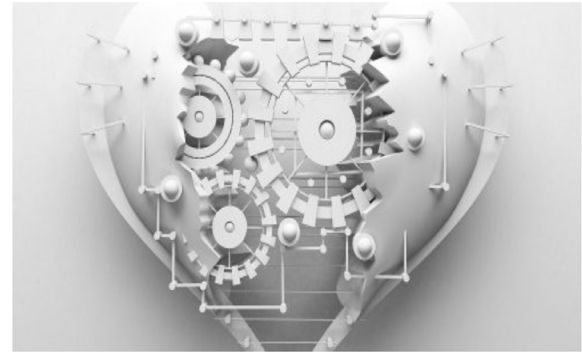
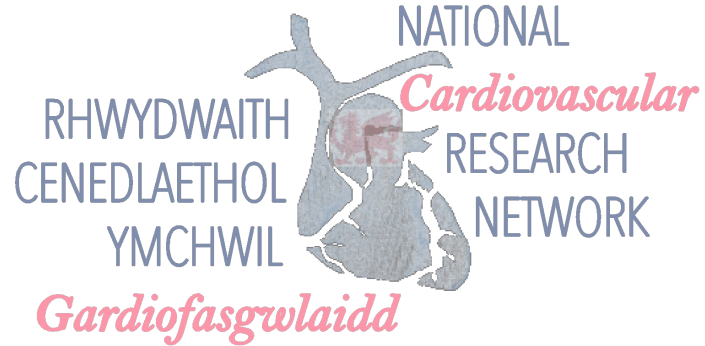


New initiatives in research

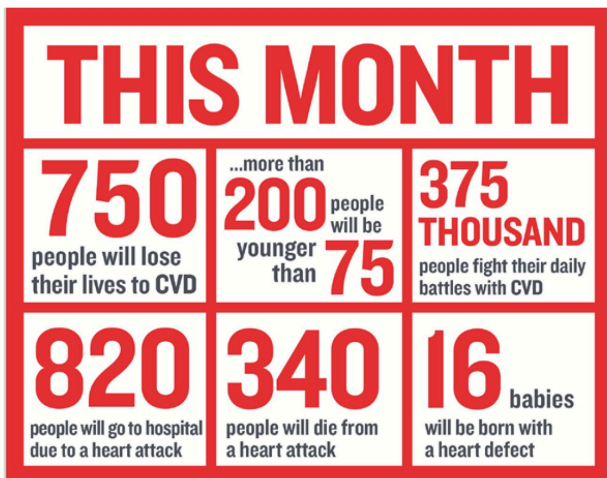
National Cardiovascular Research Network for Wales

Chris George

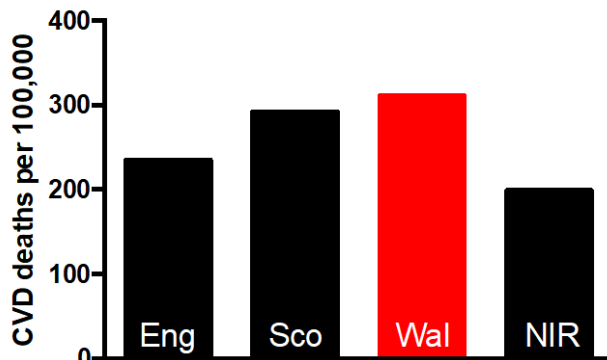
14 October 2021



The epidemic of cardiovascular disease



Source: BHF Wales factsheet, 2017



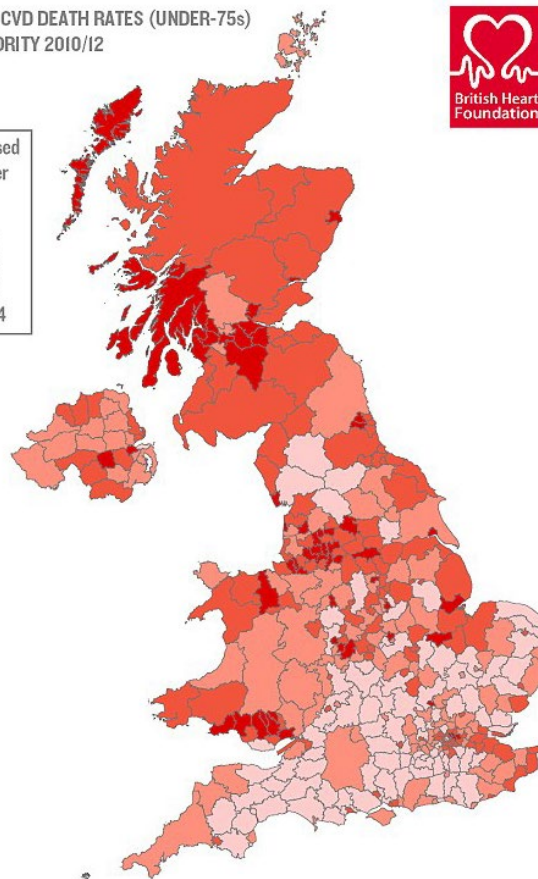
Data from ONS 2015

UK PREMATURE CVD DEATH RATES (UNDER-75s)
by LOCAL AUTHORITY 2010/12



Age Standardised
Death Rates per
100,000

35-61
62-76
77-94
95-144



BHF

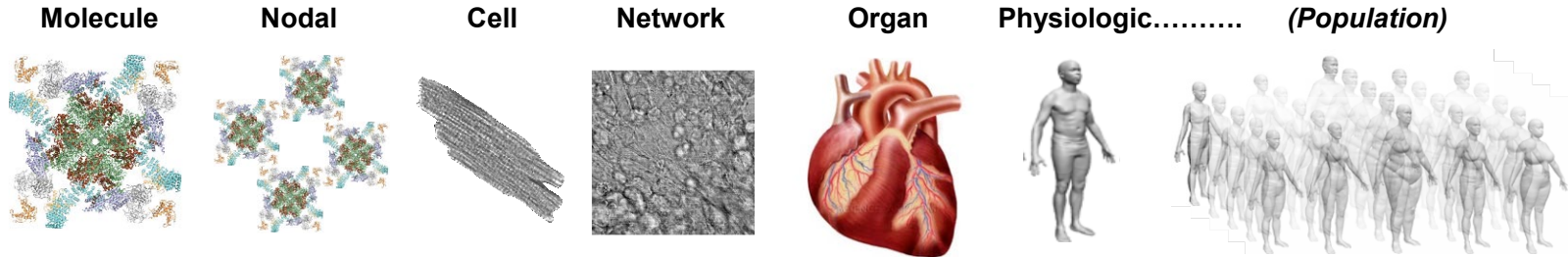
source: BHF CPNP University of Oxford (2014), calculated in partnership with the UK's national statistical agencies

The need for coherence and cohesion

- Wales is home to leading cardiovascular (CV) research groups but the research environment is small and fragmented
- Low critical mass
- Cross-institutional interactions and with regional health boards are not as well developed as we would like
- Poor articulation of strategic vision
- Lack framework for mapping research activity and developing CV projects
- Low funder visibility coupled with the perception that much research activity is 'off radar'

The opportunities

- Recognised strengths and funding track records in focussed areas (thematic development)
- Leading activities on multi-scale knowledge



- Socio-economic / healthcare demographic
- Landscape to connect
 - Disease aetiology / causal pathways
 - 'Patients-in-society'
 - Gaps between evidence and best practise

Mission Statement

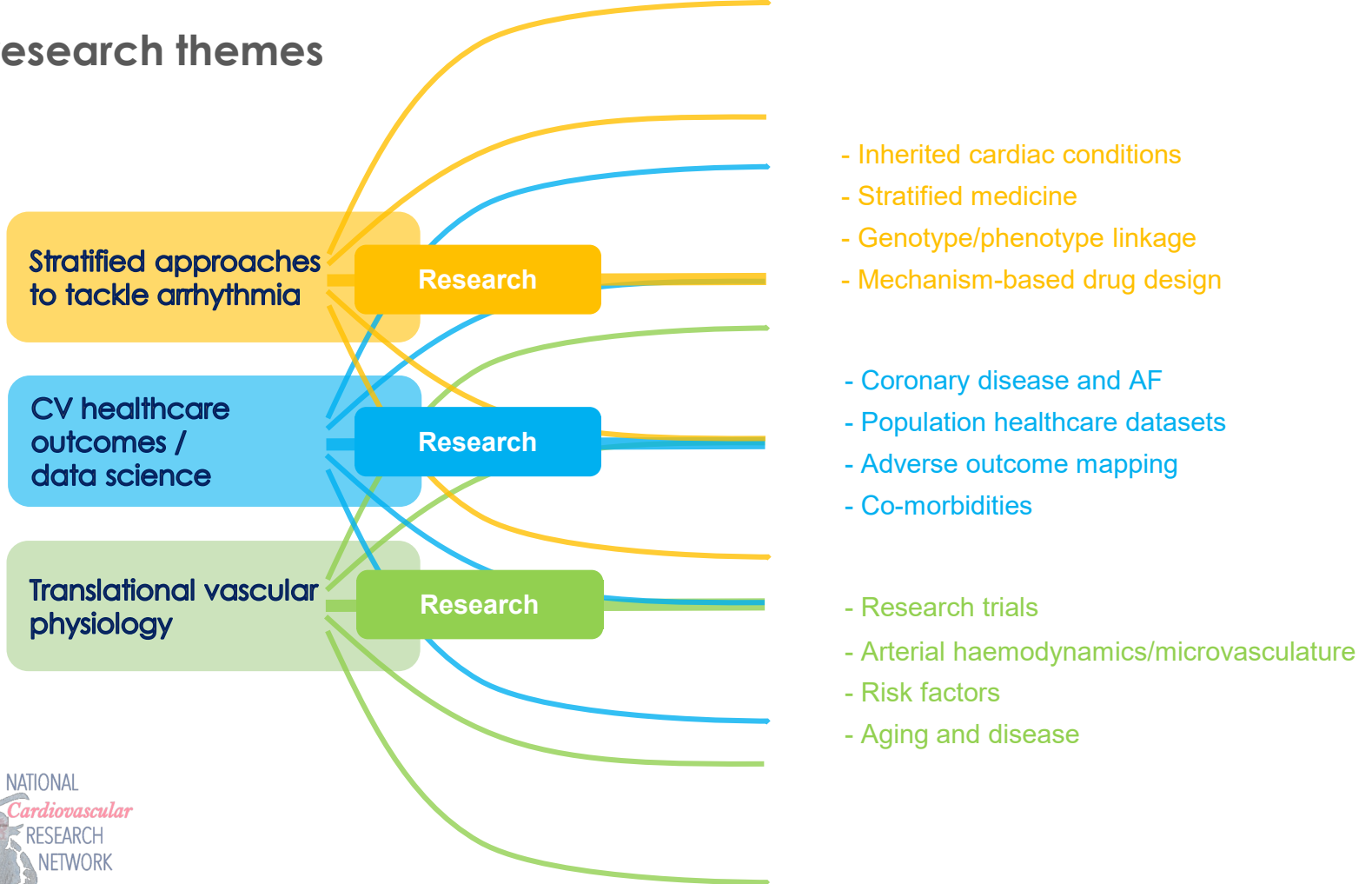
“The NCRN will create a focused translational infrastructure to facilitate delivery of clinical trials, pathways and/or policy to introduce the learnings from mechanism-oriented, cardiovascular and data science research activities most effectively and appropriately into the clinical and public health domains.”

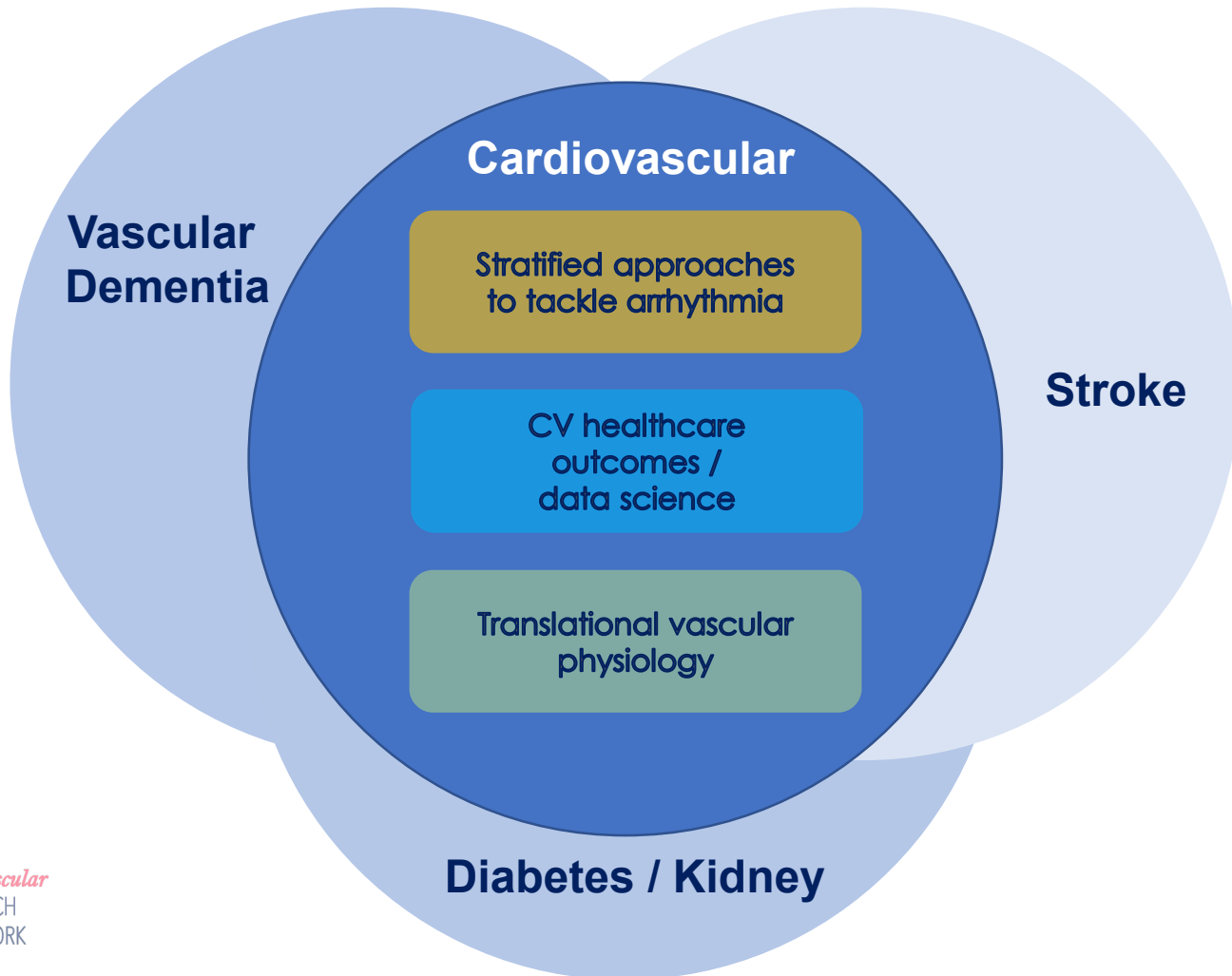


Ymchwil Iechyd
a Gofal **Cymru**
Health and Care
Research **Wales**



NCRN research themes





**Vascular
Dementia**

Cardiovascular

Stroke

Stratified approaches
to tackle arrhythmia

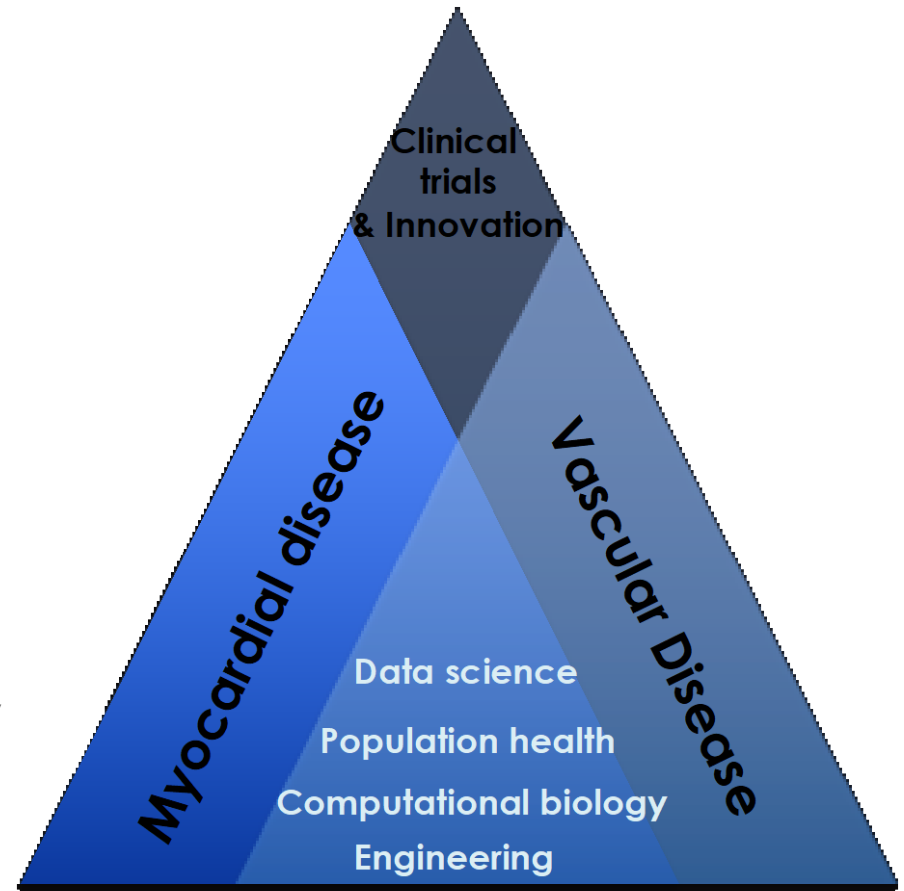
CV healthcare
outcomes /
data science

Translational vascular
physiology

Diabetes / Kidney

NCRN activities

Publications
Grants
I&E
Clinical & Research trials
Seminars
Meetings
Studentships
Collaborations
Workshops
External advisors / Funders
Healthcare & Pharmaceutical Industry



Engaging HEI, Health Boards and pharma

Executive

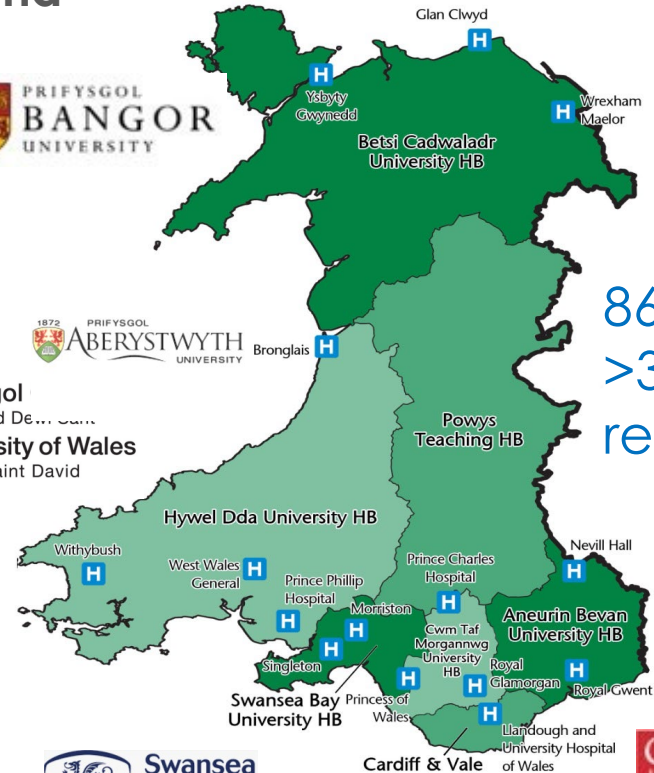
To operationalise the delivery of the Network's aims and objectives

Working Groups

Leading on Network's activities at HEI / Health board levels

Advisory Group

Broad representation from across CV research landscape



86 PIs in Wales
>300
researchers

What are we achieving now ?

- Better communication and enfranchisement ✓
- Improved visibility and profile of CV research in Wales ✓
- Improved levels of funding ✓
- Developing more ambitious cross-discipline projects ✓

What can we achieve in the longer term ?

- Translate cross-discipline research excellence into patient benefit

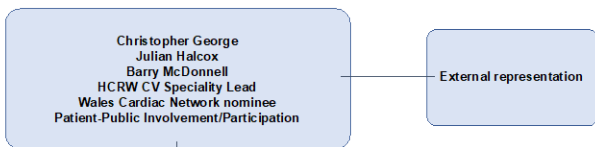
What are the barriers ?

- An external research environment changed remarkably by the COVID-19 pandemic
- Challenges of developing sustainable research capacity

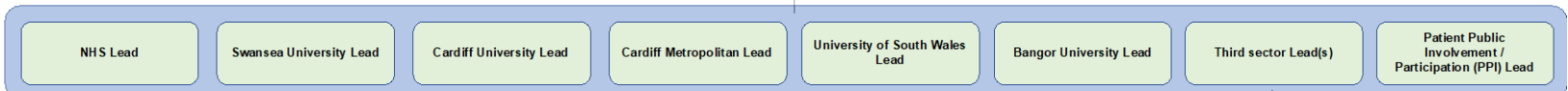
ncrn@swansea.ac.uk

National Cardiovascular Research Network
July 2021

Executive



Working Group



Advisory Group

