



Informing and involving the public in future developments in genetic medicine

Public Engagement & Schools

nowgen

A Centre for Genetics in Healthcare



Activities within the Public Programmes Team

April 2011

Involving Patients in Research

As part of the NIHR Manchester Biomedical Research Centre (BRC), Nowgen helps researchers involve patients and the wider public in the research process. We lead the Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) strategy for the BRC, training and creating tools to support researchers. Key activities include:

- Researching young people's information needs before participating in clinical trials and producing a DVD to help them make an informed choice;
- Running a series of focus groups to explore what motivates or deters the public from participating in research on behalf of MAHSC;
- Working with teenage patients with Cystic Fibrosis to make new educational resources about Gene Therapy;
- Creating a graphic novel in partnership with teenagers with a genetic condition.



Graphic Novel created with teenagers

Engaging the wider public



Nowgen uses many creative approaches to generate interest in genetics and healthcare. We have strong links with the Manchester Science Festival and Manchester Beacon for Public Engagement. Key activities include:

- Creating multimedia sculpture showcasing research – see photo above;
- Running a series of public dialogue events;
- Leading a Citizen's Jury with young people on a new genetic testing technology;
- Running focus groups to explore public views on personalised cancer screening;
- Working with artists to stimulate thinking about the impact of genetics in medicine.

Inspiring School Students

Nowgen's education programme impacts on tens of thousands of students every year. Key activities include:

- Integrating genomics into GCSE and A-level science through curriculum development, resource production and delivering innovative workshops;
- Development and delivery of practical workshops to over 1,000 A-level students every year;
- Creating resources with Jeans for Genes team;
- Collaborations with other stakeholders delivering activities to support teaching and learning in contemporary genetics.

Post 16 students use research quality equipment to analyse their own DNA sequence in workshops led by researchers

welcome trust

The Granada Foundation



Nowgen is part of the NIHR Manchester Biomedical Research Centre, a partnership between Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and The University of Manchester

NHS

National Institute for Health Research

MANCHESTER
BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH CENTRE