

Workshop: Understanding Clinical Trials

Background

Clinical trials vary in their primary goal or endpoint, the number of patients involved, sampling methods, and the specifics of the study design. However, all clinical trials conform to a strict set of criteria to protect the patients involved and to ensure rigorous evaluation of the intervention.

Aims of the workshop

1. to discuss the Medical Research Council (MRC) Framework for developing and evaluating complex interventions.
2. to discuss how clinical trials are designed to ensure an intervention is effective before it is licensed by regulatory authorities and made available for use in clinical practice.

Topics to be discussed

1. The Medical Research Council (MRC) Framework
2. Designing a clinical trial: population, treatment(s) to be investigated, endpoints and methods
3. Understanding clinical trial endpoints
4. Key questions to ask when evaluating a clinical trial