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Evidence stage

Support services guide

Downloaded on September 30th, 2023

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Support services

NHS Innovation Service

The [NHS Innovation Service](#) can put you in touch with organisations that can help you with your evidence generation such as NICE and NIHR. Find out more about [the organisations involved and what sort of support they can provide](#).

NICE Scientific Advice Service

The [NICE Scientific Advice Service](#) provides a fee-based consultancy to help develop evidence that demonstrates the clinical and cost-effectiveness for all types of technology. They provide feedback on evidence generation plans, and help companies understand health technology assessment and the perspective of decision makers. They also provide a comprehensive peer review service for economic models that helps companies optimise the model's structure, computation, coding, usability and transparency.

NICE MedTech Early Technical Assessment tool

The NICE [MedTech Early Technical Assessment tool](#) is a fee-based platform to help product developers understand what evidence they need to generate to convince healthcare commissioners of the value their technology can bring to the NHS.

NIHR Research Design Service and Clinical Research Network

NIHR [Research Design Service](#) (RDS) and [Clinical Research Network](#) (CRN) provide support for study design and delivery of clinical research in applied health and social care. There are ten regional RDS centres across England. They provide free and confidential advice on study design, identifying

sources of funding, writing funding applications and patient and public involvement in research. Find out more about the [services offered by the RDS](#).

The CRN is made up of fifteen local clinical research networks which coordinate and support the delivery of health and care research in England. The [CRN study support service](#) can help you plan, set up, deliver and performance monitor clinical research studies. Find out more about the [CRN study support service eligibility criteria](#) and [how to apply](#).

NHS Digital (now part of NHS England)

[NHS Digital \(now part of NHS England\)](#) are the statutory custodian for health and care data for England. For a fee they offer access to certain data sets through their [Data Access Request service \(DARS\)](#). The data may be provided in the [Secure Data Environment](#) or as an extract. For clinical trials you may also want to use the [DigiTrials Service](#) which can also provide access to this data.

The [Developer Hub](#) can help innovators learn how to build healthcare software and integrate with NHS APIs. It has resources including a step-by-step introduction on what their APIs can do and how your team can get connected, and an API catalogue.

Support links

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