

Survey on paediatric psychopharmacology trials across UK & ROI

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Background

Paediatric Controlled Trials of Investigational Medicinal Products in UK & ROI are infrequent but essential to practice evidence-based medicine in NHS.

Aims and Hypothesis

This project aimed to ask child and adolescent psychiatrists across UK & ROI about their experience over past 10 years regarding:

1. Involvement in Paediatric Controlled Trials of Investigational Medicinal Products (CTIMPs) and
2. Perspective on locally available resources and infrastructure supporting such research

Method

An online survey was distributed to Consultant Psychiatrists, SAS Doctors and Higher Trainees (n=2450) via the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Faculty and the Child Psychiatry Research Society (CPRS) on 30.05.2019 and 04.11.2019 to capture data on Paediatric CTIMP involvement and local infrastructure available to support CTIMPs.

Results

There were 72 respondents from UK & ROI (46 respondents in round 1 and 26 in round 2) as shown in Fig. 1.



Fig. 1 Location of the respondents

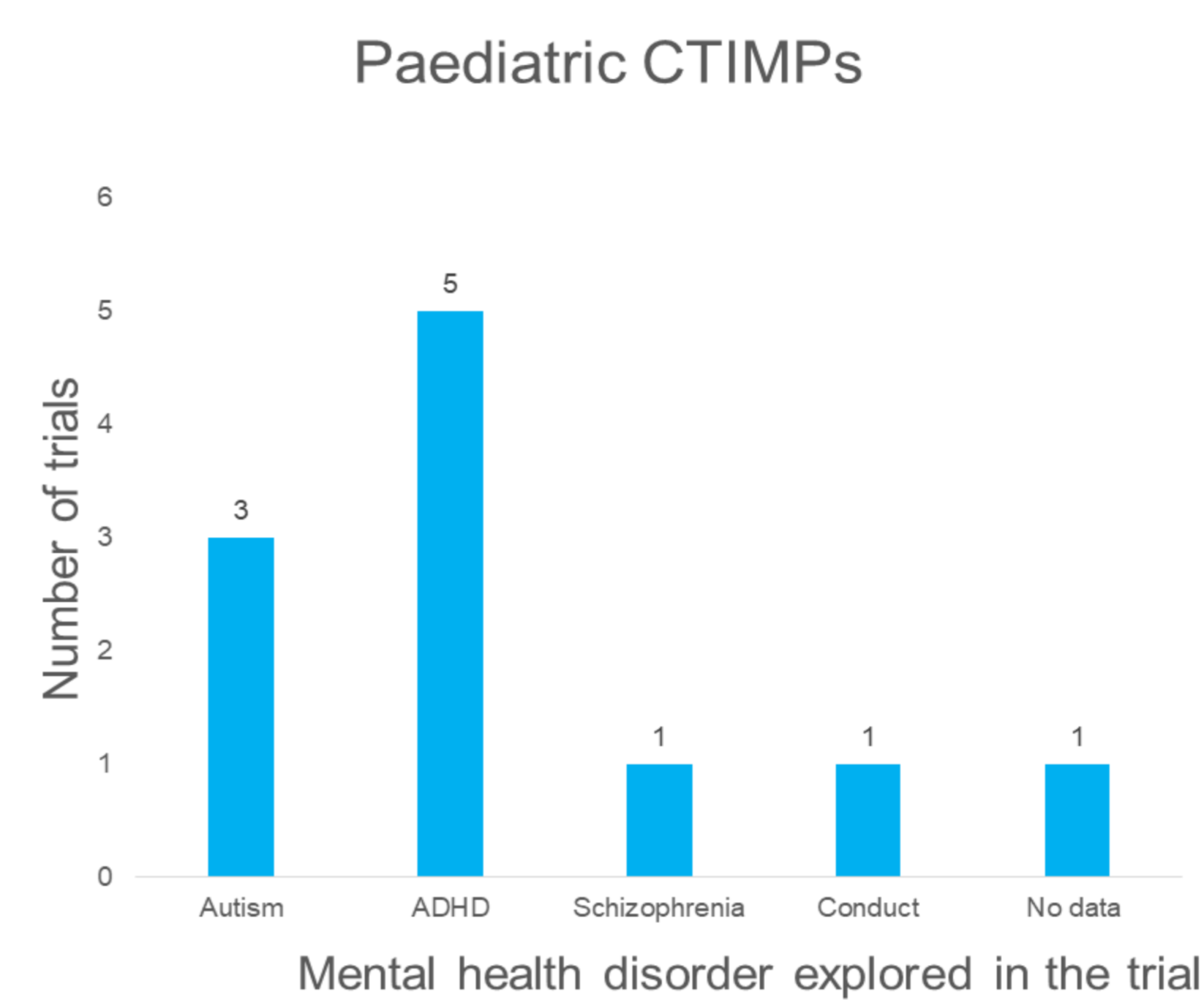


Fig. 2 Paediatric CTIMPs

Out of the total number of respondents 13 had been involved in CTIMPs, 3 of which were focused on working age (2) or old age (1) psychiatry, which were therefore excluded. The remaining 10 respondents had previously been involved in a total of 11 Paediatric CTIMPs. The main clinical conditions explored in the CTIMPs are highlighted in Fig. 2 and the characteristics of the trials are shown in Fig.3. The access to available resources is shown in Fig. 4.

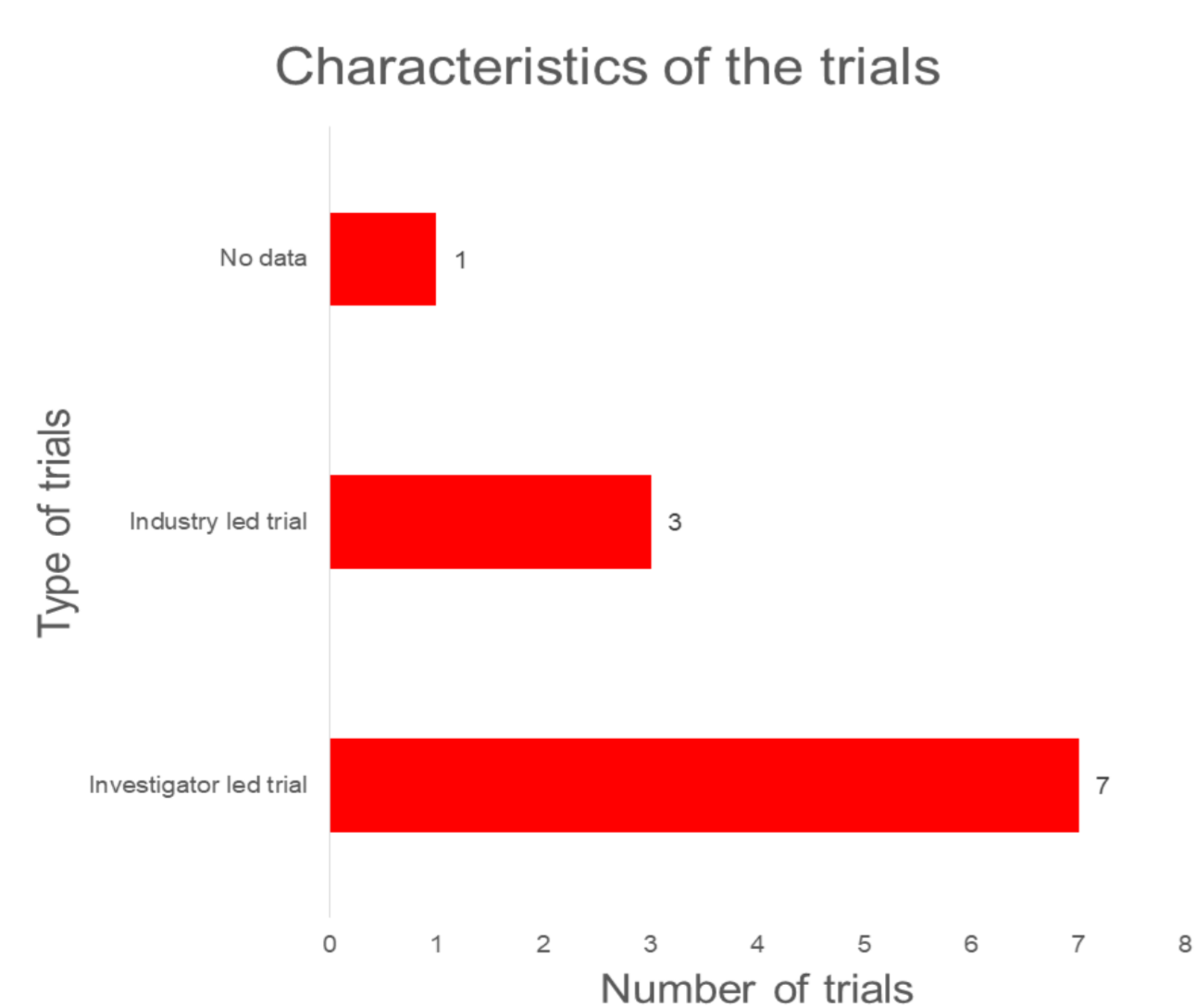


Fig.3 Characteristics of the trials

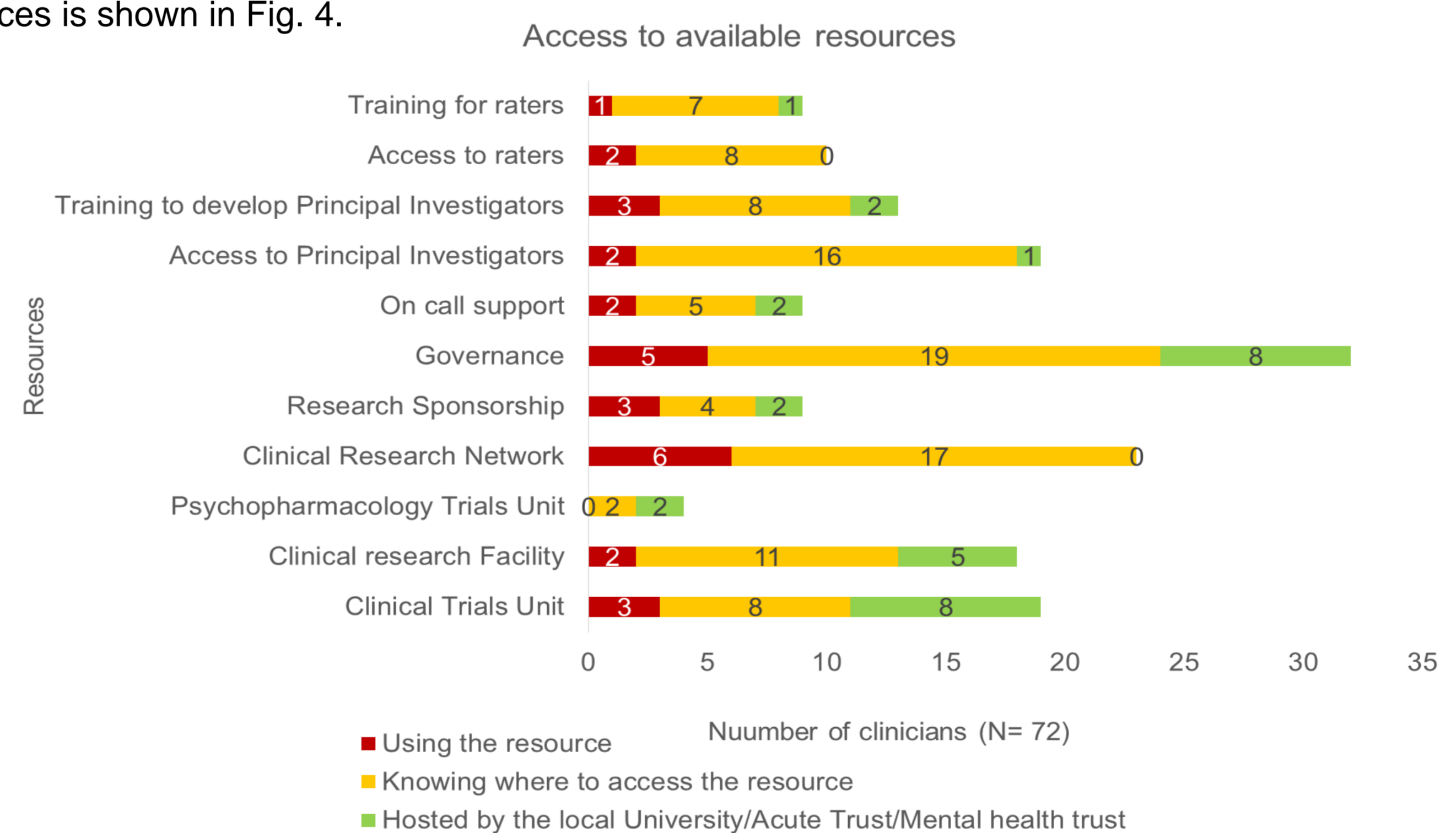


Fig. 4 Available resources

67 of 72 respondents reported a need for establishing a paediatric psychopharmacology network.

Conclusions

Results indicate low levels of historical and ongoing involvement but high interest in paediatric CTIMPs. Establishing a paediatric psychopharmacology network across UK & ROI could provide peer support, an opportunity to share information about necessary infrastructure and promote opportunities for paediatric CTIMPs across UK & ROI.