



Our Vision

A vibrant and ambitious Bristol-wide strategic health research and innovation partnership that leads to health improvements for the people of Bristol, the UK and beyond.

Strategic Aims

- *To improve the health of people in Bristol, the UK and beyond through better co-ordination of research, innovation and resources*
- *To realise the full potential of health-related research and innovation in Bristol through effective partnership working*
- *To foster excellence in people and infrastructure that impact on health-related research and innovation*
- *To develop Bristol's reputation for excellence and promote it nationally and internationally*

BRIG-H Partners

University of Bristol

University of the West of England

University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust

North Bristol NHS Trust

NHS Bristol

Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust



Health Research and Innovation

The **Bristol Research and Innovation Group for Health (BRIG-H)** is a vibrant and ambitious Bristol-wide strategic research and innovation partnership which is dedicated to fostering excellence in people and infrastructure and realising the full potential of research and innovation to benefit patient health.

BRIG-H is working successfully delivering and developing a portfolio of projects and activities. We are facilitating collaboration, removing barriers and creating new opportunities for research, innovation and career development.

Bristol's health research and innovation strengths are derived from successful collaborations and strong working partnerships forged within the city, regionally, nationally and internationally. The foundation for this is BRIG-H a strategic partnership between the University of Bristol, University of the West of England and all of Bristol's NHS Trusts (NHS Bristol, Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust, University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust and North Bristol NHS Trust).

BRIG-H been given its mandate from and is being steered by the senior leadership of all our partner institutions. For the NHS Trusts these are the Chief Executives and for the Universities the Vice- Chancellors and/or appropriate Pro-Vice-Chancellor. Responsibility for the development of BRIG-H lies with the Strategy Board, chaired by Professor Peter Mathieson, the Dean of the Medicine and Dentistry at the University of Bristol. The Research Directors of each partner sit on this board and represent their institution.

Bristol's internationally recognised research strengths are:

- **Population health; especially epidemiology, primary care and public health**
- **Neuroscience**
- **Immunology, immunity, infection and injury**
- **Cardiovascular**

These strengths form the backbone of a research and innovation community focused on addressing four major health challenges:

- **Staying healthy**
- **Health inequalities**
- **Ageing and well being**
- **Stratified medicine**

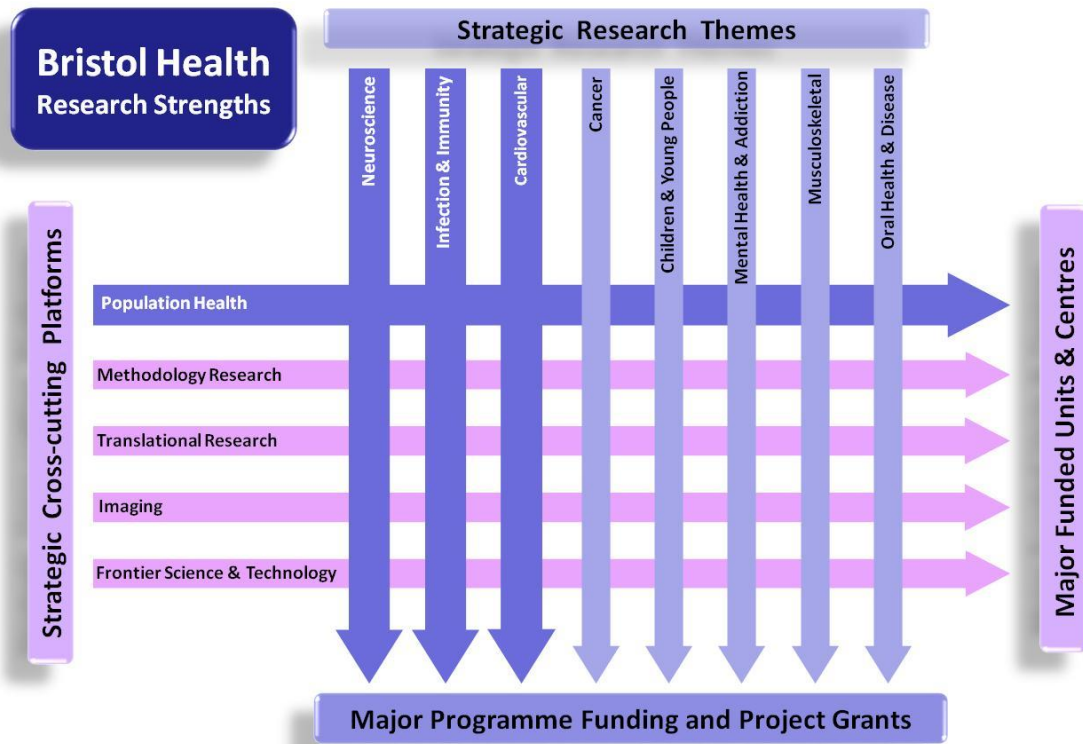
To deliver solutions to these health challenges Bristol is investing strategically: building capacity and quality in complementary and synergistic research areas; providing new state-of the art research-enabling facilities; forging major new cross-disciplinary collaborations; and creating a more integrated, streamlined and responsive health research community.

BRIG-H Research Themes & Platforms



BRISTOL RESEARCH AND INNOVATION GROUP FOR HEALTH

Bristol's health research community is highly interactive. Our portfolio of **strategic research themes** comes together with our **strategic cross-cutting platforms** to address our challenges.



The ability of this portfolio to deliver solutions to these challenges is further empowered by successful interdisciplinary collaboration in areas such as psychology, microbiology, chemistry, engineering, robotics, biosensors, nanotechnology and the social sciences at both universities. The Bristol research strengths matrix above illustrates how these all interconnect.

Each of our strategic cross-cutting platforms embraces a number of areas:

- **Population Health:** especially epidemiology, primary care, public health and RCTs
- **Methodology Research:** focus is on research with methods development as its primary purpose and methodological outputs that are applicable beyond a specific case-study
- **Translational Research:** includes novel therapies, devices, tools and methods of organisation and service delivery
- **Imaging:** cell, organs and function: includes cellular and clinical imaging research
- **Frontier Science and Technology:** includes diagnostics, regenerative medicine, stem cells, synthetic chemistry, nanoscience, devices and robotics

BRIG-H Innovation



The Universities and NHS Trusts in Bristol all play a central role in innovation, enterprise and knowledge exchange in the city. Bristol has been highly successful in translating health research into patient benefit and is seen as a beacon of good practice and a leader of innovation in the region and beyond. The health, economic and social benefits of this activity are undisputed. One of the aims of the BRIG-H partnership is to ensure that innovation is facilitated and supported, that it develops further and that the environment for it flourishes. Recent Bristol innovation highlights include:

- Beating heart coronary surgery without the need for cardiopulmonary bypass
- Development of BoneSave, a novel synthetic bone substitute
- Pioneering treatment reducing disability in premature babies with serious brain haemorrhage
- First tissue-engineered trachea, created utilising the patient's own stem cells

BRIG-H is working and partnering with NHS innovation organisations, other Universities and other entities. This can be local (e.g. Bath & Bristol Enterprise Network <http://www.bristolenterprise.com/>), regionally (e.g. HIEC South West, SARTRE, <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/sartre/>) and beyond. The aim is to drive innovation forward and help deliver patient benefit.

The BRIG-H Innovation Working Group (IWG) works with all the BRIG-H partner institutions to ensure that innovation in BRIG-H is expertly supported. It provides a forum to share and exploit innovation intelligence and to advise and input into strategic innovation initiatives. The Group is made up of the Innovation and Enterprise leads from each member institution.

The BRIG-H Portal

The BRIG-H Portal provides our community with an on-line collaborative work environment which we all able to access and share. It is also envisaged as providing a one-stop-shop for finding people and collaborators and via it you will be able to access health related news, events, funding, training courses, facilities, jobs and other opportunities in Bristol. Already new communities are forming and requesting their own on-line worlds to help them keep in touch. We have created dedicated workspaces for each BRIG-H Theme and Platform. Workspaces can be created for projects or other groups of BRIG-H researchers, including those who collaborate with colleagues at non-Bristol institutions.

The BRIG-H portal is hosted by the NHS-NIHR Portal. The address is:

<https://portal.nihr.ac.uk/sites/brig-h/>

Registration is required to access the secure confidential areas of the portal. The BRIG-H portal registration form will be available from your R&D Dept or from <http://www.bris.ac.uk/fmd/brig-h.html> . Please return the form by email to jenny.knapp@bristol.ac.uk.

For more information about BRIG-H please contact **Dr Jenny Knapp** the BRIG-H Programme Manager, email jenny.knapp@bristol.ac.uk