

BRU FACT FILE

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- The **Leicester Cardiovascular Biomedical Research Unit (LCBRU)** at Glenfield Hospital is part of a multi-million pound scheme to prevent, diagnose and treat ill-health. The Unit specialises in research into cardiovascular disease and is one of 20 BRUs around England funded by the **National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)** focusing on translational research, first in man research and experimental medicine research.
- The object of LCBRU is to take research findings from the laboratory or other experimental approaches safely and efficiently into patient benefit (from 'bench to bedside'). This may include new techniques and procedures, new drugs or the discovery of completely new approaches to treating or investigating cardiovascular disease.
- The LCBRU was awarded £4.7 million in April 2009 for 3 years. A further £6.56 million was awarded in April 2012 to sustain the Unit for a further 5 years, with an additional £1.03 million for participation in the NIHR BioResource project.
- The LCBRU is a partnership between the University of Leicester and University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust.
- LCBRU provides an infrastructure – people, space, and equipment – which allows researchers to complete challenging or complex projects in the areas of cardiovascular genetics and novel cardiovascular therapeutic interventions.
- Specifically, the BRU has in excess of 250m² of clinical space in which to see patients, divided into 4 areas:
- **Translational Medicine Facility (TMF):** a high fidelity clinical research facility with state of the art laboratory, echo, exercise and experimental medicine equipment.
- **Clinical Research Facility (CRF):** a purpose built facility for routine follow up and screening of research participants in a clean, modern environment.
- **Day Case Suite:** a large purpose built suite designed around the needs of researchers and research participant whole day visits, with sofa, TV and amenities to ensure research participants are comfortable and relaxed during their visit.
- **In-Patient Facility:** Two en-suite side rooms located with a cardiology day case environment refurbished to a very high standard to offer the best possible facilities for patients requiring an overnight stay in the hospital.
- **Cardiovascular Research Centre:** the Unit also has dedicated laboratory and office space in the 2500m² BHF Cardiovascular Research Centre.
- LCBRU hosts a dedicated research database (BRICCS), the first of its kind in the UK, which is linked to a collection of blood samples from patient volunteers who have made their medical records available to researchers.
- The LCBRU directly funds over 20 staff from a variety of scientific, academic and clinical disciplines. This includes scientists, physiologists, nurses, database programmes, clinical research assistants, PhD and MD students.

The Leicester Cardiovascular Biomedical Research Unit key contacts:

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