What is HRA Approval?
HRA Approval comprises an assessment of study compliance with applicable regulations and standards. For studies that require review by an NHS research ethics committee (REC), it also includes the separate but coordinated REC review.

Clinical Research Network support
If your study is eligible for the NIHR portfolio, please liaise with your Local Clinical Research Network, who will support the delivery of your study.

For further details go to: www.supportmystudy.nihr.ac.uk

Working with your sites
The HRA will provide you with the outcome of the HRA’s assessment. You should provide this information to your sites.

It is critical that you involve both the research management function (e.g. R&D office and local clinical research network staff) supporting each organisation and the local research team (where there is one) in setting up your study.

Working with Devolved Administrations
For details, go to: http://www.hra.nhs.uk/research-community/applying-for-approvals/hra-approval/

Need help?
Go to www.hra.nhs.uk for the latest guidance.

Setting up your study
You should send the following local package to the local research team, the R&D office and Local Clinical Research Network (where relevant) at the same time, unless advised otherwise by the HRA:

- Copy of completed IRAS form (combined REC and R&D form)
- Protocol and any amendments
- Participant information and consent documents (where additional to questionnaire)
- Template Statement of Activity
- Schedule of events
- Any other study documents that the sponsor wishes to provide to the site to support the set up and delivery of the study
- Copy of HRA ‘initial assessment’ letter and (when issued) HRA Approval letter and final document versions

When HRA Approval has been issued, the sponsor should send the Approval letter and any revised documents to the local research team, the R&D office and Local Clinical Research Network (where relevant).
Setting up your study with HRA and your NHS sites in England

Complete IRAS Form and add documents → Contact HRA booking service → Submit IRAS pack to HRA → HRA issues outcome of initial assessment → HRA issues HRA Approval → Add initial assessment letter to local package → Send HRA Approval letter to site → Identify sites → Send local package to research and R&D/LCRN teams → Jointly arrange capacity and capability → Organisation confirms capacity and capability

Key for activities
- Applicant
- HRA
- Applicant and site

Working with your sites

HRA Approval provides a proportionate system. HRA will advise you in the initial assessment outcome how you should set up your sites. The site means the local research team supported by the R&D team and, where applicable, the Local Clinical Research Network. Further information about working with the research management function for each NHS organisation can be accessed from [www.hra.nhs.uk/hra-approval](http://www.hra.nhs.uk/hra-approval). Contact details are available at [http://www.rdforum.nhs.uk/content/contact-details/](http://www.rdforum.nhs.uk/content/contact-details/).

This information leaflet is designed to provide general information only. Our website Terms and conditions apply: [www.hra.nhs.uk](http://www.hra.nhs.uk)