

Diabetes and Metabolism Theme

Case Study



Background

- Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) is active partnership with patients and members of the public to plan, manage, design and carry out research.
- Involving those with lived experience of a health condition and health services, brings expert insight and different knowledge.
- Researchers gain deeper understanding of the condition, improving research and ensuring it is relevant.
- PPI increases public awareness and accountability of research, which is often publically funded.

What we did

- The Diabetes PPI Panel brings together those living with diabetes, their partners or carers with researchers.
- The group has evolved over the years and now has more than 50 members with a wide range of experience, both in research and in life.
- Researchers interact with the group at various stages of the research cycle, either at face-to-face meetings or electronically, including:
 - Early phase - to gauge interest, guide development of the project and recruit steering group members.
 - Grant writing - to assist with lay summaries and comment on details of proposed protocol.
 - Recruitment - for advice or support to boost recruitment.
 - Report-back - on project completion.

What difference did it make

- It has been a 2-way road: Panel members positively contribute to the direction and quality of research in **OCDEM**, and researchers are able to access lay input for their projects.
- There are some real experts in the panel who have sat on funding panels and been involved in priority-setting groups, as well as lived experience of diabetes and research participation.
- This has been beneficial, particularly to junior researchers, providing an insight into how research funding is allocated and the importance of presenting research clearly to lay individuals.