

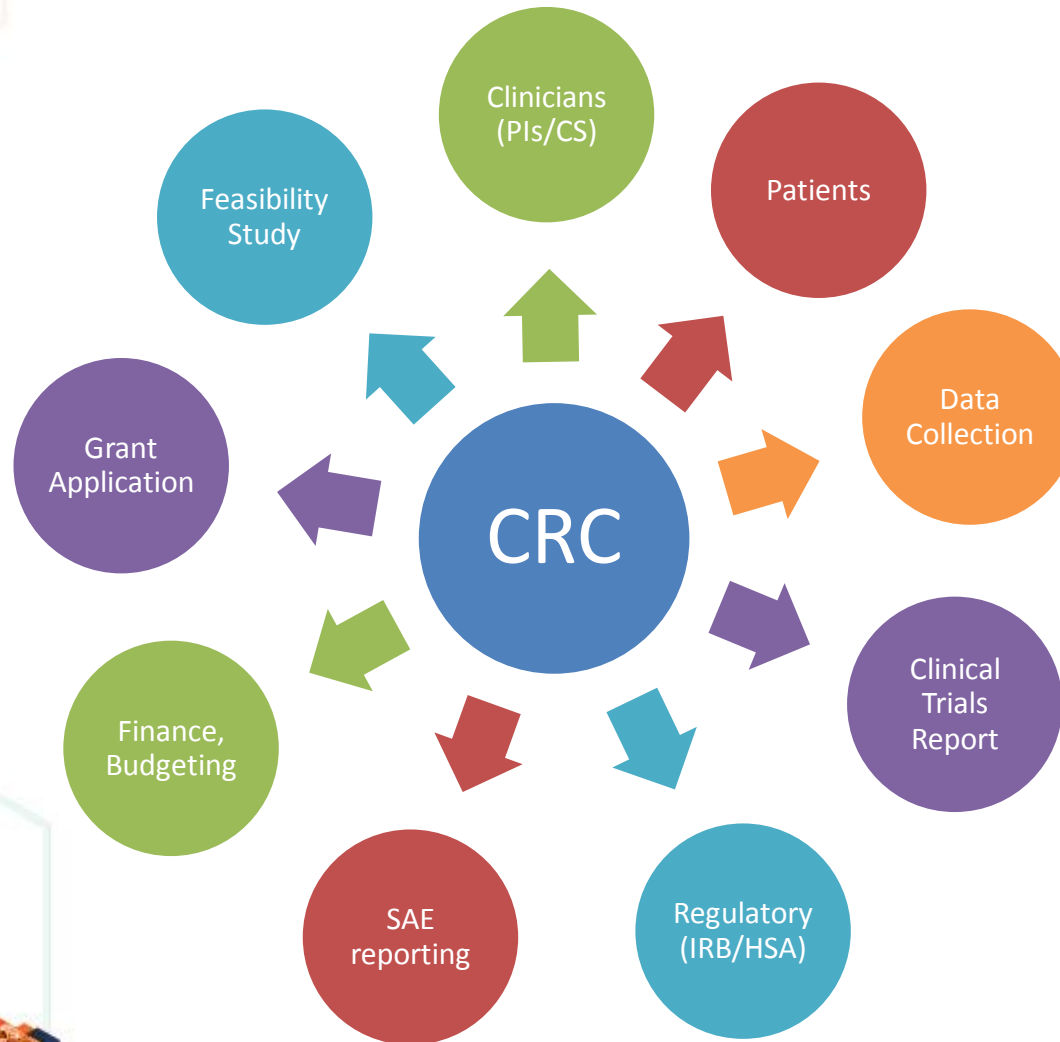
Clinical Research Coordinator (CRC) Career Development Pathway



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Roles of CRC



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Why do we need CRC? How important are CRCs to Clinical Research?



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“It is understatement that Clinical Research Coordinator (CRC) **serves a critical role** in running clinical studies. Principal Investigator (PI) and CRC are **close partners** that cannot do without each other.

If I may use a clinical analogy that PI is like the consultant in charge of the ward who plans and decides on treatment. **CRC is like the Medical Officer of the ward** who knows every patient in details and executes the treatment plans.

Can we achieve best treatment or study outcome without either one? The answer is clearly NO.”

Professor Leo Yee Sin

Director, Institute of Infectious Disease and Epidemiology;
Clinical Director, Communicable Disease Centre;
Senior Consultant, Tan Tock Seng Hospital



“The CRC forms **an indispensable part of the trial team** - clinical trials are each complex endeavours and with multiple studies it is impossible for me to keep track of everything that is going on.

I find having **a good CRC is essential** for optimising study recruitment, maintaining patient motivation and retention and for ensuring that the data collected are of sufficient quality to be credible. In short, the **CRC can make the difference between a good study and a great study!**”

Professor Nicholas Paton

Department of Medicine
Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine
National University of Singapore



“.....the effective execution of any clinical trial is highly dependent on the quality of the CRCs on the ground. And this pertains to all trial related activities from recruitment to fidelity to protocol to closure.

Good CRCs enhance the quality of a trial. Equally, poorly trained CRCs can crash a trial however good the protocol may be.....”

“.....**CRCs are the backbone of any clinical trial....**”



Professor Pierce Chow

Senior Consultant Surgeon, National Cancer Centre
and Singapore General Hospital

Course Director, Duke-NUS Medical School,
Senior Clinician Investigator, National Medical
Research Council

Challenges of CRC in Singapore



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CRCs – Challenges



Research Staff Career Development (RSCD) Joint Committee



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RSCD Joint Committee

- Established in November 2008 with representatives from Research Office, Clinical Trial Units, Clusters' HR, MOHH and SCRI.
- Objective: **To recommend a nation-wide, harmonized career path for CRCs with appropriate training**
- Proposed a career path with training recommendations to BMS Exco.



Clinical Trials Implementation Committee (CTIC)

- In 2014 MOH commissioned the Clinical Trials Implementation Committee (CTIC) chaired by DS(P). CTIC comprises of Research Directors from all clusters, ED, NMRC and CEO, SCRI.
- Objective: to identify ways to improve the operational efficiency of clinical trials in Singapore.
- One of the areas identified was training and career path for CRCs.



Training and Career Path Framework for CRCs



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Summary of Career Path Framework for CRCs



**CRC Manager
(Admin Focus)**

- Degree with 4 yrs supervisory experience
- Certification by Professional Organization

**Lead CRC
(Clinical Focus)**

- Degree/Diploma with 2 yrs Snr CRC experience
- Certification by Professional Organization

Senior CRC

- Degree with 3 yrs CRC experience
- Diploma with 6 yrs CRC experience
- Certification by Professional Organization

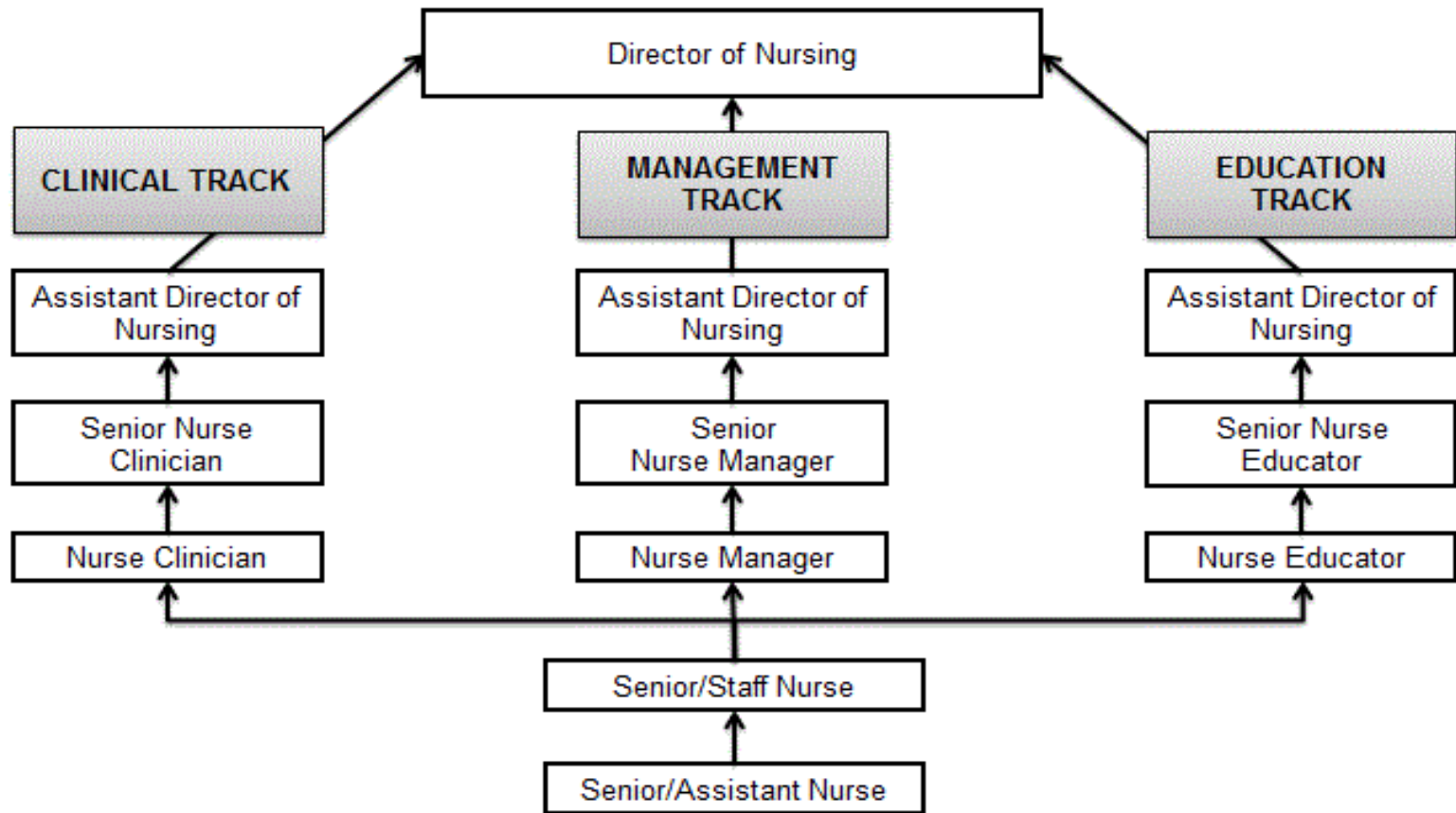
CRC

- Degree in life science/ nursing/ pharmacy
- Diploma with 3 yrs experience

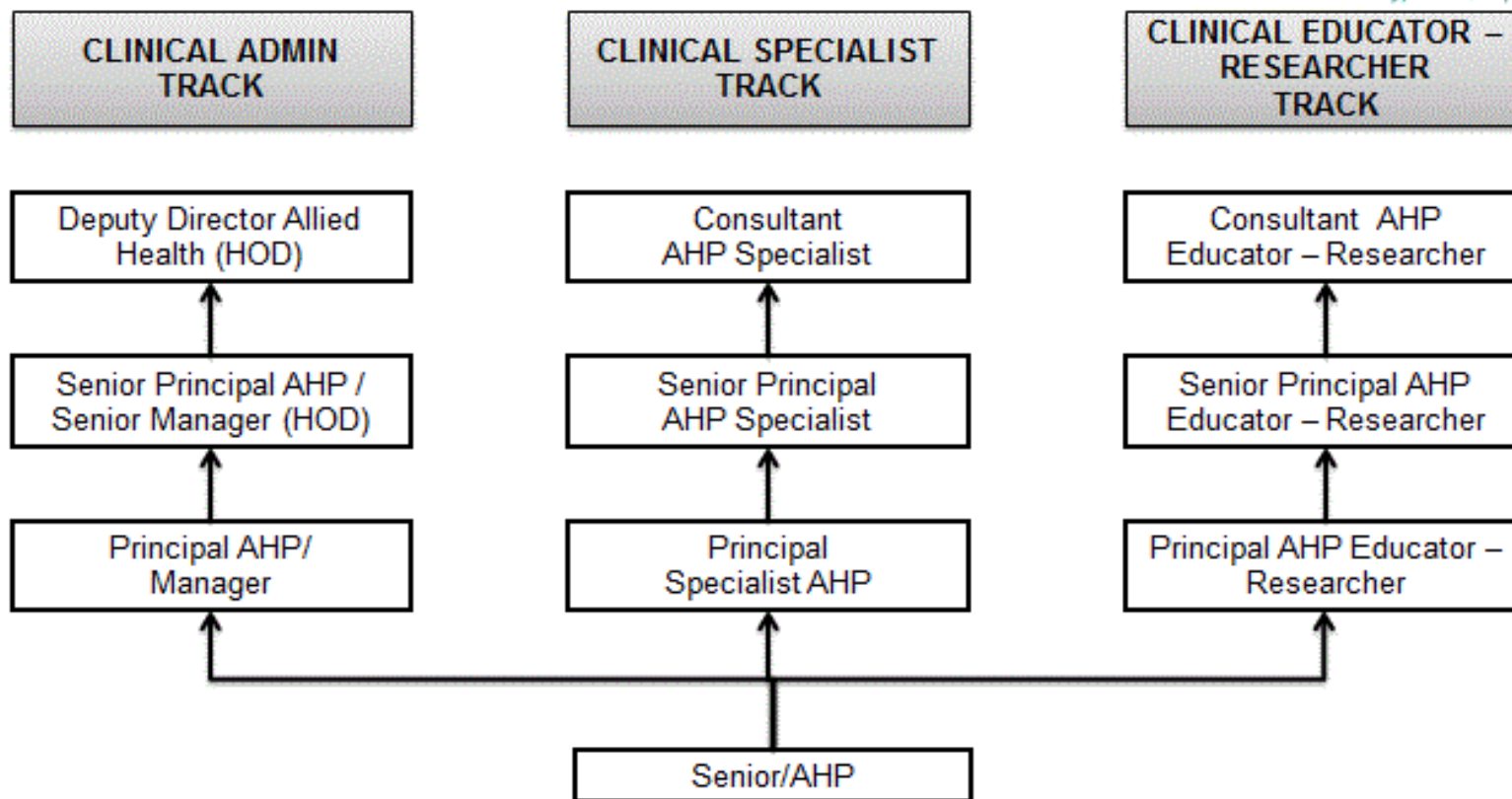
Asst CRC

- Diploma in life science/ nursing/ pharmacy

Career Progression: Nursing Track



Career Progression: Allied Health Professionals Track



Training programs for CRCs

Academic Qualifications	Provider
MSc in Clinical Research	Edinburgh Napier University via CSM Academy International
WSQ Diploma, Specialist Diploma, Graduate Diploma in Clinical Research	Edinburgh Napier University via CSM Academy International
Specialist Diploma in Clinical Trials Management	Nanyang Polytechnic
Postgraduate Certificate in Clinical Trial Management	NUS Academy of GxP Excellence (NUSAGE)
Institutional Training	Provider
Manage Clinical Trial Essential Documents Perform Recruitment and Retention of Subjects in Clinical Trials	NHG/ SingHealth
Various Workshops & Courses	SingHealth Academic Medicine Research Institute (AMRI) / NHG Research & Development Office

National Training & Certification for CRCs

Clinical Research Practice

Monitoring/DM/
PM Electives

Institutional Based
Learning

Therapeutic
Electives

Core Base Modules





What are You Building?

*Three Stonecutters were asked:
“What are you doing?”*



I'm building a cathedral.

I'm cutting stones!



I'm earning a living.



Thank You



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