


# Harnessing routinely-collected data for efficient and low-cost clinical trials

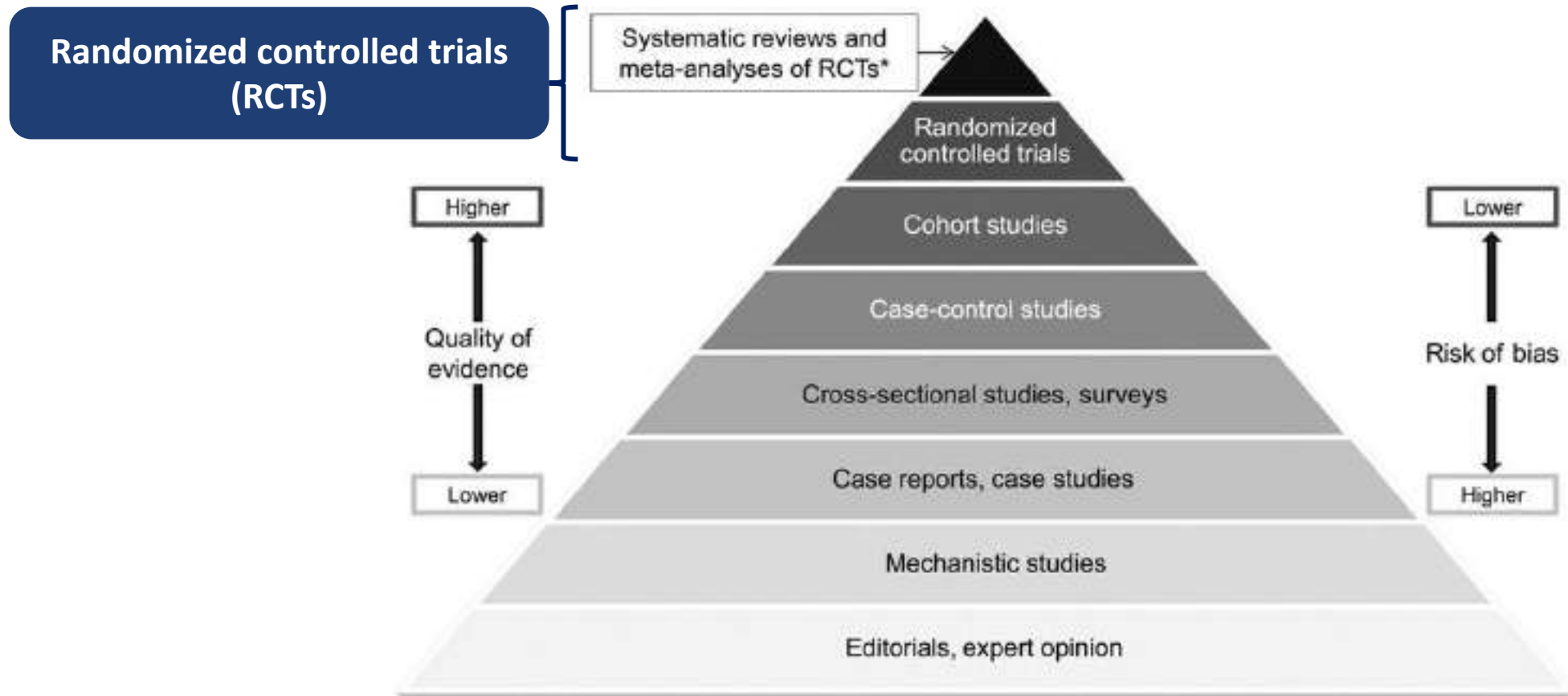
Guilherme Pessoa-Amorim

NIHR Clinical Research Fellow

Clinical Trial Service Unit & Cardiovascular Medicine Division, University of Oxford

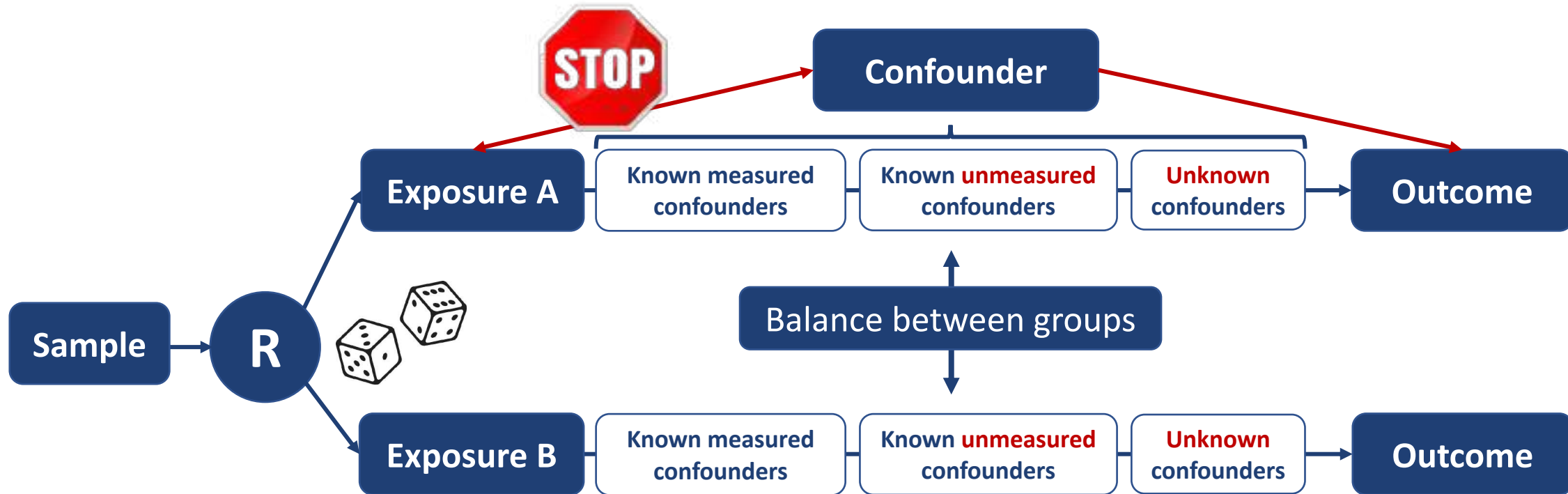
 [guilherme.pessoa-amorim@ndph.ox.ac.uk](mailto:guilherme.pessoa-amorim@ndph.ox.ac.uk)

# WHY DO WE CARE ABOUT TRIALS?



Yetley et al, American Journal of Clinical Nutrition 105 2016 10.3945/ajcn.116.139097.

# WHY DO WE CARE ABOUT TRIALS?



RCTs are the best way to reliably **establish and quantify a causal relation** between an exposure and an outcome

# WHY DO WE CARE ABOUT TRIALS?

Observational data can provide unreliable estimates:

## Different effect **size**

(beta-blocker use and mortality after myocardial infarction)

	Deaths/patients		Risk ratio† (95% CI)
	β-blocker*	No β-blocker*	
Observational study‡	~123/785 (16%)	~886/2952 (30%)	0.57 (0.47–0.69)
Randomised trials	827/10 452 (8%)	986/9860 (10%)	0.77 (0.70–0.85)

## Different **direction** of apparent effect

(antihypertensive therapy and coronary artery disease)

	CHD events/patients		Risk ratio† (95% CI)
	Antihypertensive therapy*	No antihypertensive therapy*	
Observational study	50/839 (6%)	420/20 475 (2%)	1.8 (1.3–2.6)
Randomised trials	934/23 847 (4%)	1104/23 806 (5%)	0.84 (0.77–0.92)

## Discordance regarding **presence** of effect

(higher-dose vs lower-dose aspirin and stroke after carotid endarterectomy)

	Stroke/patients		Risk ratio† (95% CI)
	Lower-dose aspirin (<650 mg daily)*	Higher-dose aspirin (650–1300 mg daily)*	
Observational study	96/1391 (7%)	15/835 (2%)	2.3 (1.3–3.9)
Randomised trial	64/1417 (5%)	86/1432 (6%)	0.74 (0.53–1.03)

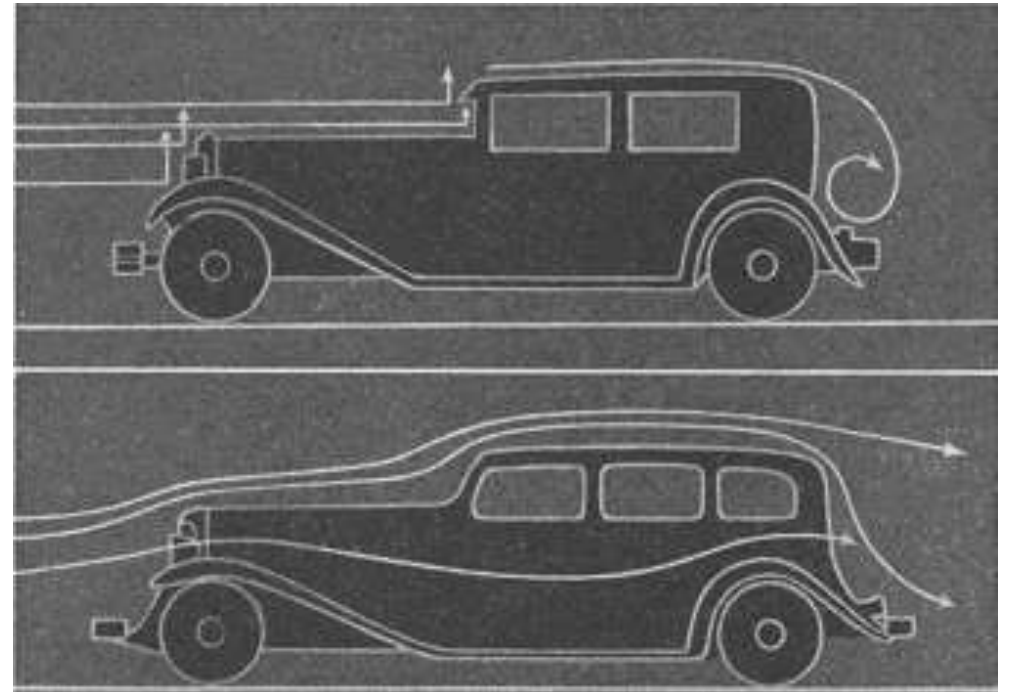
# DON'T DITCH RANDOMIZATION!

## NON-RANDOMIZED METHODS



vs

## STREAMLINING RCTS



# STREAMLINED RANDOMIZED TRIALS

- Focusing on the things needed to
  - Answer the research question
  - Keep the participants safe
- CTTi 'Quality by Design' principles
- Data enabled clinical trials
  - Health Data Research UK
  - Collaboration with NHS Digital - NHS DigiTrial





# CLINICAL TRIALS **VS** ROUTINE HEALTH CARE

## Trial data collection systems

Study visits  
Participant questionnaires  
Trial laboratory tests



## Routine health care data collection systems

Hospital Admission Data  
Primary Care Systems  
Prescribing  
Mental Health  
Registries  
Screening programs

# WHAT'S SIMILAR ABOUT TRIALS?

## Trial records

- Answer the research question **reliably**
- Keep **participants safe**
- Keep participants' **data safe**

## Routine health care records

- Record patient care **reliably**
- Keep **patients safe**
- Keep patients' **data safe**





# WHAT'S SIMILAR ABOUT TRIALS?

Participant ID	460001451	NHS (or CHI number in Scotland)	
National Identifier		Participant Initials	AB
Participant Name	Anna Bullivant	Date of Birth	01-Jan-1950
Sex	Female		
LCC	New site DEMO UK (41598)		

<b>Participant ID</b>	460001451
<b>Date of birth</b>	01-Jan-1950
<b>Sex</b>	Female
<b>Race</b>	Mixed
<b>Title</b>	Ms
<b>First name</b>	Anna
<b>Family name</b>	Bullivant
<b>Initials</b>	AB
<b>Address</b>	98 The Lane
<b>Postcode/Zipcode</b>	JH8 8YY
<b>GP practice</b>	PARADISE MEDICAL CENTRE BROAD STREET COVENTRY CV6 5BG Tel. 02476689343

# WHAT'S SIMILAR ABOUT TRIALS?

Participant ID	460001451	NHS (or CHI number in Scotland)	
National Identifier		Participant Initials	AB
Participant Name	Anna Bullivant	Date of Birth	01-Jan-1950
Sex	Female		
LCC	New site DEMO UK (41598)		

<b>Participant ID</b>	460001451
<b>Date of birth</b>	01-Jan-1950
<b>Sex</b>	Female
<b>Race</b>	Mixed

Screening visit: Medical history Inclusion criteria and relevant medical history	
Myocardial infarction	No
Coronary artery bypass graft	No
Coronary artery angioplasty or stent (PCI)	No
Stroke	No
Lower limb arterial revascularisation (i.e. angioplasty or stent or bypass procedure)	No
Aortic aneurysm repair (surgery or stent)	Yes
Has the participant been diagnosed with diabetes?	No

Screening visit: Medical history Exclusion criteria Part 1	
Has had an acute coronary syndrome in the last 4 weeks	No
Is due to undergo a coronary revascularisation procedure (angioplasty, stent or bypass graft) within the next 6 months	No
Is known to have chronic liver disease	No
Has previously had, or is planned to have, a kidney transplant	No
Is on, or is planned to start, dialysis	No
Has severe respiratory disease	No
Has cancer been diagnosed or spread within approximately the last 5 years (other than non-melanoma skin cancer)	No
Has a history of any other medical condition that might limit their ability to take trial treatments for the duration of the study	No

Randomization visit: Adverse Events	
Myocardial infarction	No
Stroke or transient ischaemic attack	No
Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI), e.g. coronary stent or angioplasty	No
Coronary artery bypass surgery	No
Non-coronary arterial surgery or stent insertion, e.g. bypass graft, endarterectomy, aneurysm repair, angioplasty, or stent insertion	No
Non-traumatic amputation	No
New diagnosis of diabetes mellitus	No
Diagnosis of, or treatment for, cancer (except non-melanoma skin cancer)	No
Has the participant had any other SERIOUS adverse events since their last visit?	No

# WHAT'S SIMILAR ABOUT TRIALS?

Participant ID	460001451	NHS (or CHI number in Scotland)	
National Identifier		Participant Initials	AB
Participant Name	Anna Bullivant	Date of Birth	01-Jan-1950
Sex	Female		
LCC	New site DEMO UK (41598)		

<b>Participant ID</b>	460001451
<b>Date of birth</b>	01-Jan-1950
<b>Sex</b>	Female
<b>Race</b>	Mixed

Date	Source	Kit ID	ALT (ULN)	AST (ULN)	Bilirubin (ULN)	Alkaline phosphatase (ULN)	Creatinine	eGFR
13-Sep-2019	Local Laboratory		100.00 (50.00) IU/L	60.00 (50.00) IU/L	20.0 (22.0) µmol/L	300 (150) IU/L	120.00 µmol/L	39.69 mL/min/1.73m2

Mark as invalid

Myocardial infarction (MI) (prior to study)	No	Has severe respiratory disease	No	Non-traumatic amputation	No
Coronary artery disease (CAD) (prior to study)	No	Has cancer been diagnosed or spread within approximately the last 5 years (other than non-melanoma skin cancer)	No	New diagnosis of diabetes mellitus	No
Coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) (prior to study)	No	Has a history of any other medical condition that might limit their ability to take trial treatments for the duration of the study	No	Diagnosis of, or treatment for, cancer (except non-melanoma skin cancer)	No
Stroke	No			Has the participant had any other SERIOUS adverse events since their last visit?	No
Lower limb arterial revascularisation (per angiography or stent or bypass procedure)	No				
Aortic aneurysm repair (surgery or stent)	Yes				
Has the participant been diagnosed with diabetes?	No				

# WHAT'S SIMILAR ABOUT TRIALS?

Participant ID	460001451	NHS (or CHI number in Scotland)	
National Identifier		Participant Initials	AB
Participant Name	Anna Bullivant	Date of Birth	01-Jan-1950
Sex	Female		
LCC	New site DEMO UK (41598)		

<b>Participant ID</b>	460001451
<b>Date of birth</b>	01-Jan-1950
<b>Sex</b>	Female
<b>Race</b>	Mixed

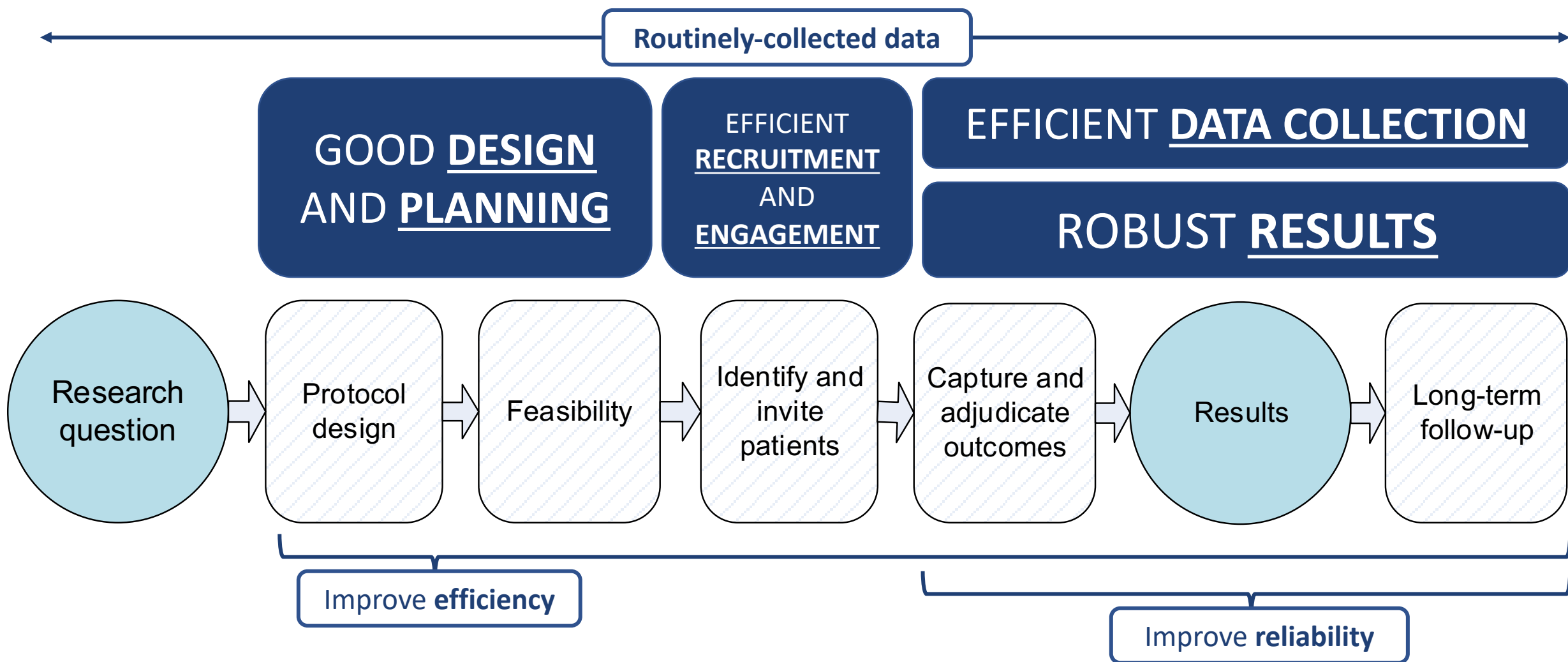
Laboratory Results Table	
Myocardial	
Coronary a	
Coronary a	
Stroke	
Lower limb external re	
stent or bypass proced	
Aortic aneurysm repai	
Has the participant be	

Randomization visit: Non-study medication	
Medication	Statin dosage (mg)
aspirin	
atorvastatin	20

Randomization visit: Adverse Events	No
	No
	No
	No
	No
	No
	No
	No
	No
Adverse events	No

since their last visit?
-------------------------

# USING ROUTINELY-COLLECTED DATA IN **DIFFERENT STAGES** OF CLINICAL TRIALS





# **SOURCES** OF ROUTINELY-COLLECTED DATA IN CLINICAL RESEARCH

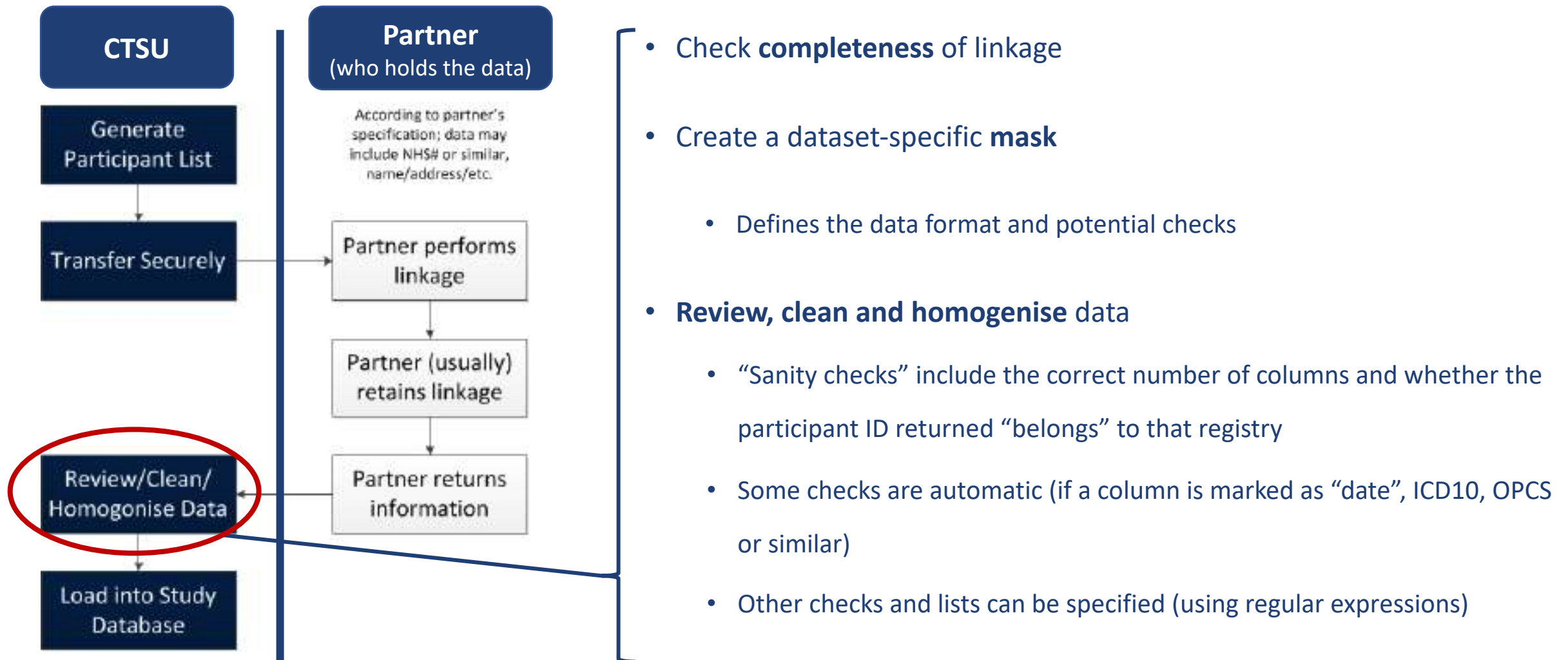
- **Hospital Episode Statistics (HES)** Admitted Patient Care
- **Other HES** data sets (Accident and Emergency)
- **Death certifications** (Office for National Statistics)
- Disease specific **registries** (Cancer, UK Renal Registry)
- **National Audit Programmes** (Diabetes)
- Other (General Practice data, Prescribing data)



# CHALLENGES OF ROUTINELY-COLLECTED DATA IN CLINICAL RESEARCH

- **Completeness of linkage**
- **Data format** issues
  - **Multiple sources and formats**
- **Coding** practice and data quality
- **Timeliness** of receiving data
  - may clash with regulatory requirements

# IMPORTING ROUTINELY-COLLECTED DATA IN CLINICAL RESEARCH



# USING ROUTINELY-COLLECTED DATA IN CLINICAL RESEARCH

- Transform and import data automatically
- Use a bespoke data viewer:

# A TALE OF THREE TRIALS



Active Monitoring for Atrial Fibrillation



## ASCEND

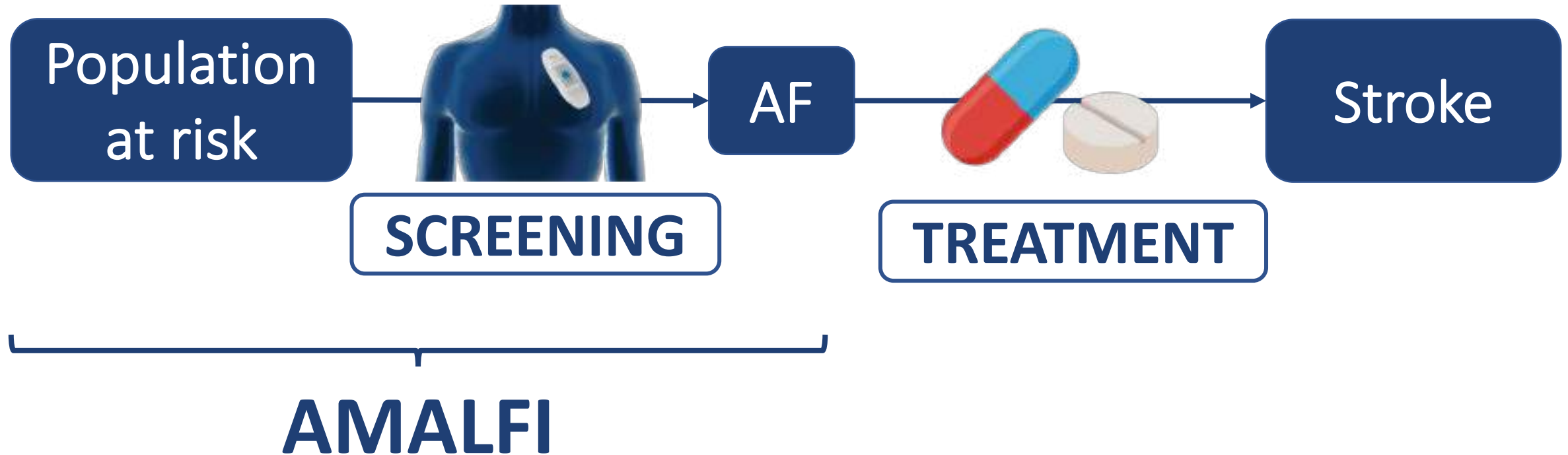
A Study of Cardiovascular Events in Diabetes



Active Monitoring for Atrial Fibrillation

# AMALFI

## (Active Monitoring for Atrial Fibrillation)







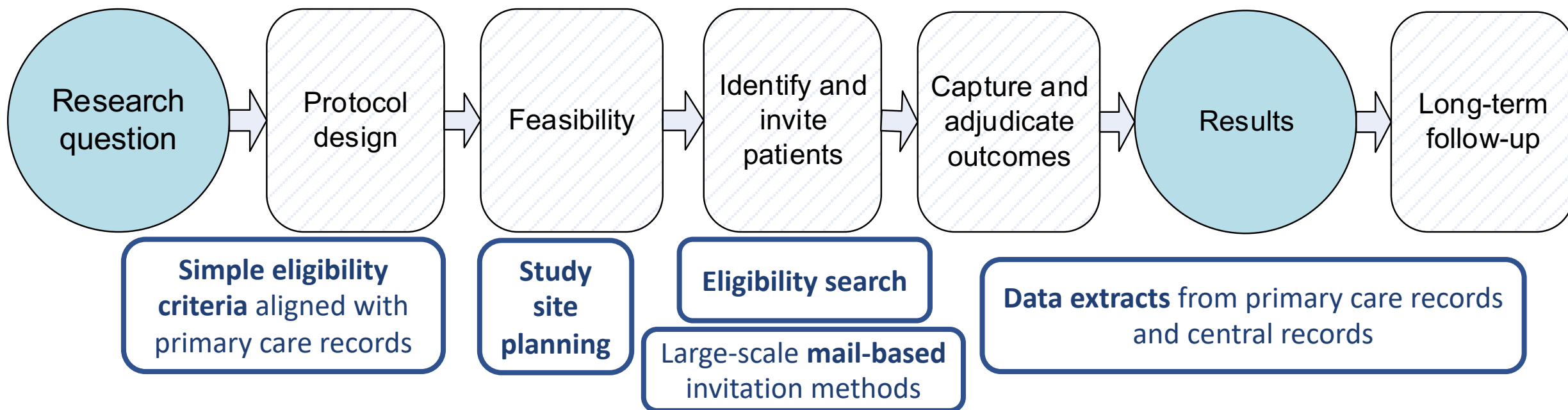
# USING PRIMARY CARE DATA FOR TRIALS

GOOD DESIGN  
AND PLANNING

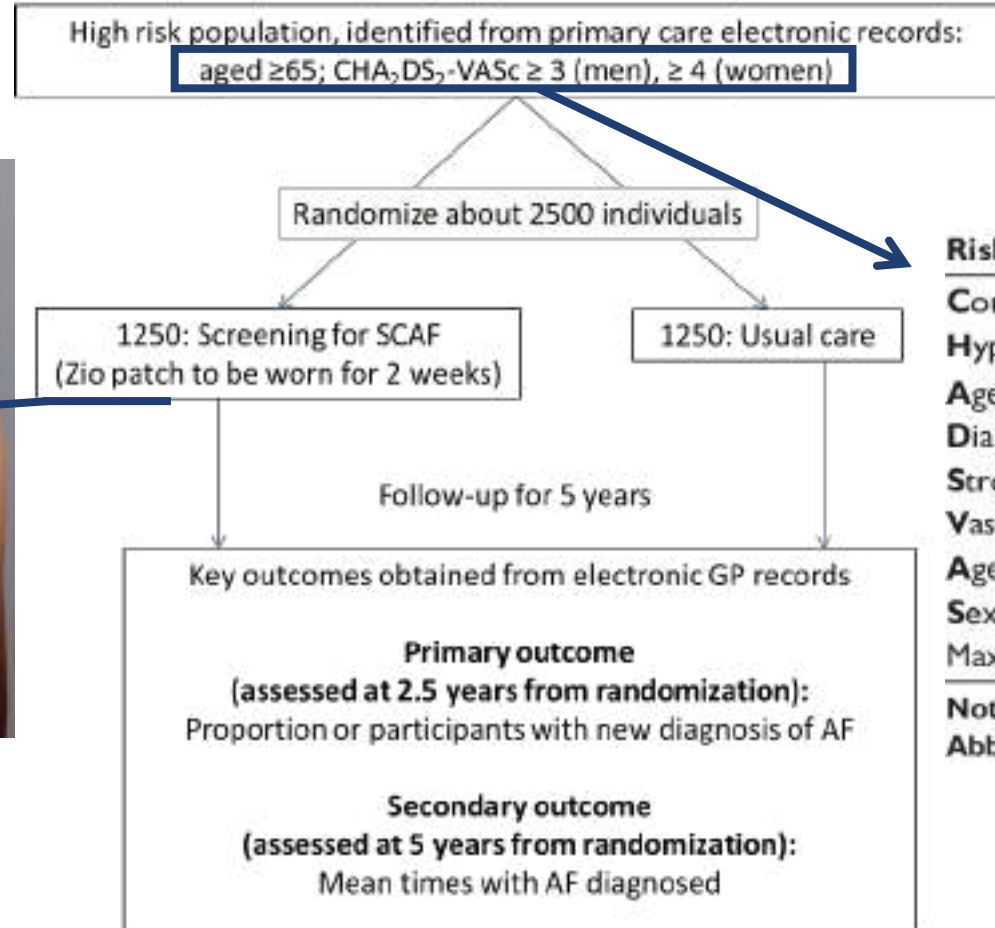
EFFICIENT  
RECRUITMENT  
AND  
ENGAGEMENT

EFFICIENT DATA COLLECTION

ROBUST RESULTS



# PROTOCOL DESIGN



Risk factor	Score
Congestive heart failure/LV dysfunction	1
Hypertension	1
Age > 75	2
Diabetes mellitus	1
Stroke/TIA/thromboembolism	2
Vascular disease*	1
Age 65–74	1
Sex category (ie, female sex)	1
Maximum score	9

**Note:** \*Prior myocardial infarction; peripheral artery disease; aortic plaque.  
**Abbreviations:** LV, left ventricular; TIA, transient ischemic attack.

CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>VASC SCORE



Active Monitoring for Atrial Fibrillation

# PROTOCOL DESIGN

High risk population, identified from primary care electronic records:

aged  $\geq 65$ ; CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASC  $\geq 3$  (men),  $\geq 4$  (women)

AGE ( $>64/>74$ )

GENDER

HEART FAILURE

HYPERTENSION

DIABETES

STROKE/TIA/THROMBOEMBOLISM

VASCULAR DISEASE (HEART ATTACK, PAD)

ATRIAL FIBRILLATION

LATEX ALLERGY

(DEMENTIA, PALLIATIVE CARE)

Risk factor	Score
Congestive heart failure/LV dysfunction	1
Hypertension	1
Age $> 75$	2
Diabetes mellitus	1
Stroke/TIA/thromboembolism	2
Vascular disease*	1
Age 65–74	1
Sex category (ie, female sex)	1
Maximum score	9

Note: \*Prior myocardial infarction; peripheral artery disease; aortic plaque.

Abbreviations: LV, left ventricular; TIA, transient ischemic attack.

CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>VASC SCORE

# TRIAL SETUP

**NIHR** | Oxford Biomedical  
Research Centre

Nuffield Department of  
**POPULATION HEALTH**  
Medical Sciences Division



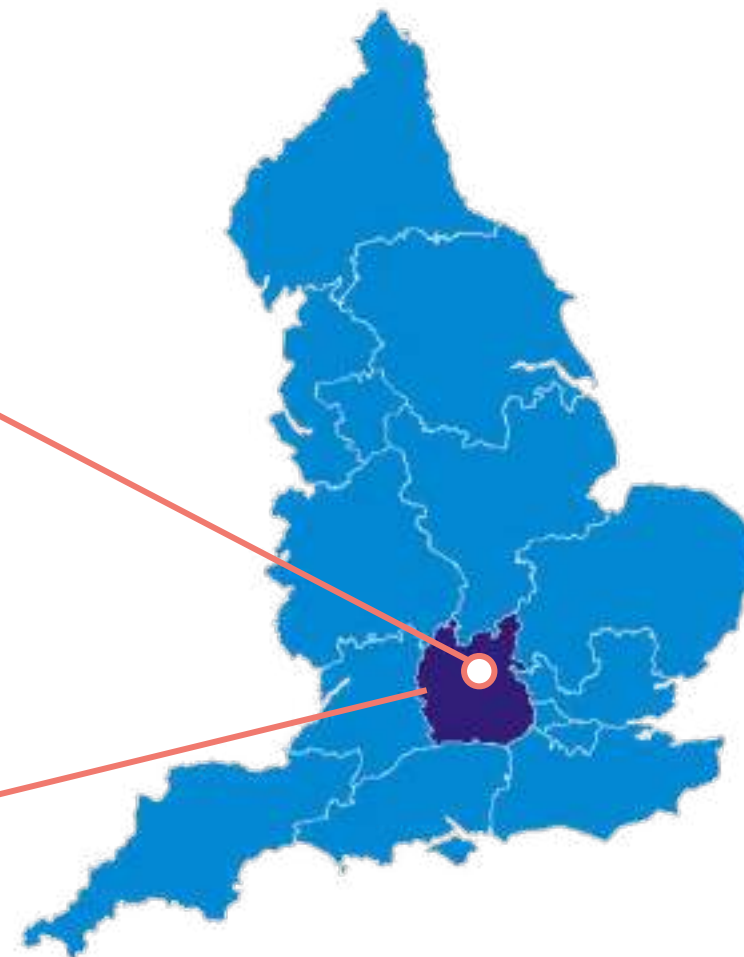
NUFFIELD DEPARTMENT OF  
**PRIMARY CARE**  
HEALTH SCIENCES



**NIHR** | National Institute  
for Health Research

**CRN Thames Valley and South Midlands**

5 CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUPS (GP PRACTICES)  
6 ACUTE NHS TRUSTS

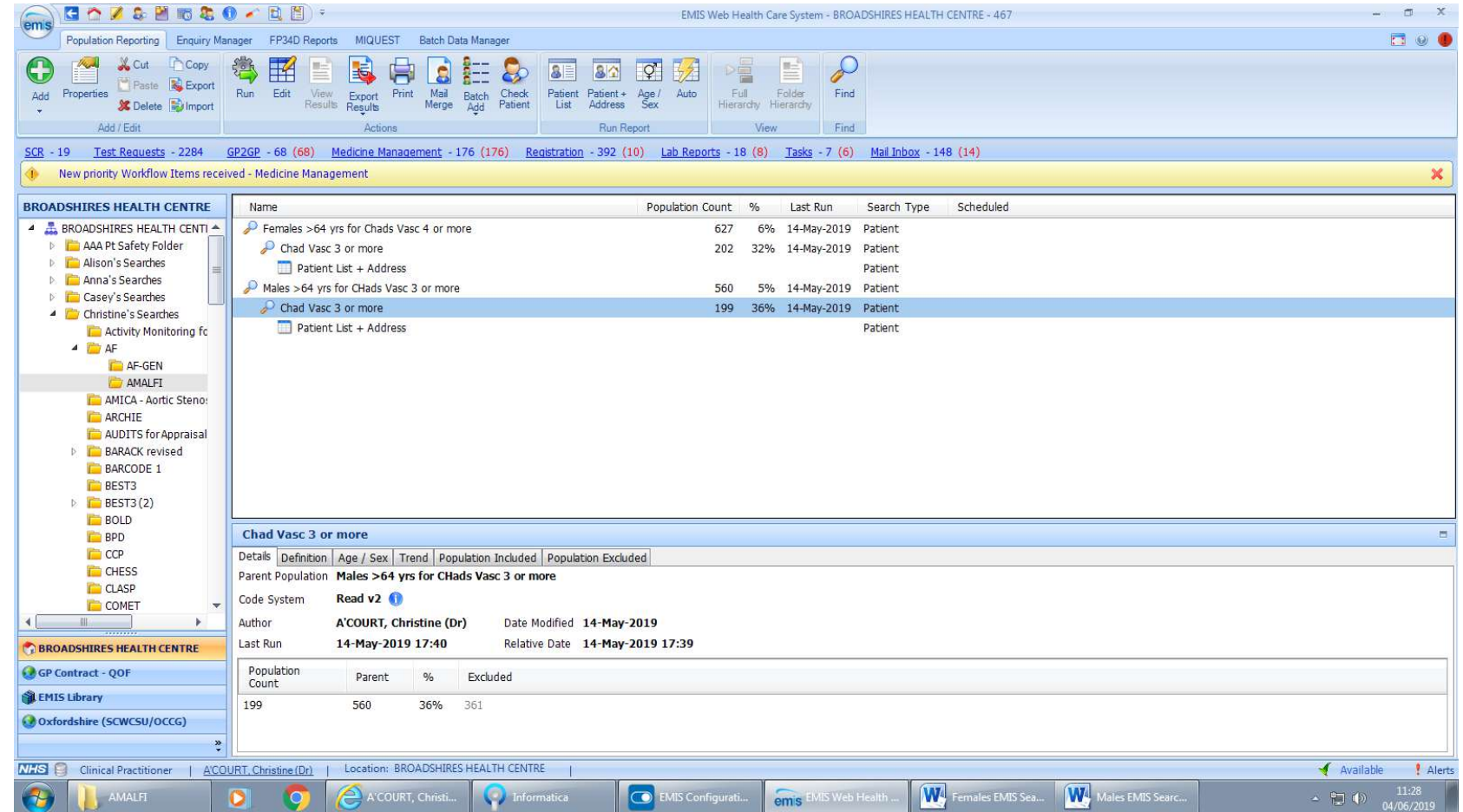




# USING PRIMARY CARE RECORDS

emis

(or other systems)



EMIS Web Health Care System - BROADSHIRES HEALTH CENTRE - 467

Population Reporting Enquiry Manager FP34D Reports MIQUEST Batch Data Manager

Add Properties Cut Copy Paste Export Import Run Edit View Results Export Results Print Mail Merge Batch Add Check Patient Patient List Patient + Address Age / Sex Auto Full Hierarchy Folder Hierarchy Find

SCR - 19 Test Requests - 2284 GP2GP - 68 (68) Medicine Management - 176 (176) Registration - 392 (10) Lab Reports - 18 (8) Tasks - 7 (6) Mail Inbox - 148 (14)

New priority Workflow Items received - Medicine Management

**BROADSHIRES HEALTH CENTRE**

- BROADSHIRES HEALTH CENTRE
  - AAA Pt Safety Folder
  - Alison's Searches
  - Anna's Searches
  - Casey's Searches
  - Christine's Searches
    - Activity Monitoring for
    - AF
      - AF-GEN
      - AMALFI
      - AMICA - Aortic Steno
      - ARCHIE
      - AUDITS for Appraisal
      - BARACK revised
      - BARCODE 1
      - BEST3
      - BEST3 (2)
      - BOLD
      - BPD
      - CCP
      - CHESS
      - CLASP
      - COMET

GP Contract - QOF  
EMIS Library  
Oxfordshire (SCWCSU/OCCG)

Name	Population Count	%	Last Run	Search Type	Scheduled
Females >64 yrs for Chads Vasc 4 or more	627	6%	14-May-2019	Patient	
Chad Vasc 3 or more	202	32%	14-May-2019	Patient	
Patient List + Address				Patient	
Males >64 yrs for CHads Vasc 3 or more	560	5%	14-May-2019	Patient	
Chad Vasc 3 or more	199	36%	14-May-2019	Patient	
Patient List + Address				Patient	

**Chad Vasc 3 or more**

Details Definition Age / Sex Trend Population Included Population Excluded

Parent Population **Males >64 yrs for CHads Vasc 3 or more**

Code System **Read v2**

Author **A'COURT, Christine (Dr)** Date Modified **14-May-2019**

Last Run **14-May-2019 17:40** Relative Date **14-May-2019 17:39**

Population Count	Parent	%	Excluded
199	560	36%	361

NHS Clinical Practitioner | A'COURT, Christine (Dr) | Location: BROADSHIRES HEALTH CENTRE

AMALFI A'COURT, Christi... Informatica EMIS Configurati... EMIS Web Health ... Females EMIS Sea... Males EMIS Search...

Available Alerts 11:28 04/06/2019



# USING PRIMARY CARE RECORDS

Males >64 yrs for CHads Vasc 3 or more

Rule 1

If Rule Passed : Include in final result

If Rule Failed : Exclude from final result

Must have

Include Patients with Patient Details where:

the Age is older than 64 years on the search date

And

Include Patients with Patient Details where:

the Gender is Male

AGE (>64)  
MALE

Rule 1

If Rule Passed : Exclude from final result

If Rule Failed : Goto Next Rule

Either

Include Patients with Clinical Codes where:

the Clinical Code is Latex allergy

Or

Include Patients with Clinical Codes where:

the Clinical Code is Atrial fibrillation and flutter

Or

Include Patients with Clinical Codes where:

the Clinical Code is Senile and presenile organic psychotic conditions

Or

Include Patients with Clinical Codes where:

the Clinical Code is On gold standards palliative care framework

Or

Include Patients with Clinical Codes where:

the Clinical Code is [V]Palliative care

LATEX ALLERGY  
ATRIAL FIBRILLATION/FLUTTER  
DEMENTIA  
PALLIATIVE CARE



# USING PRIMARY CARE RECORDS

Rule 2

If Rule Passed : Include in final result

If Rule Failed : Goto Next Rule

**Must have**

Include Patients with Clinical Codes where:

the Clinical Code is Heart failure, Left ventricular systolic dysfunction, Echocardiogram shows left ventricular systolic dysfunction

**And**

Include Patients with Clinical Codes where:

the Clinical Code is Hypertensive disease

HF + HTN

Rule 3

If Rule Passed : Include in final result

If Rule Failed : Goto Next Rule

**Must have**

Include Patients with Clinical Codes where:

the Clinical Code is Heart failure, Left ventricular systolic dysfunction, Echocardiogram shows left ventricular systolic dysfunction

**And**

Include Patients with Clinical Codes where:

the Clinical Code is Diabetes mellitus

HF + DM

Rule 4

If Rule Passed : Include in final result

If Rule Failed : Goto Next Rule

**Must have**

Include Patients with Clinical Codes where:

the Clinical Code is Heart failure, Left ventricular systolic dysfunction, Echocardiogram shows left ventricular systolic dysfunction

**And**

Include Patients with Clinical Codes where:

the Clinical Code is Other peripheral vascular disease (excluding Upper limb ischaemia, Raynaud's syndrome, Thromboangiitis obliterans and HAVS - Hand-arm vibration syndrome), Peripheral vascular disease NOS, etc...

HF + PAD

# USING PRIMARY CARE RECORDS

## AGE (>64/>74)

## GENDER

## HEART FAILURE

# HYPERTENSION

# DIABETES

# STROKE/TIA/THROMBOEMBOLISM

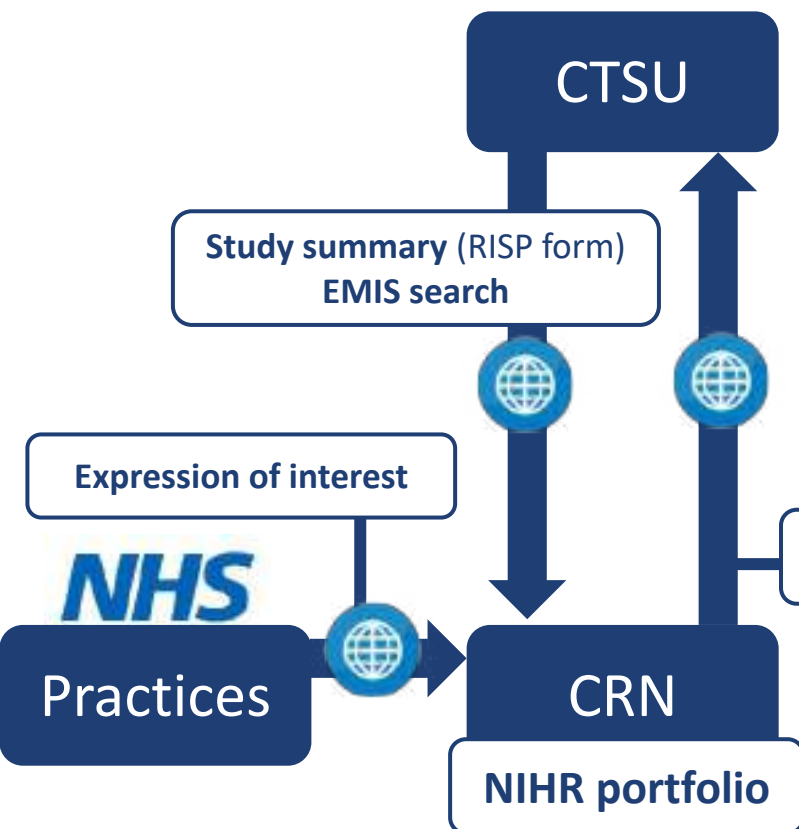
## VASCULAR DISEASE (HEART ATTACK, PAD)



## Coded search (XML)

```
<displayName>Clinical Code</displayName>
<shortInIW/></shortIn>
</valueSet>
<id>f44401b-acc6-479d-bf40-8e1007212604</id>
<codeSystem>SCT_READv2</codeSystem>
</valueSet>
<column>442317014</column>
<displayName>Later allgery</displayName>
<includeChildren><true></includeChildren>
<legacyValue>SNG314/LegacyValues
</valueSet>
</valueSet>
</columnValue>
</FIItoWritables>
</criteriaSet>
</Criteria>
</criteriaSet>
<criteriaId>
<criteriaIdID>
<id>1a23e6dd-2510-4b4c-b640-5E5082Bc7bc</id>
<table><ENVS</table>
<displayName><Clinical Codes</displayName>
<negation>false</negation>
</filterAttribute>
<columnValue>
<id>46639967-dc1a-e7b0-b1df-fca176b9ca27</id>
<column>RINCOBT</column>
<displayName>Clinical Code</displayName>
<shortInIW/></shortIn>
</valueSet>
<id>4389CND3-3b56-4734-b37D-5551bfcdce08</id>
<codeSystem>SCT_READv2</codeSystem>
</valueSet>
<column>100139013</column>
<displayName>Abuse, physical and sexual abuse</displayName>
<includeChildren><true></includeChildren>
<legacyValue>G573/LegacyValues
</valueSet>
</valueSet>
</columnValue>
</FIItoWritables>
</criteriaSet>
</Criteria>
</criteriaSet>
<criteriaId>
<criteriaIdID>
<id>27a2d80e-bcea-44b4-b607-457de32b753</id>
<table><ENVS</table>
<displayName><Clinical Codes</displayName>
<negation>false</negation>
</filterAttribute>
<columnValue>
<id>d6d13ae-a378-dc28-bd81-38ed762ba7bd</id>
<column>RINCOBT</column>
<displayName>Clinical Code</displayName>
<shortInIW/></shortIn>
</valueSet>
```

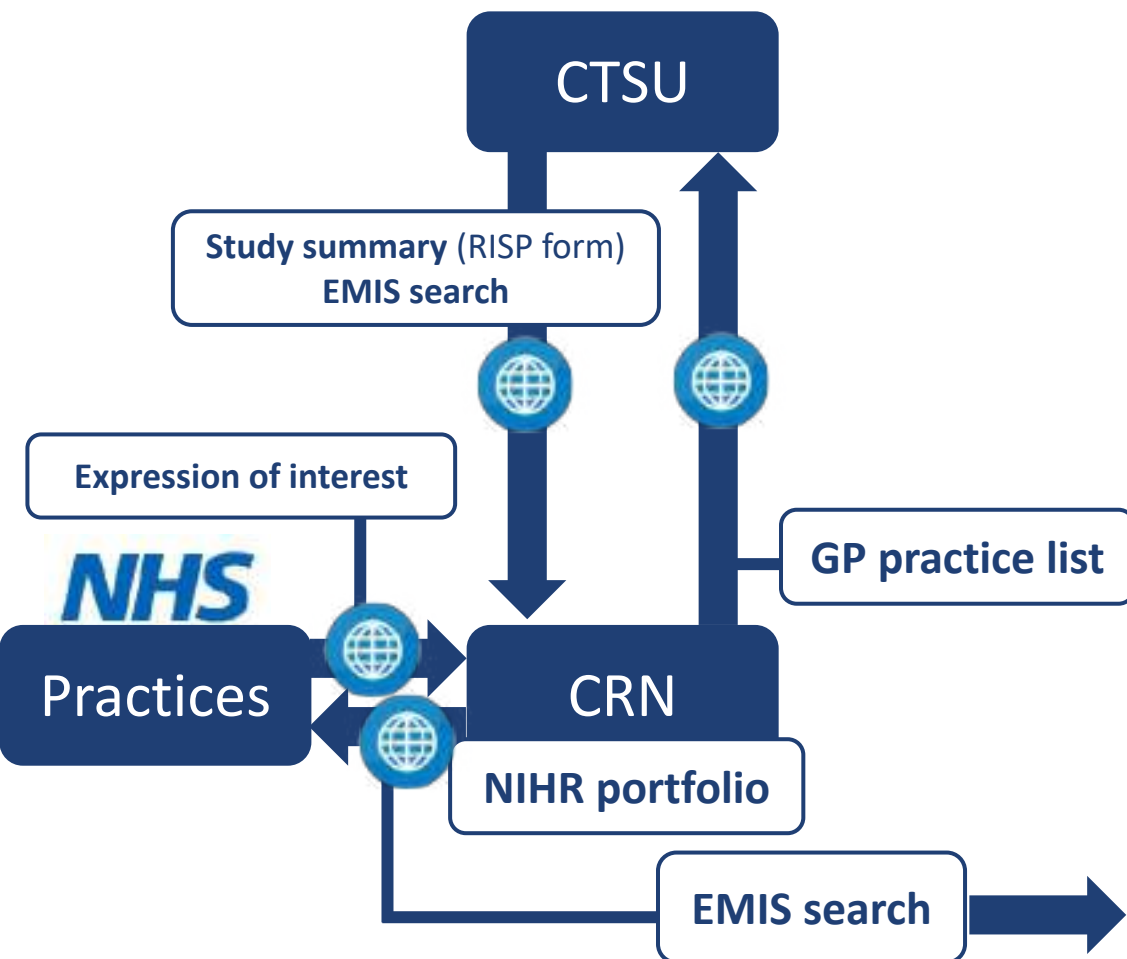
# FEASIBILITY & PLANNING



CCG	NACS code	Practice Name	List size	System	EOI date	SM date	Reconfirmed EOI
Oxfordshire CCG	K84517	<b>SOUTH OXFORD HEALTH CENTRE</b>	4172	EMIS	18/10/2018	younger pop - families	12/12/2019
Oxfordshire CCG	K84052	<b>BICESTER HEALTH CENTRE</b>	13652	EMIS	24/01/2019	mid age, families	12/12/2019
Oxfordshire CCG	K84006	<b>EYNHAM MEDICAL GROUP</b>	13922	EMIS	24/01/2019	older population	24/12/2019
Berkshire West CCG	K81040	<b>MILMAN ROAD HEALTH CENTRE</b>	14561	EMIS	24/01/2019		18/12/2019
Berkshire West CCG	K81012	<b>THE BOATHOUSE SURGERY/Pangbourne</b>	11451	EMIS	24/01/2019		18/12/2019
Oxfordshire CCG	K84011	<b>SUMMERTOWN HEALTH CENTRE</b>	16273	EMIS	24/01/2019	younger, students	18/12/2019
Oxfordshire CCG	K84017	<b>WINDRUSH MEDICAL PRACTICE</b>	16700	EMIS	24/01/2019	average, slight older	19/12/2019
Oxfordshire CCG	K84016	<b>19 BEAUMONT STREET SURGERY</b>	14575	EMIS	06/06/2019	students	06/01/2020
Oxfordshire CCG	K84021	<b>BANBURY ROAD MEDICAL CENTRE</b>	8018	EMIS	07/01/2020	families, just under national a	07/01/2020
Oxfordshire CCG	K84045	<b>GOSFORD HILL MEDICAL CENTRE</b>	7165	EMIS	23/01/2019	older population	10/01/2020
Oxfordshire CCG	K84008	<b>THE CHILTERN SURGERY/CHALGROVE &amp; V</b>	7441	EMIS	24/01/2019	older population	21/01/2020
Oxfordshire CCG	K81022	<b>WOKINGHAM MEDICAL CENTRE</b>	23407	EMIS	24/01/2019		07/01/2020
Oxfordshire CCG	K82026	<b>WHADDON MEDICAL CENTRE</b>	12820	System-1	26/06/2018	average population	waiting
Oxfordshire CCG	K84013	<b>ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S MEDICAL CENTRE</b>	19211	EMIS	19/12/2018	young pop, students	waiting
Buckinghamshire CCG	K82049	<b>HUGHENDEN VALLEY SURGERY</b>	12664	EMIS	24/01/2019		waiting
Buckinghamshire CCG	K82006	<b>IVERS PRACTICE</b>	9490	EMIS	24/01/2019		waiting
Oxfordshire CCG	K84007	<b>TEMPLE COWLEY HEALTH CENTRE</b>	7959	EMIS	24/01/2019	young families	waiting
Buckinghamshire CCG	K82007	<b>THE SWAN PRACTICE</b>	30482	EMIS	24/01/2019		waiting
Oxfordshire CCG	K84037	<b>WALLINGFORD MEDICAL PRACTICE</b>	16757	EMIS	24/01/2019	families and older population	waiting
Oxfordshire CCG	K84028	<b>WEST BAR SURGERY</b>	16978	EMIS	24/01/2019	average population	waiting
Oxfordshire CCG	K84063	<b>COWLEY ROAD MEDICAL PRACTICE</b>	8465	EMIS	11/04/2019	younger families	waiting
Oxfordshire CCG	K84041	<b>MARCHAM RD FAMILY HEALTH CENTRE</b>	12245	EMIS	16/05/2019	older population	waiting
Oxfordshire CCG	K84075	<b>BROADSHIRES HEALTH CENTRE</b>	10202	EMIS	24/01/2019		in follow up
Oxfordshire CCG	K84051	<b>WHITE HORSE MEDICAL PRACTICE</b>	15272	EMIS	24/01/2019		in follow up
Oxfordshire CCG	K84001	<b>THE HART SURGERY</b>	10375	EMIS	26/06/2018	older population	WITHDRAWN

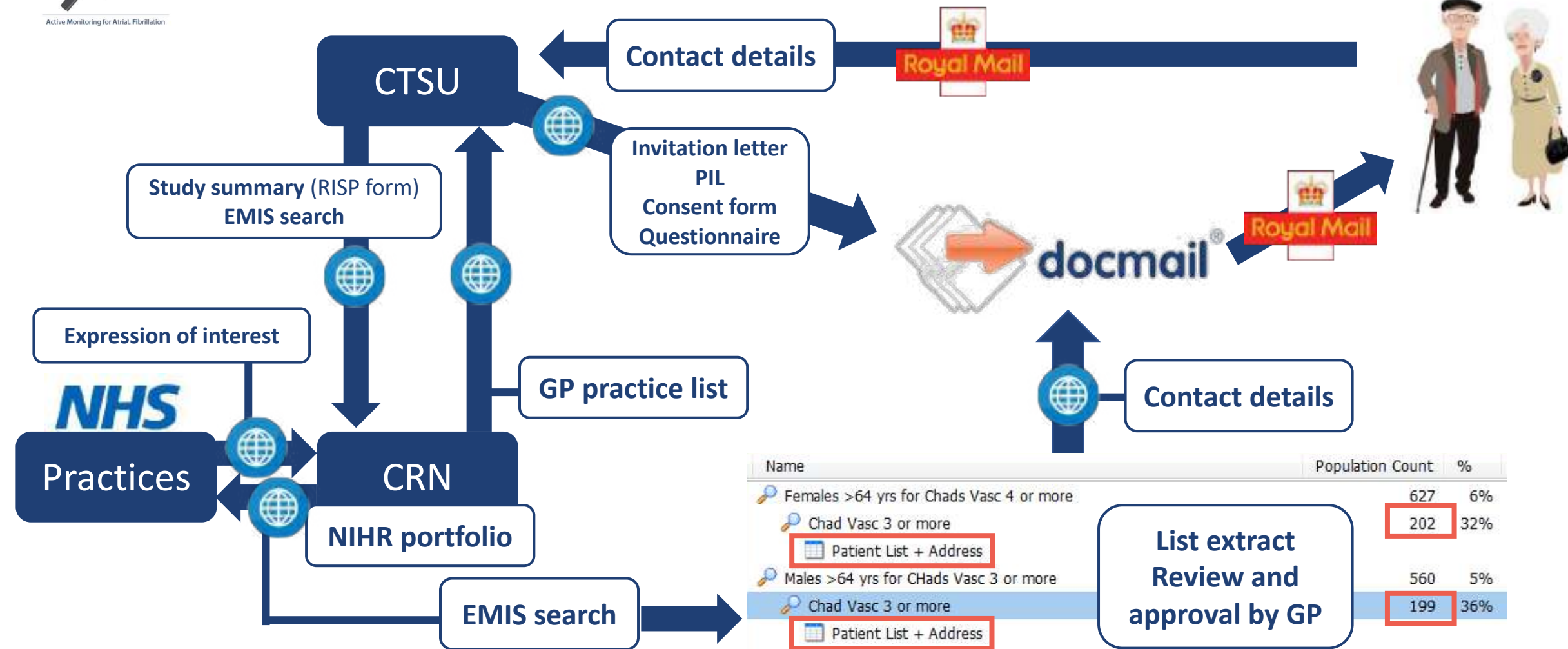


# FEASIBILITY & PLANNING



Name	Population Count	%
Females >64 yrs for Chads Vasc 4 or more	627	6%
Chad Vasc 3 or more Patient List + Address	202	32%
Males >64 yrs for CHads Vasc 3 or more	560	5%
Chad Vasc 3 or more Patient List + Address	199	36%

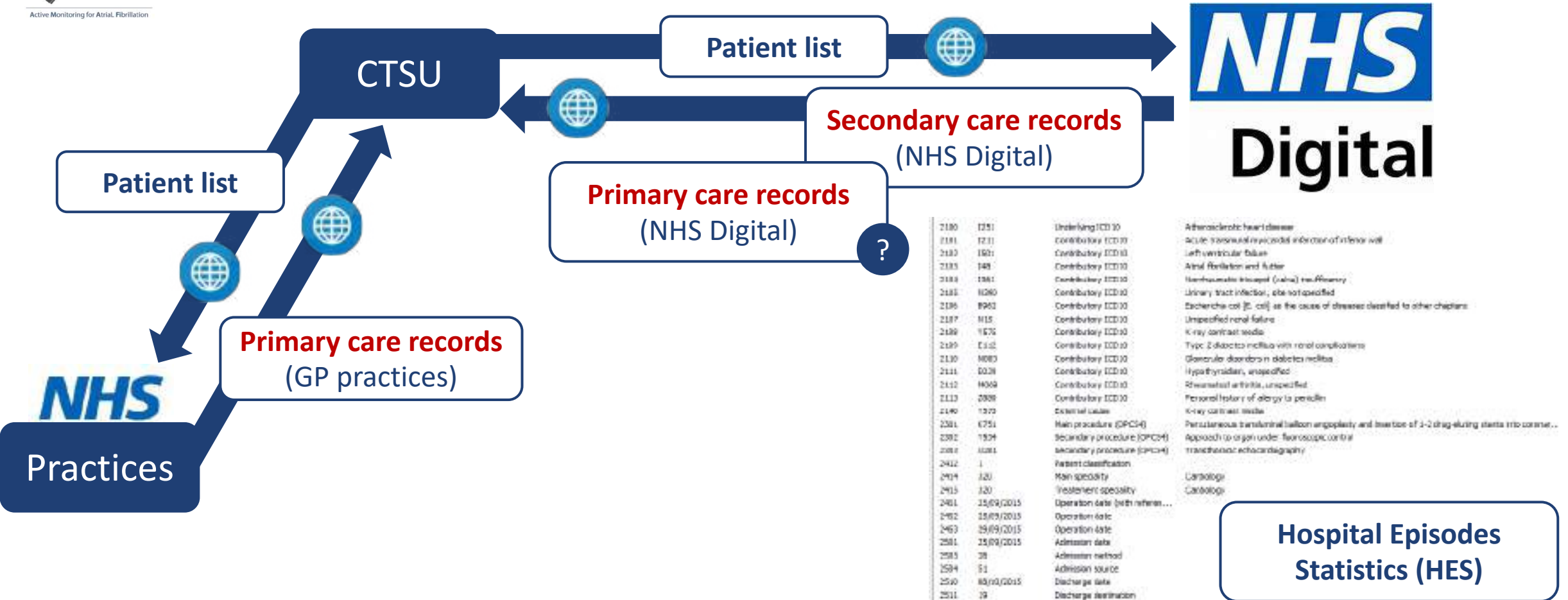
# IDENTIFICATION, INVITATION & ENGAGEMENT



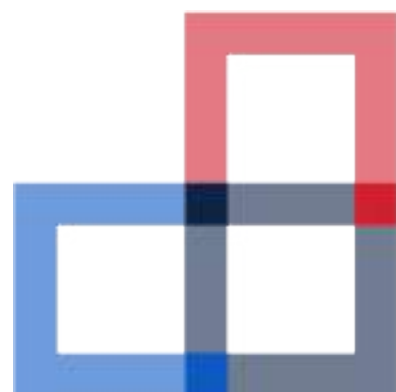
Name	Population Count	%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Females &gt;64 yrs for Chads Vasc 4 or more</li> <li>Chad Vasc 3 or more</li> <li>Patient List + Address</li> </ul>	627	6%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Males &gt;64 yrs for CHads Vasc 3 or more</li> <li>Chad Vasc 3 or more</li> <li>Patient List + Address</li> </ul>	202	32%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Males &gt;64 yrs for CHads Vasc 3 or more</li> <li>Chad Vasc 3 or more</li> <li>Patient List + Address</li> </ul>	560	5%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Males &gt;64 yrs for CHads Vasc 3 or more</li> <li>Chad Vasc 3 or more</li> <li>Patient List + Address</li> </ul>	199	36%

**List extract  
Review and  
approval by GP**

# OUTCOME COLLECTION

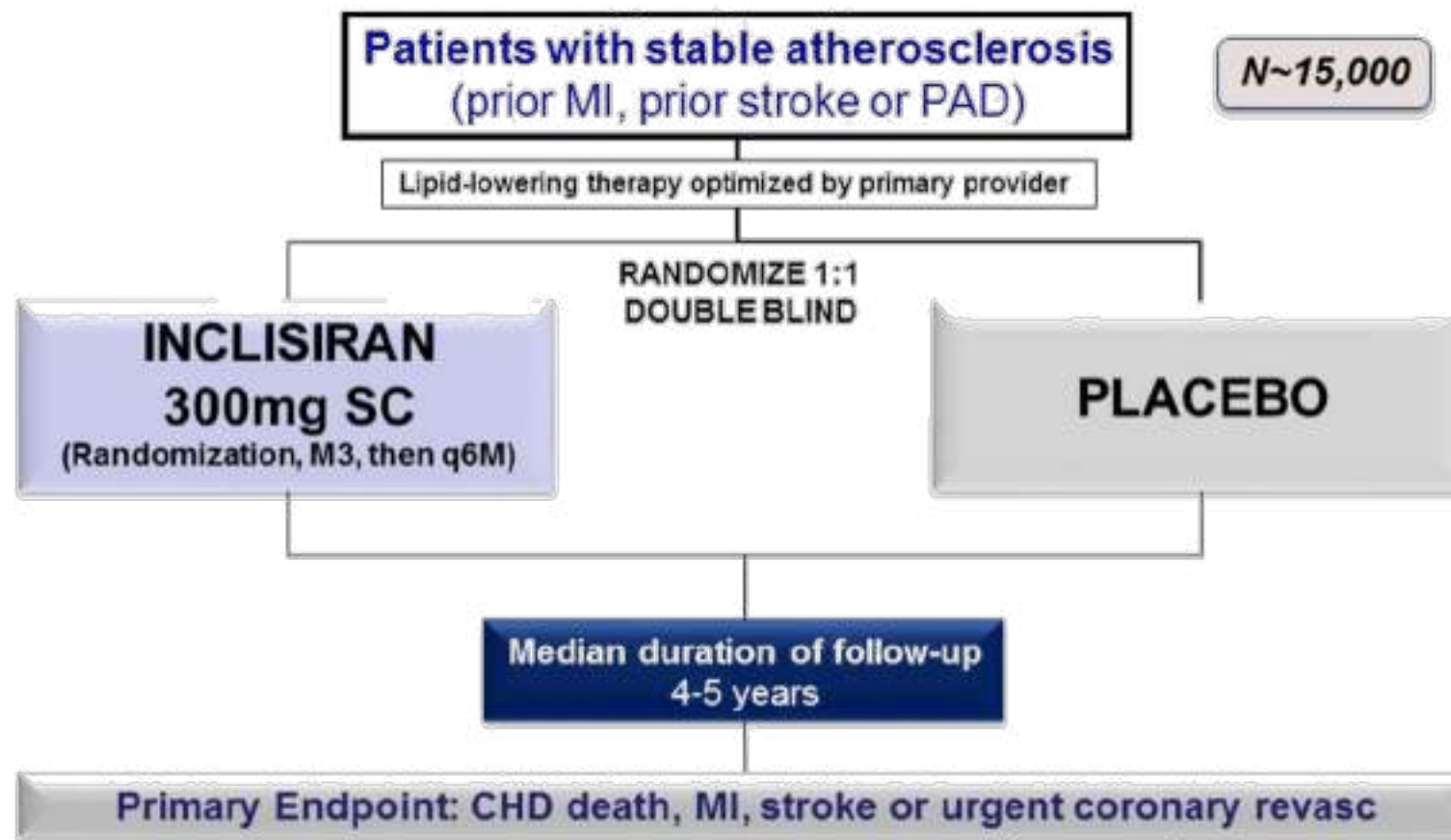






**HPS-4**  
**TIMI 65**  
**ORION-4**

# TRIAL DESIGN



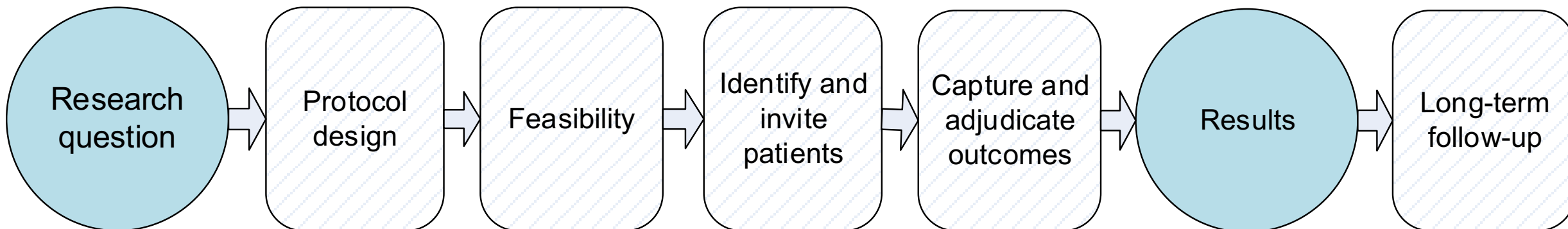
# USING SECONDARY CARE DATA FOR TRIALS

GOOD DESIGN  
AND PLANNING

EFFICIENT  
RECRUITMENT  
AND  
ENGAGEMENT

EFFICIENT DATA COLLECTION

ROBUST RESULTS



Refining the  
research  
question

Simple  
eligibility  
criteria aligned  
with central  
records data

Study  
site  
planning

Patient  
identification

Pre-  
screening

Data extracts from central records

Large-scale mail-based  
invitation methods

# PROTOCOL DESIGN

## Simple inclusion criteria:

Age  $\geq 55$ y and:

- 1- Prior **myocardial infarction**; or
- 2- Prior **ischaemic stroke**; or
- 3- **Peripheral vascular disease**  
(prior lower extremity artery revascularization  
or aortic aneurism repair)

VS

## “Standard” inclusion criteria:

### Proven coronary artery disease

- Prior MI defined by chest pain, ST.elevation on ECG and rise in cardiac troponin
- Angiographically proven coronary disease with critical stenosis on at least 1 coronary artery or moderate (>50%) stenosis in at least 2

### Proven cerebrovascular disease

- Prior ischaemic stroke with evidence of cerebral infarction on CT or MRI
- Transient ischaemic attack with moderate (>50%) stenosis in appropriate carotid artery on duplex ultrasound

### Proven peripheral arterial disease

- Symptoms of intermittent claudication assessed by vascular surgeon with proven moderate stenosis on duplex ultrasound or angiogram
- Previous revascularisation surgery for documented arterial stenosis

# PROTOCOL DESIGN

## Simple inclusion criteria:

Age  $\geq 55$ y and:

- 1- Prior **myocardial infarction**; or
- 2- Prior **ischaemic stroke**; or
- 3- **Peripheral vascular disease**  
(prior lower extremity artery revascularization  
or aortic aneurism repair)



## Simple **electronic search** criteria:

1- Diagnosis of **MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION**:

ICD9 codes: 410\*, 412\* and/or

ICD10 codes: I21\*, I22\*, I23\*, I252 and/or

READ codes: G30\*

2- Diagnosis of **STROKE**:

ICD9 codes: 433\*, 434\* and/or

ICD10 codes: I63\*, I64\* and/or

READ codes: G63\*, G64\*, G66 and/or

3- Surgery/procedure for **PERIPHERAL VASCULAR DISEASE**:

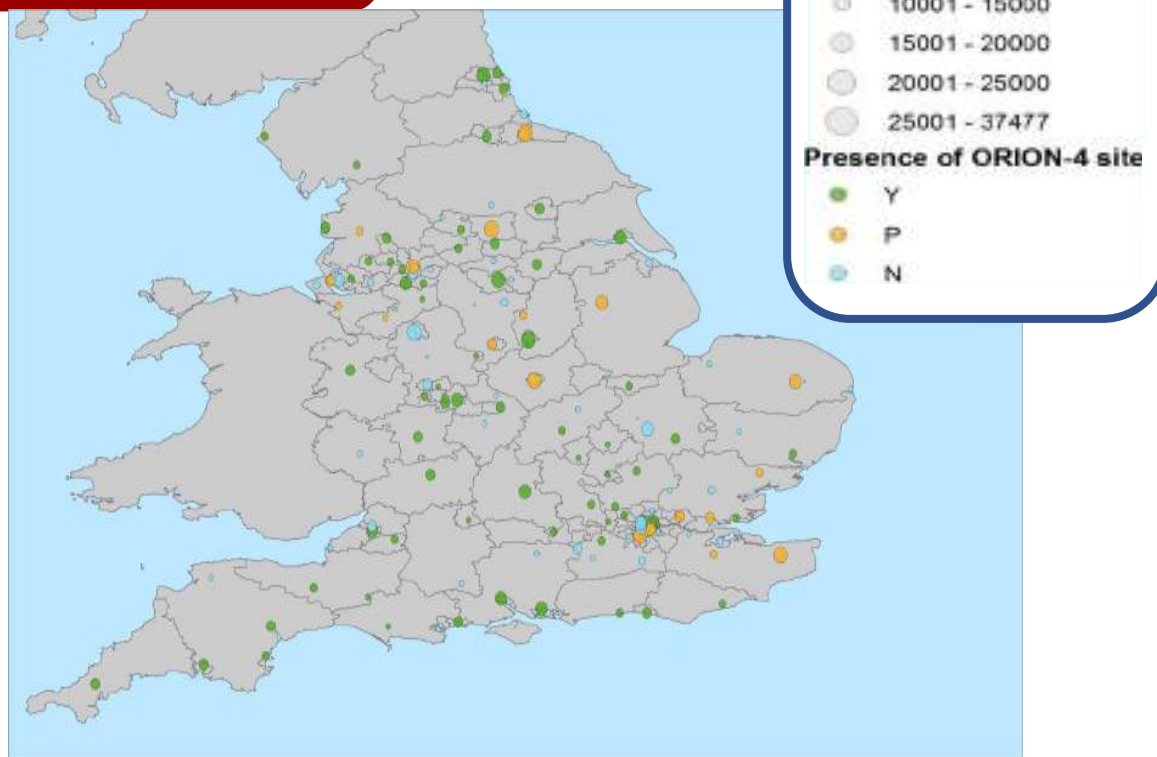
OPCS-4 procedure codes: L16\*-L28\* inclusive,

L48\*-65\* inclusive, L71\*



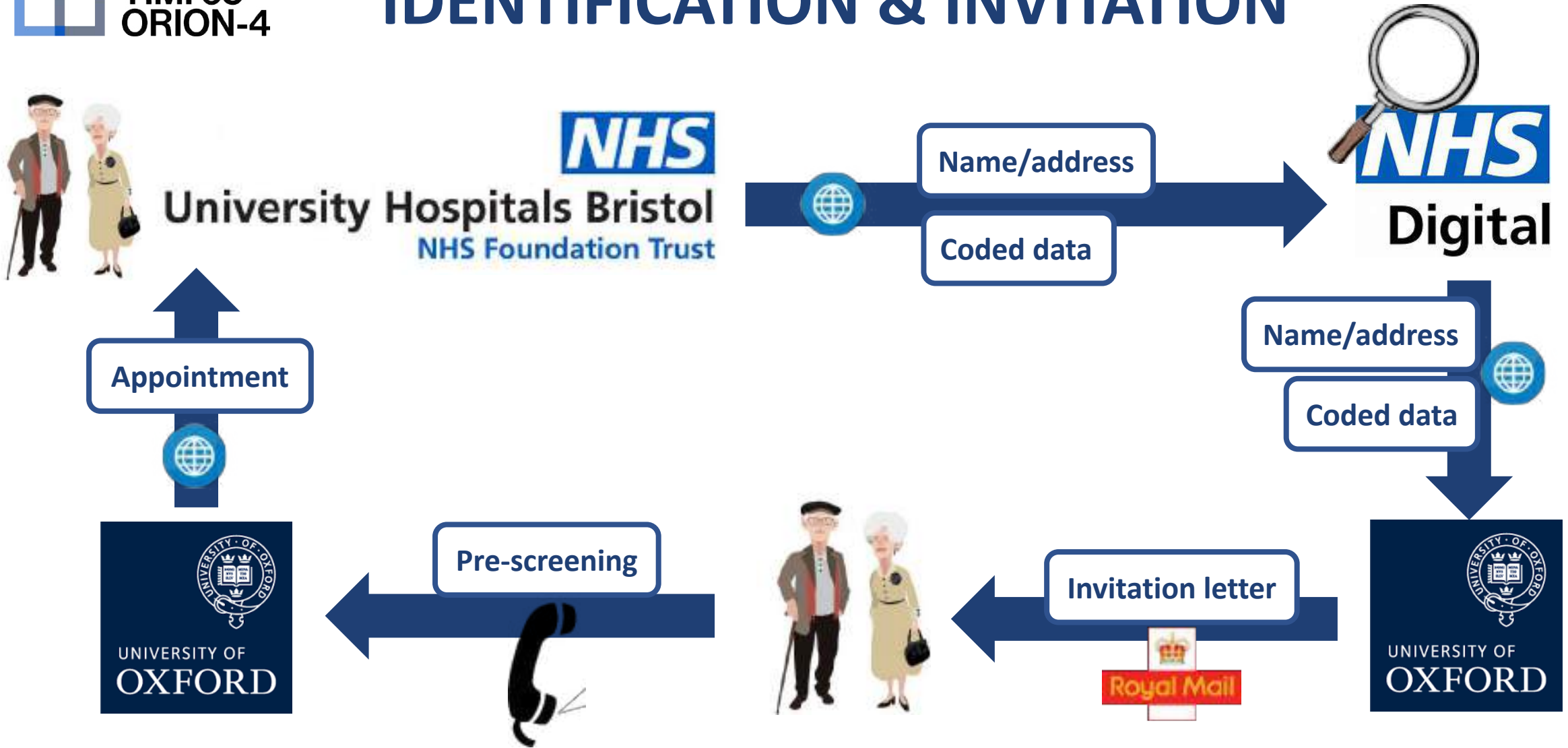
# FEASIBILITY & PLANNING

Electronic search of  
central health records





# IDENTIFICATION & INVITATION



# IDENTIFICATION & INVITATION



Electronic search of  
central health records



Details of potentially-eligible  
patients sent to CTSU

>90 datasets  
>1M patient  
records

Data checking  
(vital status, location,  
duplicates)

Invitation

## Regulatory requirements

**Confidentiality Advisory Group** (England and Wales)  
**Ethics** committee approval  
Independent review by **iGARD** (NHS Digital)  
**Data sharing agreement** with NHS Digital

Section 251  
(NHS Care Act)

## Technical requirements

9 **computer applications**  
4 **programmers**  
**Spec writers / testing team**  
20 years of **experience**

# IDENTIFICATION & INVITATION

>90 datasets  
>1M patient  
records

Electronic search of  
central health records

Details of potentially-eligible  
patients sent to CTSU

Data checking  
(vital status, location,  
duplicates)

Invitation

CAG approval  
Data sharing agreement with Trusts  
Technical feasibility within Trust

Patient list

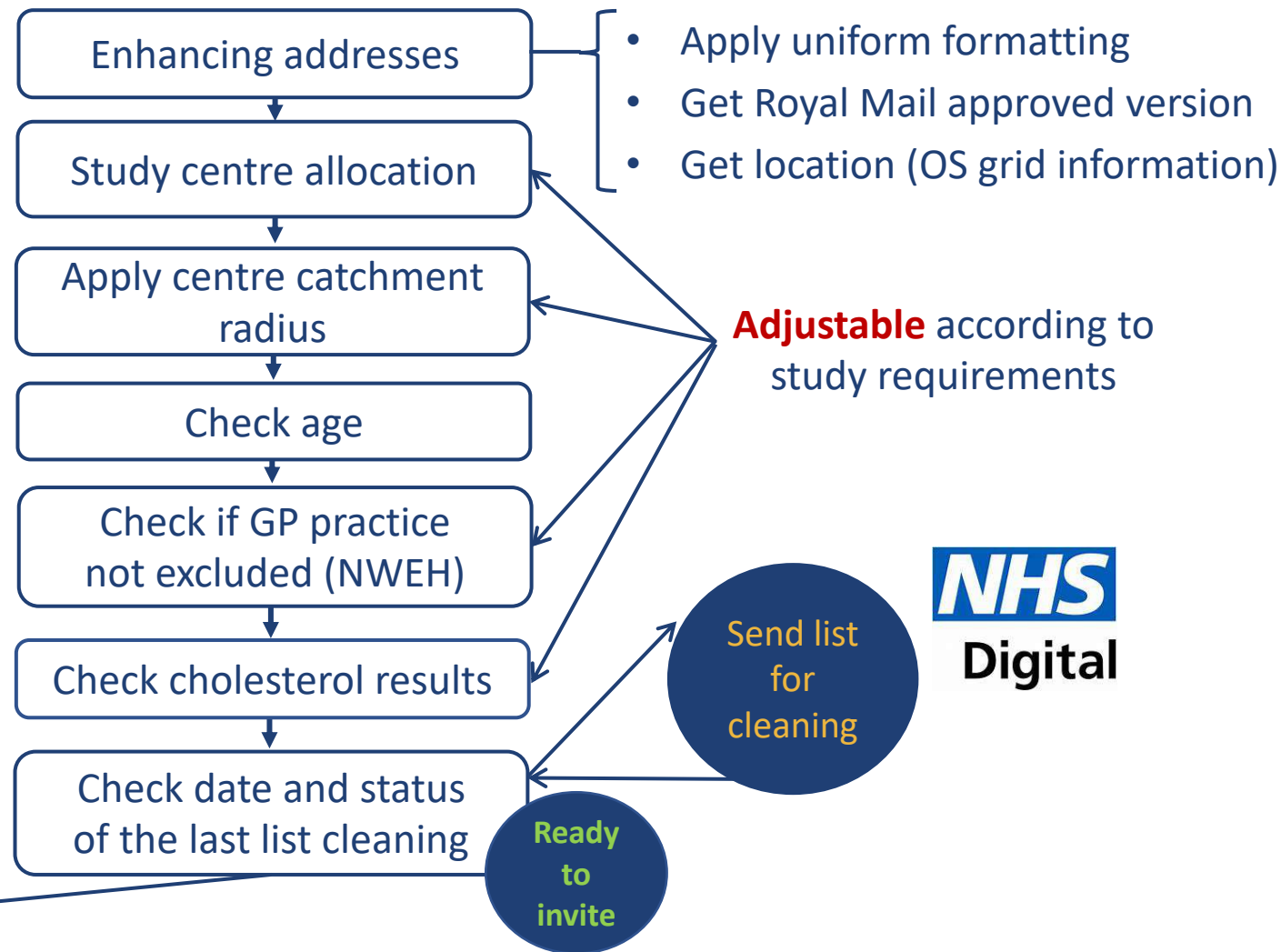
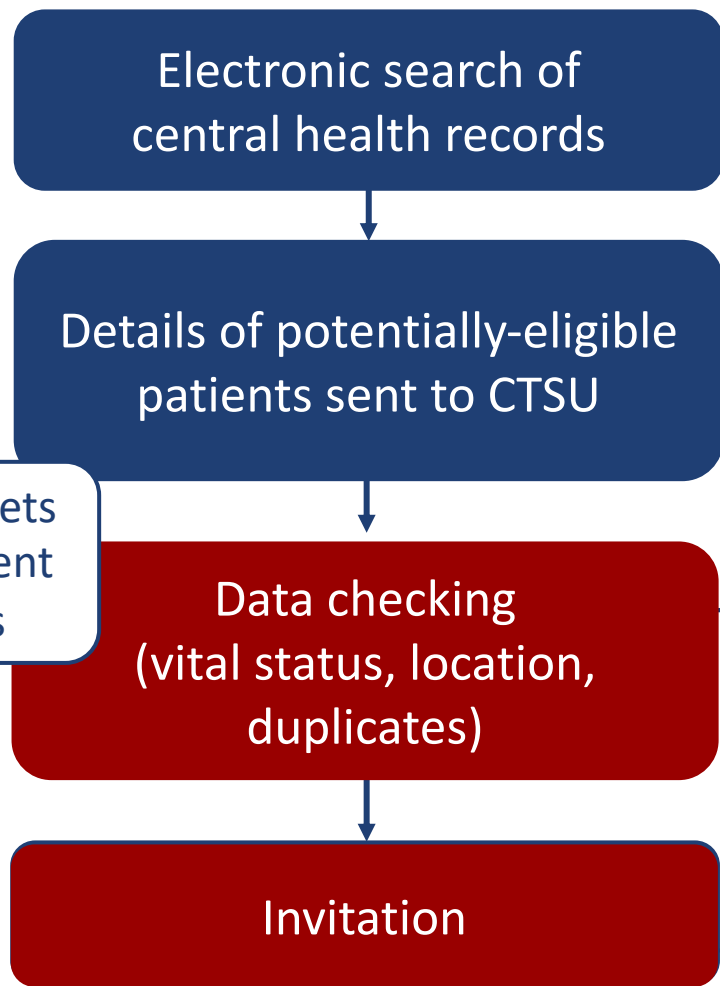
Cholesterol results

Electronic search of  
lab database

# IDENTIFICATION & INVITATION



>90 datasets  
>1M patient records



# CTSU CV trials – invitation numbers

**SEARCH**

**THRIVE**

**REVEAL**

*Early 2000s*

*Late 2000s*

*Early 2010s*

Invite

Screen

Run-in

Randomise

Conversion

# OUTCOME COLLECTION

Study visits / telephone FU

GP follow-up  
(where necessary)



Central health records

HES (secondary care)  
ONS (mortality)

Disease registries



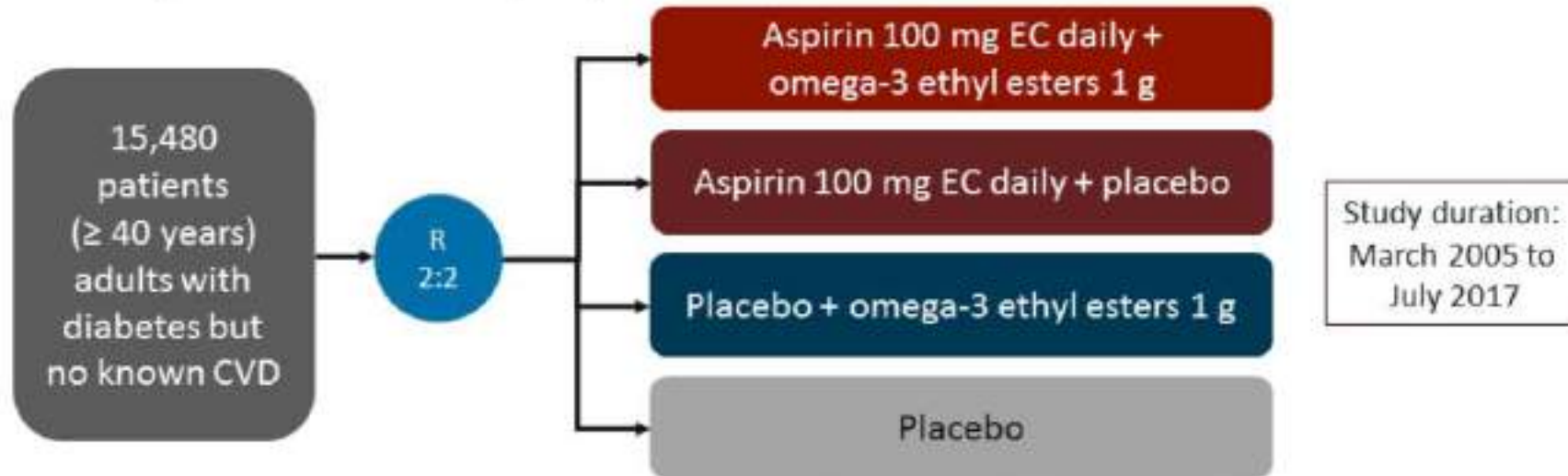


# ASCEND

A Study of Cardiovascular Events in Diabetes

# ASCEND

**Phase 4, double-blind, randomized, 2 × 2 factorial primary prevention study in patients with diabetes but no overt CVD**



- Primary efficacy outcome: first serious vascular event (MI, stroke, TIA) or death from any vascular cause (excluding ICH)
- Primary safety outcome: first major bleeding event (ie, ICH, sight-threatening bleeding, GI bleeding, or other serious bleeding)
- Secondary outcomes: included GI tract cancer

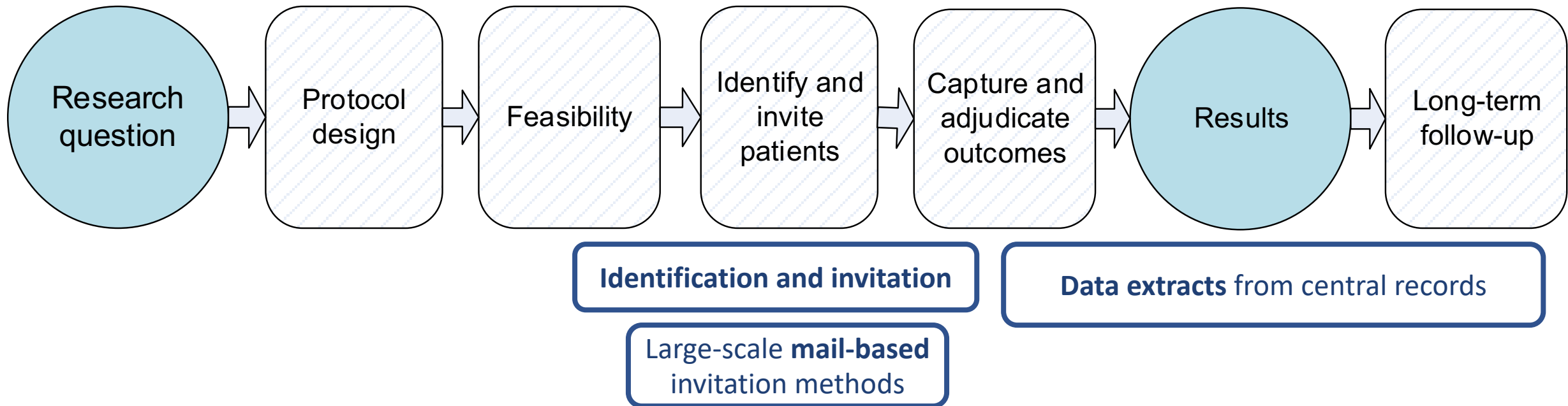
# USING ROUTINE DATA DATA FOR TRIALS

GOOD DESIGN  
AND PLANNING

EFFICIENT  
RECRUITMENT  
AND  
ENGAGEMENT

EFFICIENT DATA COLLECTION

ROBUST RESULTS



# INVITATION

Recruitment and follow-up entirely by mail (no sites)

	Diabetes registries	General practices	Traditional sources	Overall
<b>Invited</b>	300,000	120,000	2,300	422,300
<b>Responded</b>	100,000 (33%)	20,000 (17%)	1,200 (~50%)	121,200 (~29%)
<b>Randomized</b>	9,000 (3%)	6,000 (5%)	400 (17%)	15,400 (~3.6%)

# OUTCOME COLLECTION

- Postal questionnaires/GP review
- Targeted **HES search** and clinician review if lost to FU
  - Enabled **99% completeness of follow-up** (vs ~94% without HES)
- Automated ‘event’ creation (e.g. death notification)
  - Usually followed by manual review by trial clinician



**ASCEND**

A Study of Cardiovascular Events IN Diabetes

# OUTCOME COLLECTION

(bespoke HES data viewer)

MRC

Population Health  
Research Unit



**NIHR** | National Institute  
for Health Research



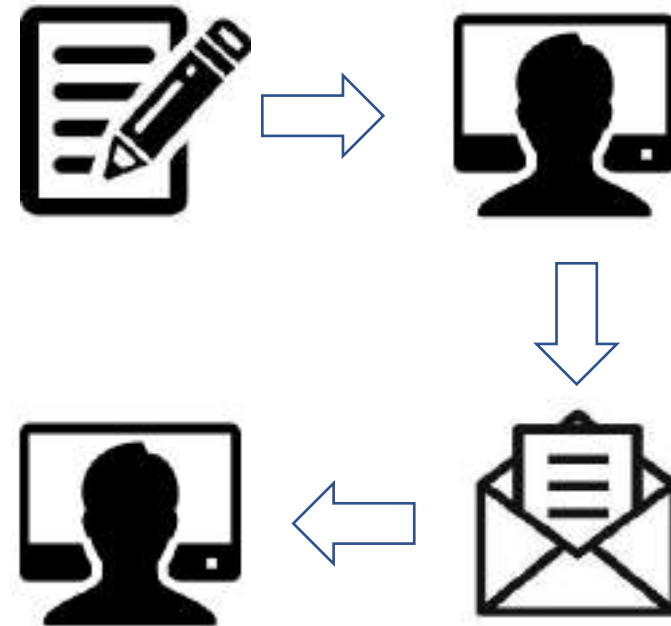
# OUTCOME COLLECTION

How does routinely-collected data compare against clinician adjudication?

Hospital Episode Statistics  
(England and Wales)



Clinician adjudication  
“Gold Standard”





**ASCEND**  
A Study of Cardiovascular Events IN Diabetes

# OUTCOME COLLECTION (excluding Scotland)



**ASCEND**  
A Study of Cardiovascular Events IN Diabetes

# OUTCOME COLLECTION (excluding Scotland)

---

MRC

Population Health  
Research Unit



UNIVERSITY OF  
**OXFORD**

**NIHR** | National Institute  
for Health Research



**ASCEND**  
A Study of Cardiovascular Events IN Diabetes

# OUTCOME COLLECTION (excluding Scotland)

---

MRC

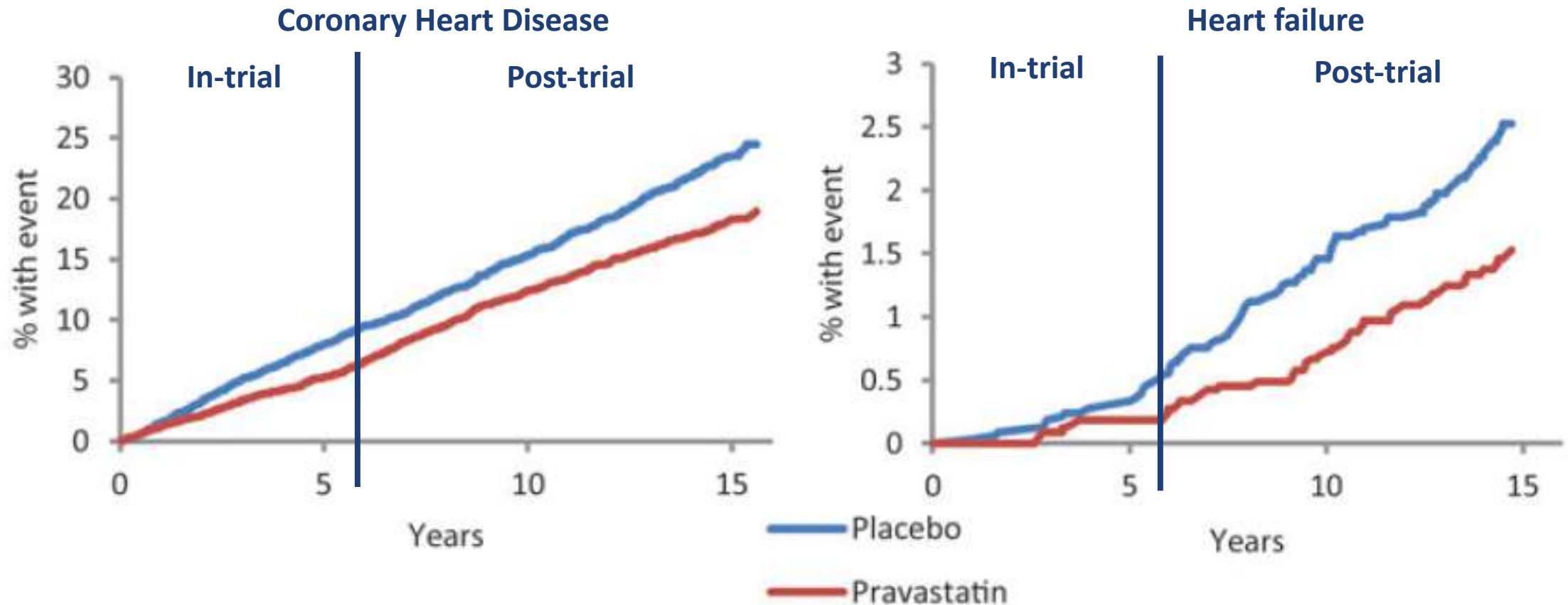
Population Health  
Research Unit



**NIHR** | National Institute  
for Health Research

# OPPORTUNITIES: **POST-TRIAL FOLLOW-UP** (WOSCOPS study)

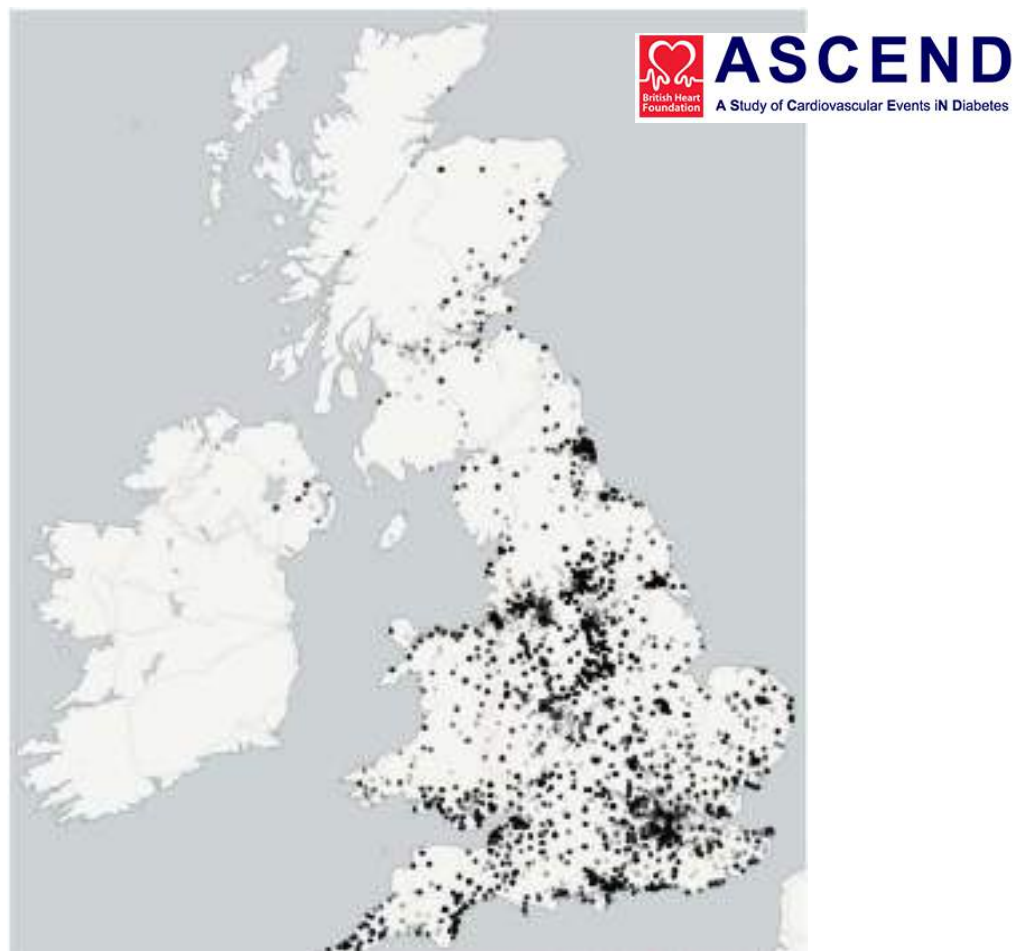
Routinely-collected records in Scotland (Scottish Morbidity Record)



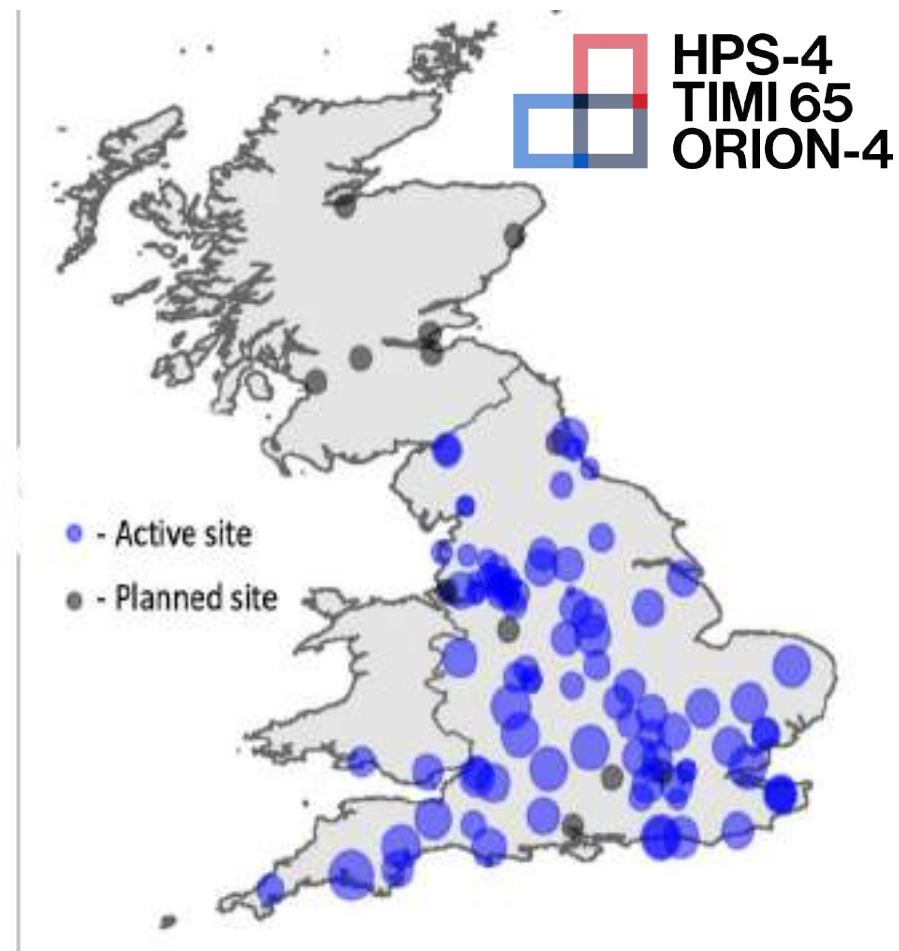
European Heart Journal (2014) 35, 290–298



# OPPORTUNITIES FOR ROUTINELY-COLLECTED DATA: **INCLUSIVE TRIALS**

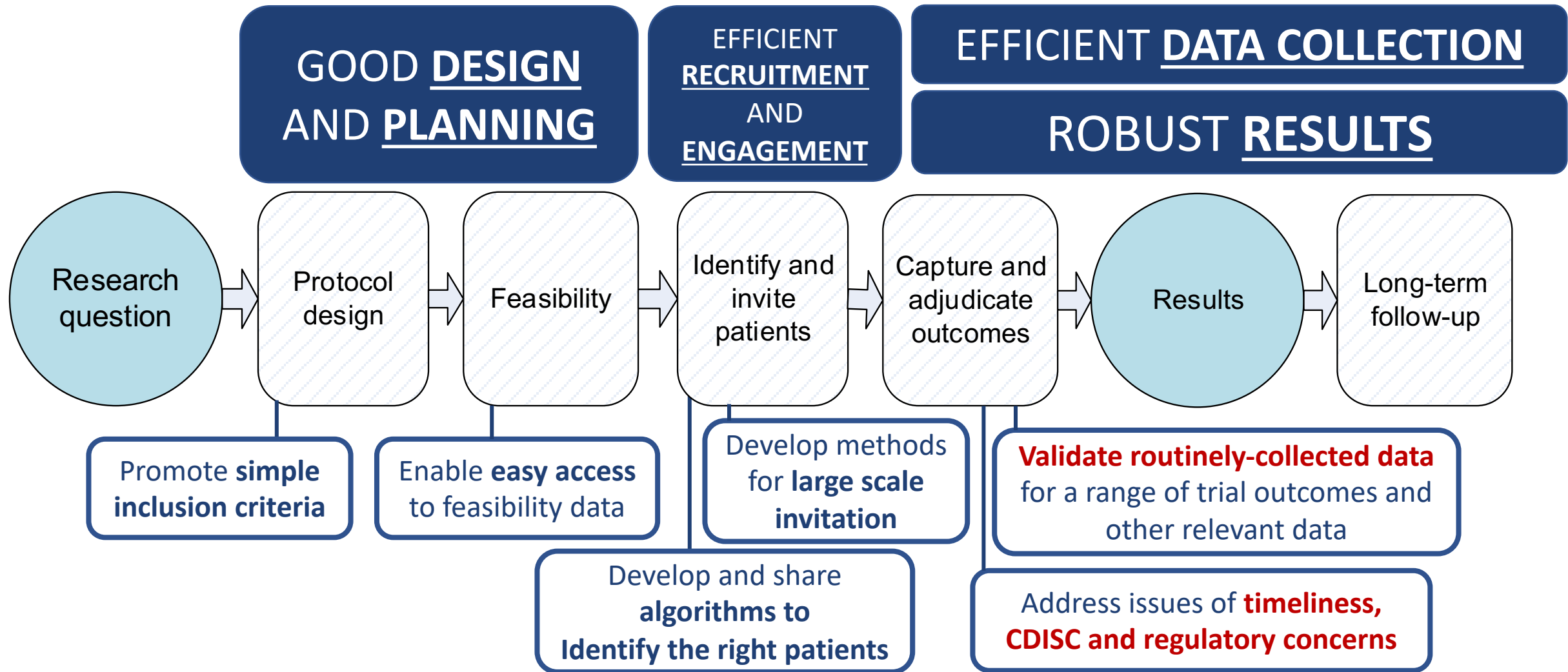


Randomized patients (ASCEND)



NHS Trusts involved (ORION-4)

# OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR ROUTINELY-COLLECTED DATA: DATA-ENABLED CLINICAL TRIALS



4

EQUALITY

routinely-collected


Those who own the data own the future

# Harnessing routinely-collected data for efficient and low-cost clinical trials

Guilherme Pessoa-Amorim

NIHR Clinical Research Fellow

Clinical Trial Service Unit & Cardiovascular Medicine Division, University of Oxford

 [guilherme.pessoa-amorim@ndph.ox.ac.uk](mailto:guilherme.pessoa-amorim@ndph.ox.ac.uk)