

RCN Research Society

1. RCN Research Society East Midlands regional network seminar

23rd November 2009, 13.30 - 15.30, Lincoln

Venue: Seminar Room 1, Undergraduate Medical Education Centre, United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust, Lincoln County Hospital, Greetwell Road, LINCOLN LN2 5QY

For further information please contact Stacey Johnson, email: stacy.johnson@nottingham.ac.uk

Website: <http://www.rcn.org.uk/development/communities/specialisms/research>

2. 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 4, "Food for thought: a descriptive study of the nutritional nursing care of unconscious patients in general hospitals", Daniel C. Jones, RCN, London, 1975.**

[Abstract: Food for Thought describes the nutritional nursing care of unconscious patients admitted to 43 general wards in 12 hospitals. The author observed a total of 646 nasogastric feeds and examined both their nutritional content and the method of administration. The findings show disturbing discrepancies between recommended levels of nutrition and the actual content of nutrients given to unconscious patients. Some possible causes of these discrepancies are indicated and the book suggests a number of guidelines to nursing practice which would improve this aspect of care.]

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

Career Development Opportunities

3. Deputy Director, INVOLVE Coordinating Centre

Grade 9 (44,930 - 52,086 GBP p.a.) An exciting opportunity to contribute to the high profile national work of INVOLVE, to promote and support active public involvement in health and social care research. Further information is available on the INVOLVE website (<http://www.invo.org.uk/viewnews.asp?valueid=455>)

The job description and application forms are available on the Jobs section of the University of Leeds

Website: <http://www.leeds.ac.uk/universityjobs> (job reference: 224042)

Closing date: 18 November 2009

4. Professor, School of Nursing and Midwifery, University of Dundee

The University of Dundee seeks an outstanding individual of international stature to play a key strategic leadership role in building on the success of the School of Nursing and Midwifery which enjoys a global reputation for excellence in teaching and research. As well as an outstanding publication record, a track record of attracting significant research funding and successful supervision of PhD students, you will have a passion to lead the growth of knowledge and scholarship in the School.

Website: <http://www.perrettlaver.com/candidates> (reference 0567)

Closing date: 27 November 2009

5. Expert Advisory Panel Members, National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Health Technology Assessment Programme

As a member of an HTA Advisory Panel or the Clinical Evaluation and Trials Prioritisation Group your role will be to discuss and help decide which of the many research suggestions received through its programme of commissioned research, or researcher-led workstream, should be given priority. It is essential to the success of the programme that research priorities are chosen in a transparent and fair way, informed by the latest expertise, knowledge and experience. HTA Advisory Panel and Group members have a wide range of backgrounds and bring considerable experience and expertise, ranging from medical and research professionals to members of the public who use NHS services. The duration of panel or group membership is between two and four years. The commitment over this period is to attend four one-day meetings in London each year, each with preparatory paperwork. Members are not paid, but costs for travel and expenses to attend panel or group meetings are reimbursed. Once members have served the duration of their panel or group membership, they become part of the virtual Expert Advisory Network, established to ensure that members' expertise and understanding of the HTA programme is not lost once they have stood down. For further information, see the website.

Website: <http://www.hta.ac.uk/workwithhta/expertadviser.shtml?src=b10>

Closing date for applications: 30 November 2009

Research Funding

6. Research Funding

We are now working alongside RDInfo, part of the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), to bring you funding opportunities of relevance to the nursing and midwifery community. Whether you are looking for small or large amounts, to fund PhD's, or attendance at a local conference, the reality is there will always be more requests than funding available. Anecdotal evidence suggests that only 1 in 7 bids for funding is successful; whilst not intended to be disheartening, it is sensible to be pragmatic when applying for funding, and to follow the principle of "if at first you don't succeed, try, try again". RDInfo produce special topic specific special bulletins, including:

- Allied Health Professionals
- Anaesthetics
- Cancer
- Children
- Clinical Trials

Community Practitioners and Health Visitors
Complementary Therapies
Coronary Heart Disease
Dementia/Neurodegenerative
Dermatology
Diabetes Award
Fellowships/Studentships
Genetics
Infection Control
Infectious Diseases
Medicines for Children
Mental Health
Midwifery
New Researchers
Nursing
Older People Awards
Ophthalmology
Primary Care
Public Health
Respiratory
Sexual Health
Social Care
Stroke
Womens Health

Website: <http://www.rdfunding.org.uk/Background/testexp.asp>

Current Research Commissions

7. National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Health Service Research Programme

The NIHR Health Services Research (HSR) programme invites proposals for its first open call. All types of study proposals expected to enhance knowledge and understanding in the field of health services research will be funded by the programme.

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

The submission deadline for consideration in the next round is 03 December 2009

8. Department of Health invitation to tender - INVOLVE Coordinating Centre

The Department of Health is seeking a suitably experienced contractor to provide management and support for work that aims to promote patient and the public involvement in health and social care research. To this end, the contractor will provide management and administrative support to the INVOLVE Group.

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

The submission deadline for consideration in the next round is 14 December 2009

9. National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) i4i - Future Product Development Funding Stream 2 (FPD2) - Applied Research Project

The NIHR Invention for Innovation (i4i) Programme invites outline project proposals of up to 3 years to build upon the results of a completed assessment of feasibility to produce a medical device or product through technological improvements or developments.

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

The submission deadline for consideration in the next round is 18 December 2009

10. National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Service Delivery and Organisation (SDO) Programme - NHS responses to financial pressures

The NIHR Service Delivery Organisation invites proposals for primary research that can provide useful and timely results regarding the NHS responses to financial pressures. Proposals for research should include:

- * Variations in clinical practice including disinvestment and more effective use of interventions
- * Use of the NHS workforce
- * Service reconfiguration and redesign
- * Financial management in the NHS

Both short (up to 1 year) and medium (up to 3 years) term projects will be considered.

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

The submission deadline for consideration in the next round is 23 December 2009

Consultations

11. NHS Clinical Knowledge Summaries (CKS) Work programme Topic Reviews

CKS provide a source of clinical knowledge for the NHS about the common conditions managed in primary and first contact care. The knowledge is practical and reliable and helps healthcare professionals confidently make evidence-based decisions about the healthcare of their patients and provides the know-how to safely put these decisions into action.

CKS are keen to receive feedback on draft Topic Reviews. In addition to feedback from experts, professional organizations and patient groups, they are particularly interested to receive feedback from healthcare professionals who use the service. We can acknowledge your involvement on the CKS website and/or in a letter that you may wish to add to your continual professional development or appraisal folder.

Draft CKS topics available for feedback - from early November 2009

- i) Whooping cough
- ii) Osgood schlatter
- iii) Generalised itching

Draft CKS topics available for feedback - from late November 2009

- i) Depression
- ii) Glandular fever
- iii) Head lice
- iv) HIV
- v) Scrotal swelling

Draft CKS topics available for feedback - from early December 2009

- i) Ectopic pregnancy
- ii) Lump in the neck
- iii) Miscarriage

Draft CKS topics available for feedback - from early January 2010

- i) Acute macular degeneration
- ii) Dementia
- iii) Malaria - when to suspect
- iv) Psoriasis

- v) Tinnitus
- vi) Vertigo

Website: http://www.cks.nhs.uk/about/getting_involved

Research in Progress

12. 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) **09/102/01 CRASH-2** (Clinical Randomisation of an Antifibrinolytic in Significant Haemorrhage) IBS (Intracranial Bleeding Study): The effect of tranexamic acid on intracranial bleeding among CRASH-2 trial participants
- ii) **09/59/01** Gefitinib for non small cell lung cancer - 1st line
- iii) **09/23/01** Literature review of the effectiveness and safety of prophylactic treatment for the ocular manifestations of stickler syndrome
- iv) **09/21/01** Imatinib for gastrointestinal stromal tumours
- v) **08/230/01** Liraglutide for type 2 diabetes
- vi) **08/214/01** Dronedarone within its licensed indication for the treatment of atrial fibrillation and atrial flutter
- vii) **08/208/01** Everolimus for the second-line treatment of advanced and/or metastatic renal cell carcinoma
- viii) **08/81/01** Eltrombopag for the treatment of chronic idiopathic (immune) thrombocytopenic purpura
- ix) **08/14/30** A cluster randomised controlled trial of an occupational therapy intervention for residents with stroke living in UK care-homes
- x) **08/14/19** A randomised control trial to measure the effects and costs of a dental caries prevention regime for young children attending primary care dental services. (Northern Ireland Caries Prevention In Practice Trial - NIC-PIP trial)
- xi) **08/14/06** The START (STrategies for RelaTives) study: a pragmatic randomised controlled trial to determine the effectiveness of a manual based coping strategy programme in promoting the mental health of carers of people with dementia
- xii) **07/37/69** A randomised controlled trial of the LUCAS mechanical compression/decompression device for out of hospital cardiac arrest. [LUCAS-UK]
- xiii) **06/38/01** A multicentre randomised controlled trial of an intelligent system to support decision making in the management of labour using the cardiotocogram (INFANT)
- xiv) **05/501/04** Early administration to preterm infants of the probiotic bifidobacterium breve strain BBG to prevent infection and necrotising enterocolitis

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

Knowledge Transfer - Finding the Evidence

13. NHS Clinical Knowledge Summaries (CKS) Work programme clinical topics

CKS provide a source of clinical knowledge for the NHS about the common conditions managed in primary and first contact care. The knowledge is practical and reliable and helps healthcare professionals confidently make evidence-based decisions about the healthcare of their patients and provides the know-how to safely put these decisions into action. New and updated CKS topics - October 2009.

October 2009

- Amenorrhoea
- Diabetes Type 2
- Eating disorders
- Polycystic ovary syndrome
- Schizophrenia
- Tiredness/fatigue in adults (new)
- Urinary tract infection (lower) - women

CKS podcasts

To enhance the service the first in a series of CKS audio podcasts on 'hot' clinical issues have been developed and are available from the KnowledgePlus section of the CKS website or through iTunes at the following location: podcasts / Science and Medicine / NHS Healthcast. There are nine new podcasts available in the KnowledgePlus section of the CKS website:

- Anaphylaxis (2)
- Breast cancer
- Missed contraceptive pills
- Overview of CKS
- Red eye (2)
- Reducing antibiotic prescribing
- Smoking cessation

Website: <http://www.cks.nhs.uk/home>

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:

- 07/09/01** Endovascular stents for abdominal aortic aneurysms: a systematic review and economic model (Chambers) Health Technol Assess 2009; 13.48
- 02/09/04** A randomised controlled trial of the use of aciclovir and/or prednisolone for the early treatment of Bell's palsy: the BELLS study (Sullivan) Health Technol Assess 2009; 13.47
- 07/04/01** The effects of biofeedback for the treatment of essential hypertension: a systematic review (Greenhalgh) Health Technol Assess 2009; 13.46
- 07/16/01** Vitamin K to prevent fractures in older women: a systematic review and economic evaluation (Stevenson) Health Technol Assess 2009; 13.45
- 06/59/01** The effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of cochlear implants for severe to profound deafness in children and adults: a systematic review and economic model (Bond) Health Technol Assess 2009; 13.44
- 05/03/01** Screening to prevent spontaneous preterm birth: systematic reviews of accuracy and effectiveness literature with economic modelling (Honest) Health Technol Assess 2009; 13.43

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

15. National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Service Delivery and Organisation Programme (SDO) Research summaries

SDO is a national research programme that has been established to consolidate and develop the evidence base on the organisation, management and delivery of health care services. SDO research summaries aim to present the main findings of SDO research for the benefit of wider groups of professionals and non-professionals alike, e.g. policy makers, NHS managers and the general public. Recent research summaries include:

- (08/1604/133) An evaluation of the modernisation of adult critical care services in**

England. The project team led by Mr Andrew Hutchings has evaluated the impact of the modernisation of adult critical care services in England following the publication of Comprehensive Critical Care in May 2000 and have provided an early indication of overall impact on the provision, use and outcomes of critical care.

ii) **(08/1602/135) Understanding the implementation and integration of e-health services.** Researchers from four universities located in Glasgow, Dundee, Newcastle and London led by Professor Frances Mair have explored current knowledge about factors that promote or inhibit the use of e-health systems by health care professionals. Practical recommendations have been made about ways to help improve the use of e-Health systems by health care professionals across the UK.

iii) **(08/1618/146) The nursing, midwifery and health visiting contribution to Chronic disease Management (CDM): An integration of the literature.** Professor Sally Kendall and her team have produced a scoping review of the types of nurse, midwife or health visitor, the kind of work they do and the settings they work in that are most useful in supporting people with long term illnesses and have the strongest evidence base for practice.

iv) **(08/1819/223) Organisational factors influencing technology adoption in the NHS: a systematic literature review.** Dr Glenn Robert and his team have examined previous studies of how health care organisations have made decisions about which technologies to use and have investigated what dimensions are critical in determining whether innovations are adopted, assimilated and routinised within health care organisations.

Website: <http://www.sdo.nihr.ac.uk/researchsummaries.html>

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 (28/10 to 03/11/2009) 91 new records have been added to the DARE, NHS EED and HTA databases.

Abstract of the week

A systematic review and meta-analysis: probiotics in the treatment of irritable bowel syndrome. The authors concluded that probiotics may alleviate some symptoms of irritable bowel syndrome after several weeks of treatment. Longer-term studies were needed, focused on the type and optimal dose of probiotics and on subgroups of patients who may benefit. The review was well conducted and the conclusions appear reliable

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

Knowledge Transfer - Disseminating your Research

17. European Health Management Association (EHMA) 2010 conference, "Managing radical change in health: quality, efficiency, equity"

30 June - 02 July 2010, Lahti, Finland

For our conference in 2010 we are inviting proposals for papers that explore managing radical change

in health with a particular focus on raising quality, improving efficiency and safeguarding equity. We are inviting both research papers presenting the findings from research and evaluation studies, and practice papers presenting the results of management projects and initiatives.

Website: <http://www.ehma.org/?q=node/285>

Deadline for receipt of abstracts: 15 January 2010

18. School of Nursing, University of Ottawa international clinical nursing research conference, "Knowledge to practice"

14 - 16 June 2010, Ottawa, Canada

The conference aims to gather professors, clinicians, researchers, decision-makers and administrators in order to exchange on their nursing experience and practices. We invite you to submit papers that address the following themes: *Knowledge to political action; *Knowledge to patient care; *Knowledge to professional education; *Knowledge to organizational action. Keynote speakers include: Louise Gareau, RN (Women's health and International Development) and Dr Lesley Degner, RN (Nursing Knowledge Translation)

Website: http://www.health.uottawa.ca/sn/se/call_for_abstracts.htm

Deadline for receipt of abstracts: 30 November 2009

Events

19. RCN Research in Child Health community group annual study day

25 November 2009, Liverpool, England

This is the sixth year this has been run and the focus this year is on the acute care of children and young people and is relevant for any health professional with an interest in research, audit or practice development. We have national speakers from across the country and the topics covered include pain, intensive care, neonatal care, emergency care and acute hospital stays. The conference is based at Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust from 9am-4pm. This is a free conference which includes lunch. For further information please:

Contact: Lucy Bray

Email: lucy.bray@alderhey.nhs.uk