



For immediate release

CCRA opens its doors to all service providers throughout UK life sciences

Leicester, UK – 29 April, 2015 – The Clinical Contract Research Association (CCRA, <http://www.ccra.org.uk/>), the influential trade organisation for UK companies involved in biopharmaceutical research, is pleased to announce that it has changed its name to **The Clinical & Contract Research Association**. This change reflects a commitment to represent a broader range of companies providing outsourced services throughout the health and pharmaceutical development sector, and liaising with policy-makers to keep the UK at the forefront of the evolving biopharma landscape.

The enlargement of the organisation's scope comes at a time of expansion and diversification in the life science sector. Pharmaceutical companies are outsourcing an ever-larger proportion of their drug development and manufacturing processes, while the individual contractor companies are offering a wider range of services. The new name highlights the fact that more companies can become members of the CCRA and benefit from the knowledge, understanding and relationships that the association has developed throughout global health and drug development.

“This change of name is a subtle but significant indication of our expanding scope,” commented Professor Atholl Johnston, President of CCRA. *“For over a decade, many contract research organisations in the UK have benefited from our deep understanding of the policy-making process. From the transformation of the UK ethics review system in the 2000s to our recent work around the EMA transparency guidelines, we have remained at the forefront of policy and provided valuable networking opportunities to our member companies. We are delighted that many other types of life science outsourcing service organisations can now benefit from our expertise.”*

The organisation's change of name and expanded scope are effective immediately.

About CCRA

CCRA is a not-for-profit organisation founded to represent independent clinical research contractors and allied industries. Having listened to the ideas and opinions of professionals throughout the clinical contract research sector, CCRA has consequently developed very relevant objectives. These include: representing the views and concerns of its members to the UK government and EU legislative bodies including regulatory agencies; promoting the benefits of clinical contract research to the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries; and providing networking opportunities, in the UK and overseas, to and on behalf of members.

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