Clinical Research Nurses (CRN) are registered nurses who are employed in industry, charitable and academic healthcare institutions working as part of an infrastructure to support the conduct of clinical research. The CRN role is a well-established role within the United States healthcare system and the role is seen as pivotal when responding to the clinical needs of the participant alongside ensuring the integrity of the research study. Hastings et al (2012) highlight that despite the fact that the CRN role is widely recognized as being an important part of the participant’s research journey there, remains a lack of clarity surrounding the standardization and definition of the CRN role.

The purpose of this study is to improve understanding and describe the impact of the role of the clinical research nurse (CRN) on the paediatric participant experience while on a research trial.

This qualitative study used focus groups to explore CRNs, perception of the clinical research nurses impact is on the paediatric participant experience while on a research trial. Data was synthesised using thematic analysis (Braun & Clark 2006).

Research Nurses identified 4 key areas of impact (staff, organization, external and participant& family) with subsequent themes incl compassionate care, family centered care, safety, advocacy.

This work clearly demonstrates the CRN value and the impact they have on the participant experience. It highlights the key role nurses play in ensuring participant safety and the responsibilities this entails. This work will enhance the understanding of the role of the CRN and their impact. This will support workforce planning and be used to continually develop and improve the paediatric research participant experience.