



Clinical Trials Accelerator Platform

Impact Report 2026



Uniting for a life unlimited

Cystic Fibrosis Trust launched the Clinical Trials Accelerator Platform (CTAP) in 2017, with support from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, a US charity that is also one of the world's largest CF research funders.



As we approach the 10th anniversary of CTAP, we can reflect on almost a decade of success in establishing the UK as a world-leading destination for CF research. CTAP has played a pivotal role in ensuring the UK remains at the forefront of advances in CF care by creating a nationally coordinated clinical trials network.

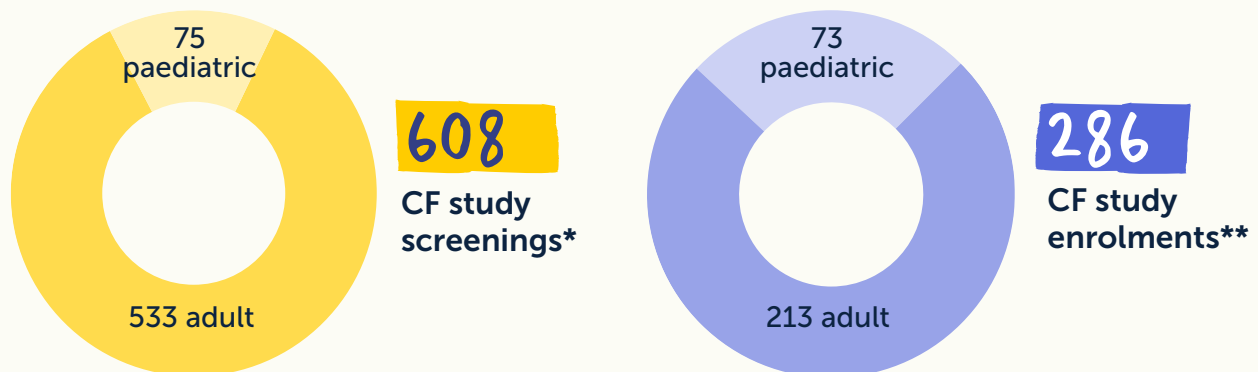
CTAP brings together a network of CF centres that have the expertise, capabilities and infrastructure to help deliver CF research across the UK. Importantly, CTAP advocates for equitable access to CF research for the whole UK CF community regardless of where they live, their CFTR mutation, or where they receive their CF care.

Impact in numbers

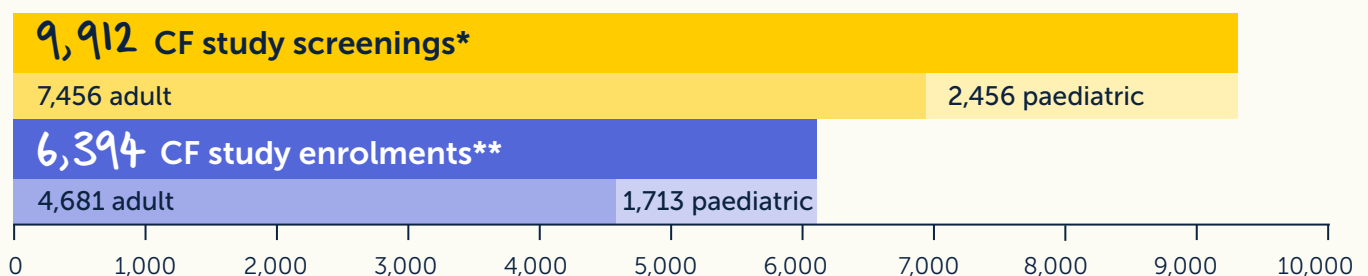
CTAP delivers CF studies across a wide range of research areas, from early to late phase studies. We support a variety of new treatments being developed for CF, from alternative pancreatic enzyme replacement therapy to new types of anti-infectives. We are also focused on identifying research opportunities for people with CF who do not benefit from CFTR modulators, including studies evaluating genetic therapies.

Since launching in 2017, CTAP has supported a total of **79 studies**. This report highlights CTAP's impact from June 2025 to May 2026, in which time the Trials Tracker had over **8,000** visits, of which more than **2,300** were new viewers. Find out more on the [Trials Tracker](#).

Our impact this year (June 2025 to May 2026)



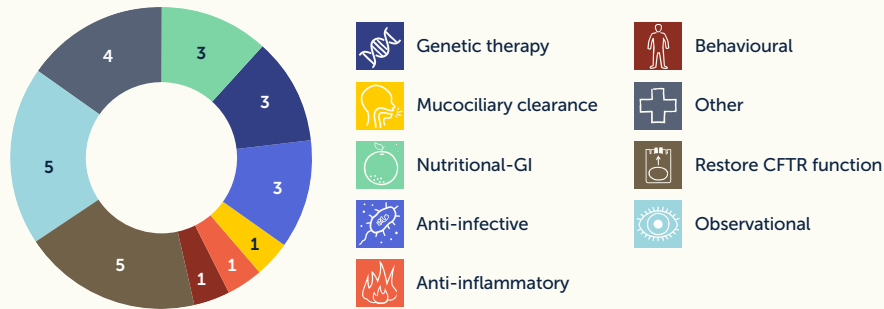
Since CTAP launched in 2017



*A study screening is an evaluation to see if someone can take part in a study

**A study enrolment means someone being registered onto a study as a participant

During the last year, 27 studies were in set-up, actively recruiting or in follow-up.

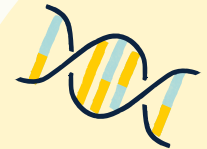


Delivering genetic therapies research

Genetic therapies are one of the newer types of treatments being researched to help people with cystic fibrosis who are unable to benefit from CFTR modulators.

CTAP played a pivotal role in supporting the first three CF genetic therapy trials to run in the UK.

The practicalities of developing these new types of therapies are complex. CTAP provided invaluable support to the pharmaceutical companies running these studies. This included offering guidance to ensure study information was accessible and engaging for potential participants. As well as helping the pharmaceutical companies identify which CF centres were best suited to run these studies.



The first three CF genetic therapies in the UK had a total of **19 screenings** and **13 enrolments** across the 10 CTAP supported centres.

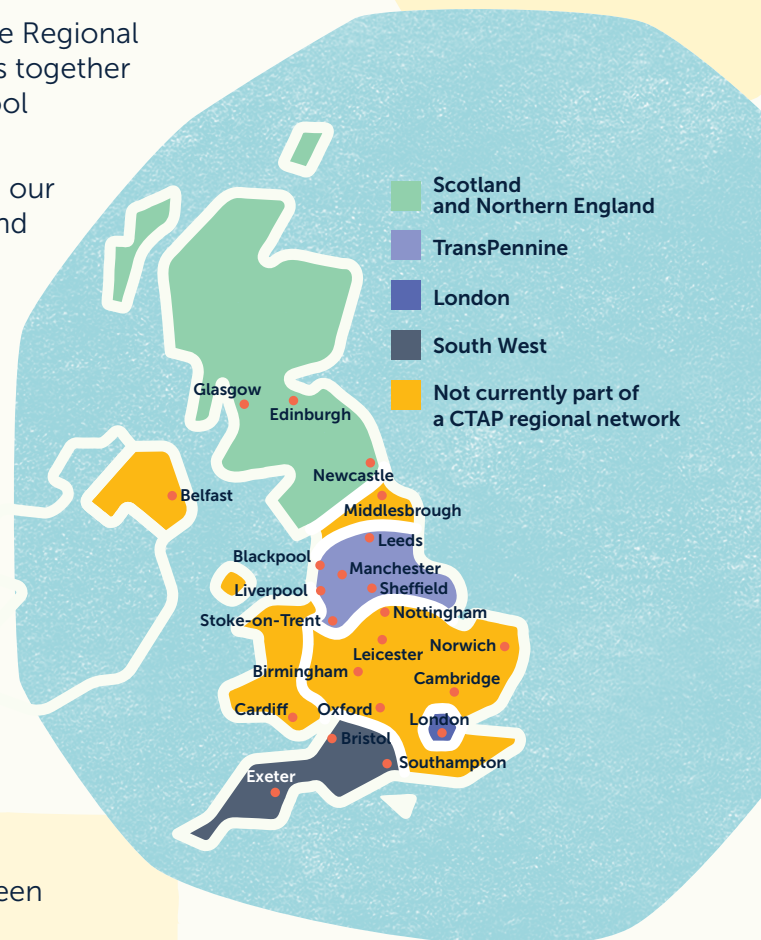
Launching a new regional network

November 2025 saw the launch of the TransPennine Regional Network. This newest CTAP regional network brings together seven CF centres, spanning the region from Liverpool to Leeds.

The TransPennine Regional Network runs alongside our existing London, Scotland and Northern England, and South West regional networks. Together, these four CTAP networks span geographically significant areas of the UK, as seen in the map to the right, encouraging collaboration between CF centres and further strengthening the delivery of CF research.

The core CTAP network is made up of **25 CF centres** and covers approximately **90% of the UK CF population**. The majority of centres in this network have a dedicated trial coordinator funded by CTAP.

CTAP has set up referral pathways that connect all UK CF centres. These pathways help enable communication and encourage referrals between centres across the national network, regardless of whether they are part of a regional network.



To date:

- **Over 80 people** with CF have been referred between centres to take part in research.
- **More than 96%** of recorded referrals have taken place between centres within a CTAP regional network.

Diversity in focus

CTAP's Diversity in Clinical Research project aims to improve engagement with under-represented groups in the UK CF community and increase equitable access to research opportunities. We work with organisations that specialise in inclusion, diversity and equality in health research to make sure our approach is evidence-based and responsive to the needs of diverse communities.

A snapshot of key activities in the last year:

- Translating clinical trial resources into Welsh, Arabic, Urdu and Polish.
- Supporting a CF in South Asian Families community café hosted by the Manchester CF centre, with a recent CF Live event being held with support from the Trust.
- Advocating for standardised payments and appropriate reimbursement for trial participants.

CF STORM: the impact of a collaborative network

A study investigating the effects of stopping nebulised therapies for people on Kaftrio.

The CF STORM study ran from Spring 2021 to Summer 2024. It was an important study which set out to understand whether people established on Kaftrio could safely reduce treatment burden by stopping mucoactive nebuliser medicines without harming lung function. This is something that impacts the daily lives of many people with CF.

The study recruited **591** children and adults with CF across **40 UK CF centres**, more than double the number of centres usually open for a CF study. CF STORM met its recruitment target and generated invaluable evidence that will support conversations between people with CF and their clinical teams about personalised treatment plans. Its success highlights the value of the CTAP network, whose national reach and established trial infrastructures helped open the study and make participation possible from across the whole of the UK. [Read more about the study results here.](#)

What's next?

Looking ahead, CTAP aims to continue increasing CF research opportunities in the UK and making sure everyone in the UK has the opportunity to take part in research. We are excited to support a wide range of studies over the next year that will help to make sure the UK continues to be a world leader in CF research.

CTAP's achievements reflect the collective commitment, expertise and collaboration of the whole network — from CTAP centres, funded trial coordinators and regional networks, to the Involvement team, community members and Cystic Fibrosis Trust. We aim to continue to effectively work together and strengthen our network to reach people currently underrepresented in CF research. We also plan to continue collecting and sharing evidence around diversity in clinical trials, to ensure future research opportunities are accessible and inclusive for everyone with CF.



[See more on our website](#)

CF STORM
CLEARING THE AIR

“Initial discussions were held with the community to understand how we could really address reducing treatment burden. And from that, CF STORM was developed.”

Lorna Allen,
Involvement Manager