

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](#))'.

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.

Applying for Excess Treatment Costs

The National Institute of Health Research Clinical Research Network (NIHR CRN) and its local networks manage the Excess Treatment Cost budget on behalf of CCGs. This took effect on 1 October 2018.

All new funding applications to the CRN are required to complete a Schedule of Events Cost Attribution Tool which is validated by the CRN AcoRD specialists. A schedule of events is required as part of [Health Research Authority \(HRA\)](#) approval to outline study activities and the associated attribution under AcoRD principles.

The single point of access for processing the Excess Treatment Cost requests is via the NIHR Study Support Service mailbox at: sss.crnnorththames@nihr.ac.uk

Key points of the new process for Excess Treatment Costs

- Costing is completed using a standard costing methodology ([the Schedule of Events Cost Attribution Tool](#)).
- High cost Excess Treatment Costs will be assessed by a panel at project funding stage.
- The Clinical Research Network will transfer your costing and recruitment information into the [Central Portfolio Management System \(CPMS\)](#). This will calculate Excess Treatment Costs for provider organisations and will be paid when the minimum threshold is reached.

Commissioner support

We recommend you identify every relevant commissioner from whom an Excess Treatment Cost budget will be required for the study. If you require Public Health investment, please ensure you contact them as early as possible. Commissioners are

unable to budget for 'unknown' research projects and can struggle to meet their Excess Treatment Cost requests and other commitments.

If you are a researcher in need of any additional support from the CCG around Excess Treatment Costs please get in touch at thccg.info@nhs.net