE contacts the suitable participants about the study and may also ask them additional clarifying questions.
- 7) Eligible participants who are willing to “hear more” about your study will be passed to you via the password protected tracker.

Please get in touch today for more information studies@registerforshare.org

[Watch our videos on YouTube](#) – Professor McKinstry explains how the SHARE Register and Biobank can help you with recruitment, samples and data for your studies.