

Standard Operating Procedure for the use of BSUG data for Research

- For transparency and inclusiveness, the BSUG Research Committee will circulate an invitation for research proposals once or twice a year.
- Proposals for research projects should be made by using the forms available on the BSUG website.
- Proposals for a project will only be accepted from clinicians or supervisors who have uploaded at least 200 datasets.
- Proposals for looking at procedures performed only by small cohort of surgeons (less than 5) will be rejected, unless the proposal comes from one of these surgeons.
- The research proposals will be scored by the BSUG research committee members.
- Multi-centre proposals will be favourably assessed, and priority will be given to teams that have not used in the past BSUG data for research.
- When BSUG data is being used for research purposes, the clinicians (BSUG members) should be treated as being part of a research network and therefore their participation recognised with authorship detailed in the format 'xx, xx, xx, xx et al on behalf of the BSUG membership'.
- As there is a cost implication to releasing the data (met by BSUG), a specified time frame will be set during which completion of the paper, release or presentation of the data would be expected. This time frame is negotiable and determined by complexity (set by Research Committee).
- If database research involves any additional costs these will be passed on to the research sponsor (usually the Trust where the research is taking place) and will need to be funded directly by the group undertaking the research.

Submission documents

- Research proposal
 - o Title of the project
 - o Investigator(s)
 - o Institution(s)
 - o Abstract (max 250 words)
 - o Research protocol (max 1500 words)
 - Background to the project / introduction
 - Aims and objectives
 - Methodology (including statistics)
 - Plans for presentation and dissemination of the results
 - References
- Research CV (2 pages) for each investigator
- Evidence of number of datasets (>200) uploaded to the BSUG database
- Checklist (form is available on the website) Evaluation Proposals will be scored by the BSUG research committee members (scoring guidelines are available on the website)