

RCN Research and Development Co-ordinating Centre

1. **RCN 2010 annual international nursing research conference - call for papers - TWO WEEKS TO GO**

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

2. **RCN 2010 annual international nursing research conference - Marjorie Simpson New Researcher Award**

The award, sponsored by Journal of Advanced Nursing, is available to new or inexperienced researchers, currently undertaking a postgraduate course of study leading to a higher degree (MSc, MPhil, PhD). The award is a free place at the RCN annual international nursing research conference, and will cover the cost of the conference fees, conference accommodation and up to 100GBP travel costs.

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

Closing date for applications: 31 October 2009

Career Development Opportunities

3. **Matron, Sheffield Clinical Research Facility, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**

Agenda for Change Band 8a. 37.5 hours per week, permanent.

If you have considerable clinical research and management expertise and are interested in joining a team that provides a proactive environment for research then this could be the post for you. The post

holder is responsible for leading and managing our teams of Research Nurses within the CRF and the provision of our Outreach service. Informal enquiries are encouraged and should be made to: Theresa Ledger, Lead Nurse CRF, Research and Development, Tel: 0114 2261319 email: Theresa.Ledger@sth.nhs.uk or Karen French, CRF Manager, email: Karen.French@sth.nhs.uk

Website: <http://www.jobs.nhs.uk/cgi-bin/vacdetails.cgi?selection=912354545>

Closing date for applications: 29 October 2009

4. Research Assistant/Research Nurse, UCL Institute of Child Health - Patient Care Research & Innovation Centre

Salary will be dependant on skills, experience and qualifications. If appointed as a Research Assistant to grade 6 the salary ranges from 24,877 - 26,391 GBP per annum. If appointed as a Research Nurse to grade 7 the salary ranges from 28,839 - 35,469GBP per annum. The post is funded for 5 months full time and based at Oxford Children's Hospital.

This an exciting opportunity for a research nurse/assistant to work on a study at the Oxford Children's Hospital to investigate the impact of instrumental and psychosocial support for parents who receive in-hospital accommodation and parents who do not. This takes into account the many factors that might influence short and long-term stress and coping outcomes. The post will involve screening and recruiting participants, administering questionnaires and interviews to parents and children. To discuss the post informally please contact Professor Linda Franck, email: l.franck@ich.ucl.ac.uk

Website: <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/jobs> and select either the Research Assistant or Research Nurse vacancy.

Closing date: 30 October 2009

5. Clinical Research Nurse in severe COPD, Division of Health and Social Care Research (HSCR), King's College London

The salary will be offered at 32,072 GBP pro rata, and is available for 9 months on a 0.4 FTE basis, starting in January 2010. The post would be ideal for an RGN with a special interest in respiratory disease who would like the opportunity to gain experience in a research setting.

The post offers an opportunity for intensive work over a period of nine months with patients with severe COPD. You will be working on a project entitled 'The prevalence and predictors of intractable breathlessness in advanced COPD following optimisation of treatment in primary care' (<http://www.kcl.ac.uk/gp/research/ppbcopd.html>). For an informal discussion regarding the post please contact Dr Patrick White, Tel: 020 7848 4188, email: Patrick.white@kcl.ac.uk.

Website: <http://www.kcl.ac.uk/depsta/pertra/vacancy/external/>

Closing date for applications: 1 November 2009

Research Funding

6. The Health Foundation's Shine award for innovation

Shine is our new annual award focusing on innovation. This year's Shine challenge is: find new approaches to delivering healthcare that will both improve quality and save money.

We're looking for examples of smart thinking from across the health service. For our part, we'll provide the resource to make it happen, ensure that successful innovations receive national recognition and promote the most effective innovations to policy-makers and NHS leaders. We're looking to invest 75,000 GBP in each of 18 teams from across the health service: commissioning,

primary care, acute care, mental health and beyond. We're seeking people with the best innovative ideas and the skills to put together an innovations trial to develop and test that thinking.

Website: http://www.health.org.uk/current_work/open_for_applications/shine_new_award.html

Closing date for applications: 02 November 2009

Fellowships/Studentships

7. PhD Studentships, Institute for Health Research, Swansea University

2 fully funded full-time PhD studentships

- i) Exploring Journeys for Older People with Cancer in South West Wales, funded by Tenovus in Wales
- ii) The field of Health Economics, funded by the Welsh Assembly Government

Website: <http://www.swan.ac.uk/scholarships/research/>

Closing date for applications: 6 November 2009

Consultations

8. RCN's involvement in the development in NICE guidelines - call for expert input, part 2

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) Entecavir and tenofovir disoproxil fumarate within their licensed indications for the treatment of chronic hepatitis B in adults with decompensated liver disease
- ii) Everolimus within its licensed indication for the prevention of organ rejection in cardiac transplantation
- iii) Fingolimod within its licensed indication for the treatment of relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis
- iv) Fingolimod within its licensed indication for the treatment of primary-progressive multiple sclerosis
- v) Ipilimumab in combination with dacarbazine for previously untreated unresectable stage III or IV malignant melanoma
- vi) Interferon beta-1b, interferon beta-1a and glatiramer acetate for the treatment of single demyelinating event with clinically isolated syndrome
- vii) Mannitol dry powder for inhalation within its licensed indication for the treatment of cystic fibrosis
- viii) Omalizumab for the treatment of severe persistent allergic asthma in children aged 6-12
- ix) Nilotinib for Chronic Myeloid Leukaemia

Contact: Caroline Rapu
Email: caroline.rapu@rcn.org.uk

9. National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) consultations

NICE expects to consult on the following documents. The RCN works very closely with NICE to ensure

a robust nursing input for NICE consultations. Please contact Caroline Rapu if you would like to be involved in this work. Contact: Caroline Rapu, email: caroline.rapu@rcn.org.uk.

Consultations:

- i) Consultation on the NICE response to the Kennedy report (Ends 13 January 2010)
- ii) Identification and care pathways for common mental health disorders: draft scope consultation (2 - 30 October 2009)
- iii) Constipation in children: draft guideline consultation (1 October - 25 November 2009)
- iv) Rheumatoid arthritis - tocilizumab: appraisal consultation (1 - 22 October 2009)
- v) Quitting smoking in pregnancy and following childbirth: consultation on the evidence (24 September - 22 October 2009)
- vi) Alcohol use disorders - clinical management: draft guideline consultation (17 September - 12 November 2009)
- vii) Hypertensive disorders during pregnancy: draft guideline consultation (3 September – 29 October 2009)
- viii) Male lower urinary tract symptoms (LUTS): guideline consultation (28 August - 23 October 2009)
- ix) Neonatal jaundice: draft guideline consultation (27 August - 22 October 2009)

Website: http://www.nice.org.uk/getinvolved/currentniceconsultations/current_nice_consultations.jsp

User Involvement

10. **Boudloni, M. & McLaren, S. (2009), "Nurses and Patient and Public Involvement. A consultation in four strategic health authorities in England", London South Bank University.**

This report is the culmination of research commissioned by the RCN and carried out by London South Bank University. From a series of focus groups, it reviews how nurses work on a daily basis in public and patient involvement, the barriers and facilitators for effective public and patient involvement, and suggestions for improvement that will benefit quality patient care.

Website: http://www.rcn.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/269242/LSBU_Nurses_-and-_PPI_Short_Report.pdf

Knowledge Transfer - Finding the Evidence

11. Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE)

SCIE's aim is to improve the experience of people who use social care by developing and promoting knowledge (gathered from diverse sources and a broad range of people and organizations) about good practice in the sector. Recent updates include:

- i) **Report 24: Personalisation and learning disabilities: A review of evidence on advocacy and its practice for people with learning disabilities and high support needs.** Advocacy services for people with learning disabilities have grown and developed over the past 30 years. However, research indicates that people with high support needs are less likely to benefit from these services than others with a learning disability. SCIE's new report looks at methods of advocacy that work well for people with high support needs and provides guidance on how services can ensure that everyone has equal access to support, whatever their level of need.
- ii) **At a glance 13: Personalisation briefing - implications for voluntary sector service providers.** The managers of voluntary/third sector service providers have a critical leadership role to play in ensuring a personalised approach to social care service delivery and in monitoring person-centred outcomes for the individuals using the services. This At a glance briefing examines the implications of the personalisation agenda for voluntary sector service providers.

iii) **At a glance 12: Personalisation briefing - implications for advocacy workers.** Real choice and control depends on people having the right information to take decisions, and on getting support if it is needed. The role of advocates will therefore become more important as the transformation of social care gathers pace. This At a glance briefing examines the implications of the personalisation agenda for advocacy workers.

Website: <http://www.scie.org.uk/>

12. NHS Evidence

The principle aim of the NHS Evidence service is to provide easy access to a comprehensive evidence base for everyone in health and social care who takes decisions about treatments or the use of resources - including clinicians, public health professionals, commissioners and service managers - thus improving health and patient care. It provides access to a range of information types, including primary research literature, practical implementation tools, guidelines and policy documents. The NHS Evidence specialist collections filter the huge quantity of published research to ensure that you find only the best available evidence. The majority focus on particular health problems, with others focusing on specific patient groups and aspects of health services. Core to the work of the specialist collections is the production and dissemination of Annual Evidence Updates: these are produced for the most significant health problems affecting the NHS. They are designed to provide a straightforward and succinct overview of what new research and evidence has been published in those areas over the preceding 12 months, so that individuals, managers and commissioners don't need to spend the time searching. The specialist collection teams collect, analyse and present the evidence, classifying the resources according to their relevance to their topic, their quality and their likely implications for practice.

Spotlight on

2009 Annual Evidence Update - Breast Cancer

- i) Biological therapies in HER2 positive breast cancer by Anthony Kong.
- ii) Breast cancer presentation, survival, ethnicity and social deprivation by Gill Lawrence.
- iii) Fertility related concerns of women with breast cancer by Jane Stewart.
- iv) Gabapentine for the treatment of hot flashes by Emma Pennery.
- v) Going further on cancer waits: the symptomatic breast two week wait standard by Maggie Alexander
- vi) Magnetic resonance imaging of DCIS by Carol Ellen Holmes
- vii) National Audit of cancer diagnosis in primary by Greg Rubin
- viii) Overdiagnosis in publicly organised mammography screening programmes by Julietta Patnick
- ix) Post-operative radiotherapy for DCIS by Daniela Lee
- x) Sentinel node biopsy and neoadjuvant chemotherapy in early breast cancer by Kieran Horgan

Website: <http://www.evidence.nhs.uk/>

13. McCarthy, M. et al (2009), "Comparing public-health research priorities in Europe", *Health Research Policy and Systems* 2009, 7:17

Despite improving trends, countries in Europe continue to face public-health challenges. This study investigated the priorities of stakeholders for research to meet these challenges. This is an open-access article.

Website: <http://www.implementationscience.com/content/4/1/46>

14. 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 - September 2009.

September 2009

- Angina - stable
- Candida - oral
- Diarrhoea - antibiotic associated
- Diarrhoea - prevention and advice for travellers
- Gastroenteritis
- Gonorrhoea (new)
- Urethritis - male

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>

Knowledge Transfer - Practice Development

15. 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 (07/10 to 13/10/2009) 42 new records have been added to the DARE, NHS EED and HTA databases.

Abstract of the week

A systematic review of studies validating the Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale in antepartum and postpartum women. This review of studies that validated the Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS) against a structured or semi-structured clinical interview found that estimates of its diagnostic accuracy varied widely. This suggested that the EPDS may not be an equally valid screening tool across all settings. The authors' conclusions reflect the evidence presented and appear reliable.

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

Knowledge Transfer - Disseminating Your Research

16. Horatio, the European Psychiatric Nurses association, 2nd Congress, "Building

bridges"

15-17 April 2010, Prague, Czech Republic.

Website: <http://www.horatio-web.eu/building-bridges.html>

Abstract deadline: 30 October 2009

17. World Federation for NeuroRehabilitation (WFNR) 6th World Congress

21 - 25 March 2010, Vienna, Austria

Contact: Congress Secretariat

Email: wcnr2010@medacad.org

Website: <http://www.wcnr2010.org/>

Abstract deadline: 31 October 2009

18. RCN Mental Health nursing forum conference, "Mental health nursing: on the horizon, or in clear focus?"

5 - 6 March 2010, Liverpool, England

This event will celebrate all that is good about mental health nursing in the UK, provide a rich array of presentations demonstrating the innovative and exciting ways in which mental health nurses are practicing, leading, researching and educating. It will also allow opportunities to explore what lies ahead for our profession. What we can clearly see on the horizon and what lies, as yet unrevealed, just beyond that horizon.

Contact: Laura Benfield

Email: mentalhealth@rcn.org.uk

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

Abstract deadline: 9 November 2009

Events

19. Society for Genomic Policy and Public Health annual conference and 4th AGM

11 November 2009, London, England.

This one-day meeting will be based on the theme of "Genetics and Health Promotion". Its aim is to examine the links between genetic and lifestyle factors that influence our health from a range of perspectives. It will include presentations from psychologists, social scientists, industry and public health clinicians to get a sense of how these complex factors are linked, and how best to use this knowledge in communicating key health promotion messages.

Website: <http://www.sgp-ph.org>

20. Date claimer - NHS R&D Forum annual conference 2010

24 - 25 May 2010, Lowry Centre, Salford Quays, nr Manchester, England.

The conference will follow the same format as the 2009 conference: opening at midday on 24 May 2010, a drinks reception and dinner in the evening, and then a full day on 25 May 2010. More information will be made available via the Forum website and newsletter as details are finalised.

Website: <http://www.rdforum.nhs.uk/events.htm>