

## International Clinical Trials

**May 2012**

Each year, International Clinical Trials Day is celebrated around the world on 20 May in recognition of Scottish physician James Lind who conducted the first ever clinical trial in 1947, which was based on his theory that citrus fruits cured scurvy.

Cancer clinical trials are research studies that test new and better ways to prevent, diagnose and treat cancer.

They: evaluate the effectiveness and safety of treatments (or medical devices); test the effects of new treatments or look into improving existing treatments; and give us a better understanding of the current treatment, in the hope of improving treatment side effects.

The Hunter New England region has 13 different cancer clinical trial units located at six different treatment centres. All operate under the banner of the Clinical Cancer Research Network (CCRN).

**-ENDS-**

Healing Hospitality  
Respect Stewardship