# From Research Officer to Clinical Research Practitioner

In a nutshell a Research Officer

is not a qualified Nurse

## **Research Officer**

- Working alongside Research Nurses to deliver clinical trials for many years but role not clearly differentiated
- Delivers safe, ethical, high quality and efficient clinical research
- Responsible for coordinating and overseeing the execution of studies including eligibility and consent
- Lead on a portfolio of studies
- Patient advocate
- Completes routine observations
- Obtain and process biological samples
- Report AE's and SAE's
- Be PI on a trial
- Work as part of a multidisciplinary team and signpost to other medical professionals
- Help participants to understand treatment options, side effects, procedures and disease processes
- Knowledge and experience from a variety of backgrounds with many transferable skills and expertise complementing nursing and other healthcare professionals

### **Research Nurse**

### ...also

- Widely recognised professional identity
  - Regulated by Nursing and Midwifery Council who set standards, hold a register and assure quality
- Background and experience in healthcare, procedures, medical and/or surgical knowledge
- Ongoing revalidation with Continued Professional Development based on Nursing Standards of Competency
- Can administer trial medication

# The changing face of the NHS

- Challenges facing the NHS shortage of nurses in the workforce
- Future vision of the NHS including an increase in digital services and innovation – requiring new skills and expertise
- UK Clinical Research Recovery Resilience and Growth Programme plans to double the number of CRP's funded by Health and Care Research Wales over the next few years to tackle new challenges facing research in the NHS
- National Institute for Health and Care
  Research National Strategy to enable growth
  and development of CRP roles as key part
  of the Research Delivery Workforce

# 2022-2023 Research Staff in Wales 140 120 100 80 60 40 20 Band 4 Band 5 Band 6 Band 7 Research Midwife Research Nurse Research Officer

# **Clinical Research Practitioner**

- Clinical Research Practitioner (CRP) recognised is an umbrella title which encompasses many job roles in the delivery of clinical research involving direct contact with study participants but not registered healthcare professionals
- 2018 Academy for Healthcare Science launched the CRP directory as a foundational platform for development of the CRP community
- 2020 Professional Standards Authority approved voluntary Accredited Register
- March 2021 Applications for the accredited register began in England
- January 2023 Applications for accredited register began in Wales
- Joins CRP's together as a community to network and provide information and support to each other
- Annual re-registration with documented Continued Professional Development demonstrating proficiency based on CRP Standards of Proficiency
- Recognition and Professional Identity as an autonomous and skilled Healthcare Professional
- Professional development and career pathways for work in clinical research



