

RCN Research and Development Co-ordinating Centre

1. RCN 2010 annual international nursing research conference - A unique opportunity for an early career researcher!

The Scientific Committee is responsible for managing the process of abstract selection and preparing the scientific content of the conference programme. The Scientific Committee is looking to create a development opportunity for an early career researcher for the 2010 conference, and is inviting applications from early career researchers. To be eligible, you must be currently registered on a doctoral programme and be able to attend both the scientific committee meeting (16-17 November 2009) and the conference itself (11-13 May 2010). Travel and accommodation costs to attend both the scientific committee meeting and the conference will be met in line with RCN expenses policy and conference fees will be paid.

To apply, you must submit a short CV and a statement (200 words) outlining what you would bring to this role. You must also provide a supporting statement from your research supervisor. Please send your submission, for the attention of Ann McMahon, to Vita FitzSimons email: vita.fitzsimons@rcn.org.uk by Friday 30 October 2009.

Website: <http://www.rcn.org.uk/research2010>

2. RCN 2010 annual international nursing research conference - call for papers

11 - 13 May 2010, The Sage Gateshead, Newcastle Gateshead, North East England, UK

The RCN Research Society is pleased to announce the 2010 International Nursing Research conference to be held at the Sage, Gateshead, in North East England. This is the annual showcase conference of the RCN Research Society and is organised in association with the RCN Northern Research Society Steering Group, Durham University, Newcastle University, North East Strategic Health Authority, Northumbria University, University of Sunderland and University of Teesside.

This year the event coincides with International Nurses Day on 12 May. Every year on this day, nurses across the globe celebrate nurses and nursing in memory of Florence Nightingale who died in 1910. Alongside a dynamic scientific programme, the 2010 conference will include additional centenary events that reflect Florence Nightingale's contribution to patient care and research.

Confirmed keynote speakers are Professor Alan Pearson, Professor Huw Davies and Professor Christine Norton

Website: <http://www.rcn.org.uk/research2010>

Deadline for the receipt of abstracts is 2nd November 2009.

RCN Research Society

3. RCN Study of Nursing Care series

This groundbreaking series was commissioned by the then Department of Health and Social Services in England, and produced 12 reports, an introduction and a conclusion. To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the RCN Research Society under the auspices of the RCN, this series has been digitised and is available to download as PDF files. Each week we will highlight one of the series.

"In 1966 the Royal College of Nursing was invited by the then Ministry of Health to undertake studies to develop measures of the quality of nursing care. The importance of the subject was well recognised, as were the difficulties, but progress is impossible if not start is made. The work began in 1967. The investigation of quality of nursing care is clearly a responsibility of the profession itself, but nurses, trained and experienced in research, are not yet available in sufficient numbers. The College project, therefore, includes provision for training and supervision for nurse research assistants by experienced research workers who give their time generously for the purpose." Extract from the foreword of the series by Dame Kathleen Raven, Chief Nursing Officer, DHSS

i) Series 2 Number 1, "The role of the nurse. Views of the patient, nurse and doctor in some general hospitals in England", Evelyn R Anderson, RCN, London, 1973.

[Abstract: "The role of the nurse" is a unique study in the present series. The author makes skilful use of projective techniques, demonstrating the usefulness of this method in delving beneath surface responses of both patients and staff. The varied and illuminating results provide fascinating insight into the views of doctors, nurses and patients which will be of interest not only to nurses but to anyone concerned about the difficult and somewhat nebulous topic of "human relations". Though numbers of interviewees in each group were necessarily small, many of the responses were suggestive. For example, patients who had previous experience of hospital were more critical of nursing care than new patients, and middle class patients were more crucial than working class patients. Sentence completion tests suggest that patients are more concerned with emotional support than they acknowledge in their direct responses. Such findings, selected from the wealth of material, underline the continued need for critical examination of the nurse's role and training.]

Website: <http://www.rcn.org.uk/research/rs/pubs/sinc>

4. RCN Research Society Eastern region meeting and AGM

14 October 2009, Room 012, Faculty Building, Anglia Ruskin University, Chelmsford, East Anglia

13:00 - 14:45 Leadership opportunities for nurses: their role in research. Sally Bassett, Deputy Chief Nurse, East of England SHA. Liz Cory, Modernisation Manager, East of England SHA. Dr Maxine Offredy, Programme Lead, MCLinRes, Uni. of Herts

14:45 - 15:00 Break and networking opportunity

15:00 - 16:00 AGM of RCN Research Society (Eastern)

This free event is open to all nurses, students and members of the RCN in the Eastern Region. You do not have to be a member of the RCN to attend this lecture. If you would like more information, directions to the venue or to book a place please contact:

Leslie Gelling

Email: leslie.gelling@anglia.ac.uk

Website: <http://www.rcn.org.uk/development/researchanddevelopment/rs/networking>

Career Development Opportunities

5. Research Sisters, South Yorkshire Comprehensive Local Research Network (SYCLRN)

Agenda for Change Band 6. Fixed term contract (3 years).

The SYCLRN are seeking to appoint a team of Research Nurses who will work closely with the Research Nurse Manager to assist in the delivery of portfolio studies across the Network. This is a new and exciting project for the SYCLRN to develop a team of research nurses who will provide a responsive task force to facilitate in delivery of successful research projects for the portfolio of the SYCLRN. The team of nurses will add to the growing Research Nurse Community across South Yorkshire working closely with all acute and primary care Trusts which make up the SYCLRN. Informal

enquiries to Alison Mortimer, Research Nurse Manager, SYCLRN, Tel: 0114-271 5295, email: Alison.Mortimer@sth.nhs.uk

Website: <http://www.jobs.nhs.uk/cgi-bin/vacdetails.cgi?selection=912349293>

Closing date for applications: 23 October 2009

6. Service User Research Forum (SURF) Coordinator, Healthcare Associated Infection Research Network, Thames Valley University

19,254 - 20,308 GBP pa, 3 days per week (30 months fixed term contract)

The post-holder will coordinate, further develop and support the activities of the Healthcare Associated Infection Research Network (HCAI RN) Service User Research Forum. The successful applicant will work alongside lay members and network managers to promote and advance service user and public involvement in anti-microbial resistance and healthcare associated infection (ARHAI) research. For an informal discussion, please contact Alison Tingle, Tel: 020 8209 4124, email: alison.tingle@tvu.ac.uk or Heather Loveday, Tel: 020-8209 4110, email: heather.loveday@tvu.ac.uk

Website: <http://www.tvu.ac.uk> (ref. FHHS261)

Closing date for applications: 19 October 2009

Research Funding

7. HIV Research Trust training scholarships 2010

These scholarships are for physicians, nurses, scientists, and other health care professionals who are undertaking research in resource poor settings. The award is used to develop a candidate's career and, on return to the home institution, add to the capacity of their department to carry out research related to treatment and prevention. Examples of acquired skills might be clinical trial experience, good clinical trial practice, data and trial management, acquisition of laboratory techniques and analyses, trial nurse skills, statistical expertise, aspects of ethics, economics, education and health behaviour. The scholarships are usually for a period of 3-6 months depending on the nature of the proposal.

Website: <http://www.hivresearchtrust.org.uk/scholarships.htm>

Closing date for applications: 26 October 2009

8. The Barbers' Company Clinical Nursing Scholarship

To enable nurses in clinical nursing to undertake further education, research or a clinical project. The Scholarship of up to 7,500GBP is offered for the fees or subsistence of a nurse normally undertaking a taught Masters' programme relevant to nursing or research, in an academic department in the United Kingdom or at an approved academic department of nursing overseas. Applicants should submit a 500-word outline on the course/research/project and its intended application together with their CV to: The Barbers' Company Scholarship, RCN Research Institute, School of Health and Social Studies, University of Warwick, Coventry CV4 7AL. For more information contact Paul Kent, PA to the Director RCN RI, Tel +44 (0)24 761 50618, email: p.d.kent@warwick.ac.uk

The closing date for receipt of applications is 28 February 2010.

Current Research Commissions

9. Department of Health Policy Research Programme

Proposals are invited for the following three programmes

- i) Impact of calorie pricing and promotional activities on purchasing and consumption
- ii) Healthy Start - understanding the use of vouchers
- iii) Research to examine the interface between Mental Health Act & the Mental Capacity Act
- iv) Research to review the quality of independent mental health advocate services

Website: <http://www.nihr.ac.uk/proposals/Pages/default.aspx>

The closing date for applications is 02 November 2009 (i) and 09 November 2009 (ii-iv).

Research Policy/Strategy

10. National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Health Technology Assessment programme (HTA) - Suggest a research topic

The HTA programme commissions research where there is a gap in the knowledge the NHS has about healthcare treatments and tests. It is driven by the needs of those who use, manage, provide care in or develop policy for the NHS. Anyone can suggest a research topic for the HTA programme to consider. Please follow the link to make your suggestion.

Website: <http://www.hta.ac.uk/suggest/index.shtml>

Consultations

11. RCN-led Consultations

The RCN is asked to comment on a huge array of consultation documents many of which have a very short timescale. To give RCN members a greater opportunity to feed into this process an up-to-date list of consultations is available on the RCN website. Recent consultations with RCN leads and deadlines in brackets include:

- i) **Department of Health**, "New Horizons: towards a shared vision for mental health - consultation" [Lead: Ian Hulatt. Deadline: 15 October 2009]
- ii) **Department for Work and Pensions**, "Workers Memorial Day - Public Consultation" [Lead: Kim Sunley. Deadline: 19 October 2009]
- iii) **Department of Health (Tribal Newchurch)**, "Towards a NHS Guidance Framework for UK Health Sector Involvement in International Development - Consultation Paper" [Lead: Marilyn Boggust. Deadline: 23 October 2009]
- iv) **Department of Health**, "Shaping the future of care together" [Lead: Stuart Abrahams. Deadline: 31 October 2009]
- v) **Department of Health**, "A joint consultation on the Report to Ministers from the DH Steering Group on the Statutory Regulation of Practitioners of Acupuncture, Herbal Medicine, Traditional Chinese Medicine and Other Traditional Medicine Systems Practised in the UK" [Leads: Ian Hulatt and Jeannett Martin. Deadline: 2 November 2009]
- vi) **Department of Health**, "Consultation on the Health and Social Care Act 2008 Code of Practice for health and social care on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance; and Prevention and control of infection in care homes (a supporting guidance document for providers of adult social care)" [Lead: Rose Gallagher. Deadline: 6 November 2009]
- vii) **Department of Health**, "Prioritisation for Quality Improvement: National Quality Board stakeholder engagement" [Lead: Kim Manley. Deadline: 10 November 2009]
- viii) **National Patient Safety Agency**, "Consultation on a National Framework for Reporting and Learning from Serious Incidents Requiring Investigation" [Lead: Linda Watterson. Deadline: 13 November 2009]
- ix) **Department of Health**, "Consultation on the proposed framework for Quality Accounts" [Leads: Kim Manley and Tim Curry. Deadline: 10 December 2009]
- x) **Department of Health**, "Supporting our future NHS workforce: a consultation on the NHS

Bursary Scheme" [Lead: Gill Robertson. Deadline: 11 December 2009]

xi) **Care Quality Commission**, "Consultation on CQC strategy for 2010-15" [Lead: Leela Barham. Deadline: 24 December 2009]

Website: <http://www.rcn.org.uk/development/researchanddevelopment/policy/consultations>

12. RCN's involvement in the development in NICE guidelines - call for expert input, part 1

The RCN is calling on nurses with expertise and knowledge to participate in the review of a range of draft consultation documents from the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE). The RCN relies on members' views to ensure there is a robust nursing input for this national guidance work. Please contact Caroline Rapu, email: caroline.rapu@rcn.org.uk if you would like to be involved in any of this work. The appraisals for the following health technologies will commence in 2009/2010:

- i) ABT-874 within its licensed indication for the treatment of moderate to severe chronic plaque psoriasis
- ii) Aripiprazole within its licensed indication for the treatment of schizophrenia in people aged 15-17
- iii) Dabigatran etexilate within its licensed indication for the treatment of acute venous thromboembolic events
- iv) Dabigatran etexilate within its licensed indication for the prevention of stroke or systemic embolism in people with atrial fibrillation
- v) Denosumab within its licensed indication for the treatment of bone metastases from solid tumours and multiple myeloma
- vi) Denosumab within its licensed indication for the prevention of osteoporotic fractures in postmenopausal women
- vii) Denosumab within its licensed indication for the treatment of therapy-induced bone loss in non-metastatic breast
- viii) Dutasteride for prostate cancer
- ix) Erlotinib monotherapy for the maintenance treatment of advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer
- x) Non small cell lung cancer (advanced or metastatic maintenance treatment) - erlotinib (in combination with bevacizumab)

Contact: Caroline Rapu

Email: caroline.rapu@rcn.org.uk

Research in Progress

13. National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Health Technology Assessment programme (HTA) recently commissioned projects

The HTA programme is part of the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR). It produces independent research information about the effectiveness, costs and broader impact of healthcare treatments and tests for those who plan, provide or receive care in the NHS. The following projects have been recently commissioned:

- i) **08/97/01** Clopidogrel and modified-release dipyridamole for the prevention of occlusive vascular events
- ii) **08/72/01** The clinical and cost effectiveness of exercise referral schemes: a systematic review and economic evaluation
- iii) **08/53/34** A multi-centre phase 3 cluster randomized controlled trial of a manualized anger management intervention for people with mild to moderate learning disabilities
- iv) **08/14/51** Getting out of the house: a multi centre trial to evaluate an outdoor mobility intervention for people who have had a stroke
- v) **07/60/49** An international randomised controlled trial to compare targeted intra-operative radiotherapy (TARGIT) with conventional post-operative radiotherapy for women with early breast

cancer

vi) **07/60/43** Financial incentives to improve adherence to anti-psychotic maintenance medication in non-adherent patients - a cluster randomised controlled trial.

vii) **07/60/18** Clinical and cost-effectiveness of surgical options for the management of anterior and/or posterior vaginal wall prolapse: two randomised controlled trials. PROSPECT: PROLapse Surgery: Pragmatic Evaluation and randomised Controlled Trials.

viii) **07/48/01** An evaluation of the effectiveness of ibuprofen and morphine for acute pain in sickle cell disease

ix) **07/37/16** Surgical Trial In Traumatic intraCerebral Haemorrhage [STITCH)

Website: <http://www.hta.ac.uk/>

Knowledge Transfer - Finding the Evidence

14. National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Health Technology Assessment Programme recently published monographs

The HTA programme is part of the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR). It produces independent research information about the effectiveness, costs and broader impact of healthcare treatments and tests for those who plan, provide or receive care in the NHS. The most recently published monographs include:

i) **02/38/04** Rapid testing for group B streptococcus during labour: a test accuracy study with evaluation of acceptability and cost-effectiveness (Daniels) Health Technol Assess 2009; 13.42

ii) **08/06/01** The clinical effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of bariatric (weight loss) surgery for obesity: a systematic review and economic evaluation (Picot) Health Technol Assess 2009; 13.41

iii) **06/34/02** Breastfeeding promotion for infants in neonatal units: a systematic review and economic analysis (Renfrew) Health Technol Assess 2009; 13.40

iv) **97/26/01** Rehabilitation of older patients: day hospital compared to rehabilitation at home. A randomised controlled trial (Parker) Health Technol Assess 2009; 13.39

Website: <http://www.hta.ac.uk/>

15. National Institute of Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) latest published guidance - August 2009

NICE is an independent organisation responsible for providing national guidance on promoting good health and preventing and treating ill health. The guidance is developed using the expertise of the NHS and the wider healthcare community including NHS staff, healthcare professionals, patients and carers, industry and the academic world. For more details on their guidance visit their website.

NICE has issued the following guidance to the NHS in England and Wales:

Clinical guidelines

i) None

Technology appraisals

i) Psoriasis – ustekinumab

ii) Lung cancer (non-small cell, first line treatment) – pemetrexed

iii) Gastrointestinal stromal tumours – sunitinib

Public health

i) Immunisation

ii) Mental wellbeing of children in secondary education

Interventional procedures

i) Hysteroscopic sterilisation by tubal cannulation and placement of intrafallopian implants (guidance review)

- ii) Insertion of individually magnetic resonance imaging-designed unicompartamental interpositional implant in osteoarthritis of the knee
- iii) Extracorporal albumin dialysis for acute liver failure

Website: <http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/index.jsp?action=byDate>

Knowledge Transfer - Practice Development

16. The Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD)

CRD is part of the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) and is a department of the University of York. CRD, which was established in 1994, is one of the largest groups in the world engaged exclusively in evidence synthesis in the health field. CRD undertakes systematic reviews evaluating the research evidence on health and public health questions of national and international importance. We produce the DARE, NHS EED and HTA databases which are used extensively by health professionals, policy makers and researchers around the world. We also undertake methods research and produce internationally accepted guidelines for undertaking systematic reviews.

CRD databases updated

This week (30/09 to 06/10/2009) 34 new records have been added to the DARE, NHS EED and HTA databases.

Abstract of the week

Cost effectiveness of nurse delivered endoscopy: findings from randomised multi-institution nurse endoscopy trial (MINuET)

This study examined the cost-effectiveness of nurses and doctors in performing upper gastrointestinal endoscopy and flexible sigmoidoscopy. The authors concluded that, although slightly more expensive, endoscopies carried out by doctors were more cost-effective than those performed by nurses, but there was much uncertainty underlying the findings. The study was well conducted and the authors' conclusions are likely to be valid.

Website: <http://www.york.ac.uk/inst/crd/index.htm>

Knowledge Transfer - Disseminating Your Research

17. 4th European Nursing Congress, "Older persons: the future of care"

4 - 7 October 2010, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

Including the 14th research congress of the Workgroup of European Nurse Researchers (WENR).

Contact: Secretariat

Email: info@rotterdam2010.eu

Website: <http://www.rotterdam2010.eu>

Deadline for abstracts: 15 January 2010

Events

18. University of Southampton School of Health Sciences International Distinguished Lecture Series

15 October 2009, University of Southampton, Southampton, England. 2-4pm

"Organ and tissue donation in the USA: Using multimethod research to understand and address the organ shortage", Laura A. Siminoff, PhD, Professor and Chair, Department of Social and Behavioral Health, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia, USA.

Email: sjn2@soton.ac.uk

19. European Oncology Nursing Society workshop, "Innovation in coaching and mentoring: developing specialist nurses for the future"

9 November 2009, Kings Fund, London, UK

This workshop is aimed at healthcare practitioners and educators who facilitate clinical learning and provide specialist education for registered nurses undertaking vocational qualifications or continuing professional development (CPD). Clinical skill development is an important aspect of developing further expertise and is a fundamental requirement behind the core skills and competencies of post registration CPD in Europe for specialist cancer nursing. The aim of the workshop is to introduce participants to new ways of coaching in health care education and share best practice. For further information please

Contact: Rudi Brike

Email: eons.secretariat@cancernurse.eu

20. Stroke Research Portfolio Development workshop

23 February 2010, Salford University, England

The Stroke Research Network, in collaboration with the NIHR Research Design Service for the North West, are holding a workshop to assist with Stroke Research Portfolio Development. This workshop is for those who are interested in applying for research funding for stroke research. The presentations include Dr John Bamford on the Stroke Association Funding for Research; the role of the Research Design Service North West by Professor Jennie Popay (Director of the NIHR Research Design Service for the North West); Key points in quantitative study design by Mr Andy Vail (University of Manchester); and various presentations on the Research for Patient Benefit programme including the Chair of the North West Panel . There will also be time for networking and group discussions.

Email: rds-nw@lancaster.ac.uk

Website: http://www.rds-nw.nihr.ac.uk/newstrainingevents/RDS-NW/index.php#event_2