

Precision Neuroscience Research Initiative

Akrivia Health are working in partnership with Cardiff University and the National Centre for Mental Health (NCMH) on a programme of work designed to establish a precision neuropsychiatry data and bioresource. This resource will accelerate research into mental health disorders and cognitive function and lead to exciting and innovative precision treatment development for dementias, bipolar, depression and psychosis.

Akrivia Health is a UK-based real world data company who has worked closely with NHS Health Care Organisations (HCOs) for over ten years to establish a system for accessing electronic patient records that strictly preserves patient anonymity and ensures personal data is handled with the utmost sensitivity and security. They maintain a unique Electronic Patient Record (EPR) database comprising almost 4 million patient's psychiatric records accessed via these NHS HCOs. The aim of Akrivia Health is to accelerate mental health research and impact. The team that makes up Akrivia Health Their unique database is designed to bring together psychiatric patient data from across England and Wales to enhance research utility whilst preserving patient anonymity.

Established in 2011, the NCMH is a Welsh Government funded Research Centre operated by Cardiff University, Swansea University and Bangor University in collaboration with NHS Health Boards across Wales and NHS Trusts in England. Their long-term vision is to improve diagnosis and to develop and evaluate ways of preventing the onset, and improving the treatment and management of mental disorders through a better understanding of their biological, psychological and social causes.

The goal of this joint project is to supplement the real-world phenotypic data available in Akrivia's unique EPR database with data from newly sourced biological samples for a precisely targeted cohort of mental health patients. Having enriched a precisely targeted collection of clinical records with a full spectrum of genetic data, this will be a unique resource that is highly valuable for therapeutic treatment development programmes in mental health.

The project has an initial target of 11,000 participants and is divided into two sub-cohorts. The main 9K cohort will consist of individuals with psychiatric diagnoses and the remaining 2K cohort will be divided into two groups; dementia and psychiatric diagnoses (specific eligibility criteria will apply for this sub-cohort). Recruiting sites will need to focus on recruiting individuals aged 18+ who have received any of the following psychiatric/cognitive diagnoses:

- Schizophrenia/Psychosis,
- Bipolar Disorder,
- Major Depressive Disorder
- Dementia (adults with/without capacity)

We are looking for project partners who could support us in finding, reaching and even potentially recruiting eligible participants to the study.

Participation in the project (for patients) involves providing informed consent, completing a baseline assessment with a researcher/nurse (30-60 minutes to complete via an online survey tool), and providing a blood sample, so is a low-burden protocol. There is also no follow up required.

We are interested in connecting with agencies, organisations or sites that could support us to locate and recruit maximally to this exciting programme.