

Excess Treatment Costs (ETCs)

Some research studies will generate ETCs. The definition of the various costs associated with research are outlined in the Department of Health document 'Attributing revenue costs of health and social care Research & Development the NHS (AcoRD)'. This provides a framework from which to estimate the costs of research and development and guide where funding should be sought from. The document can be accessed on the [Department of Health website](#).

Excess treatment costs (ETCs) incurred by research studies can be defined as the difference between the cost of standard treatment and the cost of the treatment that will be tested via research. This includes costs that would be incurred if the treatment continued after the research activity has stopped and staff training costs in order to deliver the intervention. This does not include training costs for research methods, such as case reporting.

Occasionally the new treatment may be cheaper, in which case there will be a saving in treatment costs.

Clinical Commissioning Groups usually pay ETCs for local primary care studies. If the study incurs extremely high costs, the Department of Health will fund part of the ETCs.

Applying for ETCs

Grant application stage

After calculating your ETCs please obtain support from Tower Hamlets CCG if you are planning to undertake a primary care study locally. You do not need to complete the application form for excess treatment costs to secure the costs until after you have secured the research grant.

However, it is important to contact Tower Hamlets CCG as early as possible if an ETC budget will be required. Commissioners are unable to budget for 'unknown' research projects, and can struggle to meet their ETC requests and other commitments.

Funded research

Once research grant funding has been awarded and if your study has excess treatment costs that the CCG should meet you need to formally apply for funding. This involves completing an application form, which can be found below. The application form should be self-explanatory, but if not, or if you have any other questions, please ask us.

All applications to TH CCG are discussed at the Strategic Finance and Investment Committee and every effort is made to ensure that legitimate ETCs are funded. The earlier you contact the CCG the better so that forward planning in terms of budgets can be enhanced.

Please direct your queries about ETCs to thccg.info@nhs.net