**The UK National Oncology Trainees Collaborative for Healthcare Research (NOTCH)**

**Project Proposal Form**

The UK National Oncology Trainees Collaborative for Healthcare Research (NOTCH) is inviting proposals for projects in the field of non-surgical oncology that would benefit from a UK-wide trainee-led approach.

Established in 2017, NOTCH began as The Northern Oncology Trainees Collaborative for Healthcare Research. It is a trainee-led organisation that seeks to provide medical and clinical oncology trainees with an opportunity to devise, lead, undertake and publish meaningful multicentre collaborative research. Our approach means that rather than spend time completing small retrospective single-centre analyses, trainees can instead invest their time in larger potentially practice-changing pieces of work. It is clear that has utility across oncology but particularly in rare tumour times or in common issues requiring large populations to draw meaningful conclusions.

A key ethos for NOTCH is that research is trainee-led and delivered. As such, proposals should be co-authored by a clinical or medical oncology trainee, in partnership with a consultant. Project proposals may only be submitted by centres that have previously contributed to NOTCH data collection. All submitted proposals will be reviewed by NOTCH-participating centres and, if required, assessed by external reviewers. The lead trainee for each selected project will be asked to join the NOTCH Organising Committee, who will in turn provide assistance to set up and deliver the project. All projects must adhere to NOTCH criteria for projects, including a commitment to publish under a single corporate authorship (individual contributions to project leadership, data analysis, writing etc are recognised within the manuscript). We particularly welcome projects that are ambitious but clearly achievable within a one-two year timeframe, that capitalise on UK-wide trainee involvement, and that are not dependent on securing external funding.

A proposal form is attached and we would be more than happy to provide further details should they be required.

Please return your project proposals to the NOTCH email address, uk.notch@nhs.net by 17:00 on **28th August 2020.** We regret that we unable to provide individual feedback for unsuccessful proposals.

To propose a study, please complete the following short form. Guidance notes are provided overleaf.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Title** |  | | |
| **Study team** | Proposing centre: |  | |
| Trainee lead: | Name: |  |
| Email: |  |
| Lead clinician: | Name: |  |
| Email: |  |
| **Background**  **(max 300 words)** |  | | |
| **Aim(s) & objectives**  **(max 250 words)** |  | | |
| **Methods**  **(max 300 words)** |  | | |
| **Ethics & governance** |  | | |
| **Impact statement**  **(max 300 words)** |  | | |
| **Please attach a copy of your draft data collection sheet (if relevant) to this proposal form** | | | |

**GUIDANCE NOTES**

**Project selection**

NOTCH is overseen by a committee of medical and clinical oncology trainees. This committee is supported by an advisory group comprising of senior academics and clinicians within each of the participating centres. The NOTCH committee will review each proposed project and will identify those that both meet our objective to promote trainee-led oncology research, and that we have the capacity to support.

**Proposal form – some ideas**

Background… tell us where your project proposal fits with the current literature. Why is this project needed? You should include any relevant preliminary data here.

Aims & objectives… What is the main question you are seeking to address?

Methods… How will trainees collect data? Will you analyse this data? Do you require statistical support? What is the proposed timeline for the project? Please explicitly state over what time period you anticipate you will collect data.

Ethics & governance… Which ethics and governance approvals are required for your project, and are these already in place? Please include in this any relevant requirements for data management.

Impact… How do you foresee your project changing patient care? You should outline here any patient and public involvement in the project that you have had to date.