

# Patient and public involvement in methodological research: a case study

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## Background

Public and patient involvement (PPI) in medical research is defined as research carried out “with” or “by” members of the public rather than “to,” “about” or “for” them <sup>[1]</sup>. PPI is a key part of medical research, with many national health and funding organisations stating PPI is essential including bodies from the UK, Netherlands, America, Canada and USA <sup>[2]</sup>.

There is little information on how to integrate PPI into methodological research and the stakeholders that should be considered as public contributors.

## Aim

To provide information for PPI involvement in methodological research, including available resources and present a case study.

## Methods

As a case study, we describe a methodological research fellowship focusing on methods for determining the performance of diagnostic imaging tests by including information on interobserver variability and time to diagnosis. Within this project, we consulted with colleagues with experience integrating PPI into their methodological research, PPI leads from local hospitals and research centres, presented the research proposal to a PPI group for feedback and developed an integrated PPI approach.

## Results

A description of the integrated PPI involvement for a methodological research fellowship and list of resources available for guidance. Some of the online resources include the INVOLVE National Standards for Public Involvement and cost calculator <sup>[3,4]</sup>. Other resources include links to toolkits and useful papers on public involvement.

## Conclusion

Investigators should plan PPI involvement in advance, research available help in local area including colleagues, PPI leads, and online support.

## Keywords

PPI, methodological, research

## References

<sup>[1]</sup> INVOLVE – What is public involvement in research? <http://www.invo.org.uk/find-out-more/what-is-public-involvement-in-research-2/>. Accessed 14/01/2020.

<sup>[2]</sup> Gray-Burrows, K.A., et al., Role of patient and public involvement in implementation research: a consensus study. *BMJ Qual Saf*, 2018. 27(10): p. 858-864.

<sup>[3]</sup> INVOLVE –National Standards for Public Involvement <https://www.invo.org.uk/posttypepublication/national-standards-for-public-involvement/> Accessed 14/01/2020.

<sup>[4]</sup> INVOLVE – Involvement Cost Calculator <https://www.invo.org.uk/resource-centre/payment-and-recognition-for-public-involvement/involvement-cost-calculator/>. Accessed 14/01/2020.