

RCN Research Society

1. RCN Research Society annual Winifred Raphael Memorial Lecture (WRML)

21 October 2010, Salford, Greater Manchester

Speaker: Professor Kate Seers, University of Warwick

Title: Lost in translation: the Art and Science of using evidence in practice

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

Research Funding

2. 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.

3. NHS East of England Regional Innovation Fund 2009/10

NHS East of England has successfully allocated 330,000 GBP to the Small Business Research Initiative leaving 1.6 million GBP available through a 2009/10 allocation process. This will be used to support the adoption and spread of innovation, aligned to our Vision Towards the Best, Together and quality, innovation, productivity and prevention (QIPP) priorities. We are working with our East of England Innovation Council, a newly established collaboration of regional multi sector partners, to design and advise on the allocation process. The process and timetable is currently being developed. It is envisaged the fund will be launched in the new year. When we open the fund to applications, it will be published here on the NHS East of England website with details of the application process, eligibility criteria and selection process.

Website: http://www.eoe.nhs.uk/page.php?page_id=627

4. NHS East Midlands Regional Innovation Fund 2009/10

The deadline for applications has passed for the 2009/10 year.

Website: <http://www.excellence.eastmidlands.nhs.uk/welcome/quality--innovation/innovation/east-midlands-regional-innovation-fund>

NHS North East Regional Innovation Fund ("Good ideas investment") 2009/10

The deadline for applications has passed for the 2009/10 year.

Website: <http://www.northeast.nhs.uk/vision/1434AE5D65E14405AE7616141D66A7BB.aspx>

NHS South East Coast Regional Innovation Fund 2009/10

The deadline for applications has passed for the 2009/10 year.

Website: <http://www.southeastcoast.nhs.uk/whatwedo/Innovation.asp>

Current Research Commissions

5. National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Health Technology Assessment (HTA) programme and Public Health Research (PHR) programme joint call - Obesity

The NIHR HTA and PHR programmes jointly invite proposals for obesity research, focusing on evaluation, and cost-effectiveness. The research should be designed to inform NHS and/or public health decision-makers.

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

The submission deadline for consideration in the next round is 20 January 2010

6. The National Awareness and Early Diagnosis Initiative (NAEDI) - Call for expressions of interest

NAEDI was initiated by the Department of Health in England and is being developed as a UK-wide initiative to promote earlier diagnosis of cancer and thereby improve survival rates and reduce cancer mortality. NAEDI is a joint initiative from the Department of Health and Cancer Research UK, with input from other UK Health Departments and charities. Successful implementation of this initiative will make a major contribution to achieving world class cancer outcomes in this country. Proposals are invited in the following areas:

- * Targeting higher risk populations
- * Research focusing on public awareness and reasons for late presentation
- * Research focusing on health services
- * Methodology for, and evaluation of, early detection and awareness research

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

The submission deadline for consideration in the next round is 29 January 2010

Fellowships/Studentships

7. Graduate Teaching Assistantships, University of Salford

The University of Salford offers sixteen Graduate Teaching Assistantships every year in a variety of research areas. This is a scholarship scheme that offers a valuable opportunity for postgraduate researchers to study for a PhD while teaching in subjects broadly related to their PhD research. Research which has an impact on improving health outcomes for patients and their families is a core aspect of our nursing research and one of our key activities relates to 'Supporting People with Long Term Conditions'. We would welcome applications from those with a background in nursing for our Graduate Teaching Assistant role which will enhance research relating to living with chronic respiratory disease. For an informal discussion, please contact Dr Paula Ormandy, email: p.ormandy@salford.ac.uk or Dr Janelle Yorke, email: j.yorke@salford.ac.uk.

Website: http://www.pg.salford.ac.uk/page/health_socialcare

Closing date for applications: 5 February 2010.

8. PhD Research Studentship, University of Salford

ESRC New Dynamics of Ageing Programme, "Design for ageing well: improving the quality of life for the ageing population using a technology enabled garment system"

The University of Salford is offering a three year studentship. The successful applicant will join a large multi-disciplinary research team and be enrolled in a full time 3 year programme of research studies. Full payment of fees (Home and EU rate only) is included and an annual stipend of 13, 290 GBP. This PhD will focus on the developing methodologies for user-driven, inter-disciplinary research, design and development and has the provisional title: "User involvement in research, design and development: Successes, challenges and learning points", however there is scope to refine the topic in line with the applicant's research interests. Applicants should be highly motivated towards public involvement in research and inter-disciplinary working, with an interest in ageing, health and wellbeing.

Contact: Julia Ryan
Tel: 0161 295 2790
Email: j.ryan@salford.ac.uk

9. PhD studentship, University of Aberdeen

"Engaging with older people and their carers to develop and deliver interventions for the self-management of chronic pain (EP-IC)"

This studentship includes full payment of fees (Home and EU rate only) and an annual stipend of around 13K GBP.

Website: <http://www.abdn.ac.uk/clsm/graduateschool/researchdetails.php?ID=595>

Closing date for applications: 29 January 2010

Research Training

10. ESRC National Centre for Research Methods

The ESRC National Centre for Research Methods (NCRM) forms part of ESRC's strategy to improve the standards of research methods across the UK social science community. A monthly bulletin is produced, and the December 09 bulletin contains a list of training courses and events taking place in 2010, including:

- * **Introduction to Data Linkage**, 18 January 2010, University of Southampton
- * **The Value of Data Linkage for Research**, 19 January 2010, University of Southampton
- * **Timescapes 2010 Conference: The Craft of Qualitative Longitudinal Research**, 20 January 2010, Cardiff
- * **CASS Essentials of Survey Design and Implementation**, 20 - 22 January 2010, Belfast
- * **CASS Data Linkage: An Introduction to Statistical and Methodological Issues**, 20 - 22 January 2010, University of Southampton
- * **CASS Regression Methods**, 27 - 29 January 2010, University of Southampton
- * **CASS Survey Data Analysis 1: Introducing Descriptive & Inferential Statistics**, 10 - 12 February 2010, University of Southampton
- * **Oxford Spring School in Quantitative Methods for Social Research**, 15 - 19 March 2010, Oxford
- * **Advanced Analysis of Linked Health Data**, 06 - 10 April 2010, St Andrews

- * **Masterclass: Measurement error: models, identification and inference (Susanne M. Schennach)**, 22 - 23 April 2010, London
- * **Advanced methods for the analysis of complex event history data**, 27 June 2010 - 02 July 2010, Bristol
- * **ESRC Research Methods Festival 2010**, 05 - 08 July 2010, Oxford
- * **Understanding survey quality**, 13 - 20 August 2010, Switzerland
- * **Methodological aspects of the use of composite scores in cross-cultural research**, 01 - 08 September 2010, Vienna, Austria
- * **Summer school in "R"**, 01 - 07 September 2010, Bucharest, Romania

Website: <http://www.ncrm.ac.uk/news/ebulletin/Bulletins/2009/12.php>

Research Networks

11. Cochrane Nursing Care Network

The mission of the Cochrane Nursing Care Network is to improve health outcomes through:

- * increasing the use of the Cochrane Library by nurses and others (such as formal and informal carers and other health professionals) involved in delivering, leading or researching nursing care
- * engaging nurses and others involved in delivering, leading or researching nursing care with the Cochrane Collaboration
- * supporting the Cochrane Collaboration and its role in providing an evidence base for nursing care

Website: <http://www.joannabriggs.edu.au/cncn/>

Knowledge Transfer - Finding the Evidence

12. National Institute of Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) latest published guidance - November 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) Lung cancer (small cell) - topotecan

Public health

- i) None

Interventional procedures

- i) Lateral (including extreme, extra and direct lateral) interbody fusion in the lumbar spine
- ii) Photochemical corneal collagen cross linkage using riboflavin and ultraviolet A for keratoconus
- iii) Percutaneous intradiscal electrothermal therapy for chronic lower back pain (Review of IPG81)
- iv) Bronchoscopic lung volume reduction with airway valves for advanced emphysema

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

13. 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) **02/10/02** A prospective randomised controlled trial and economic modelling of antimicrobial silver dressings versus non-adherent control dressings for venous leg ulcers: The VULCAN trial (Michaels) Health Technol Assess 2009; 13.56
- ii) **01/41/04** VenUS II: a randomised controlled trial of larval therapy in the management of leg ulcers (Dumville) Health Technol Assess 2009; 13.55
- iii) **01/74/03** Randomised controlled trial of the use of the three dressing preparations in the management of chronic ulceration of the foot in diabetes (Jeffcoate) Health Technol Assess 2009; 13.54
- iv) **03/11/02** Randomised preference trial of medical versus surgical termination of pregnancy less than 14 weeks' gestation (TOPS) (Robson) Health Technol Assess 2009; 13.53
- v) **07/61/01** The clinical effectiveness of glucosamine and chondroitin supplements in slowing or arresting progression of osteoarthritis of the knee: a systematic review and economic evaluation (Black) Health Technol Assess 2009; 13.52
- vi) **98/04/64** ARTISTIC: a randomised trial of human papillomavirus (HPV) testing in primary cervical screening (Kitchener) Health Technol Assess 2009; 13.51
- vii) **04/36/02** Cessation of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder drugs in the young (CADDY) - a pharmacoepidemiological and qualitative study (Wong) Health Technol Assess 2009; 13.50
- viii) **05/24/01** Clinical and cost-effectiveness of epoprostenol, iloprost, bosentan, sitaxentan and sildenafil for the treatment of pulmonary arterial hypertension within their licensed indications: a systematic review and economic evaluation (Chen) Health Technol Assess 2009; 13.49

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

14. The Scottish Ethnicity and Health Research Strategy Working Group (November 2009), "Health in our multi-ethnic Scotland: future research priorities" NHS Health Scotland

The report shows the unprecedented increase in the diversity of the Scottish population in recent years. Some excellent research on ethnic minorities in Scotland has been published but this has been limited in scale and mainly focuses on the South Asian community. This report identifies five priorities:

- * Good ethnic coding
- * Making the best use of data linkage methods
- * A health survey of ethnic minorities in Scotland
- * Coordinated research on major health problems and issues
- * Catalysing, coordinating and using research

Website: <http://www.equalitiesinhealth.org/Healthinmultiethnicpops.html>

15. Research Information Network (December 2009), "Overcoming barriers: access to research information"

This RIN report finds that many researchers are encountering difficulties in getting access to the content they need and that this is having a significant impact on their research. Based on the findings of five studies, the report investigates the nature and scale of key restrictions on access to information resources of importance to researchers; the impact of these restrictions and the ways in which they might be alleviated or overcome.

Website: <http://www.rin.ac.uk/our-work/using-and-accessing-information-resources/overcoming-barriers-access-research-information>

Knowledge Transfer - Practice Development

16. Weaks, D., Johansen, R., Wilkinson, H., McLeod, J. (2009), "Developing nursing practice: a counselling approach to delivering postdiagnostic dementia support"

Recent developments in the diagnosis and treatment of dementia mean that an increasing number of people receive an early diagnosis. Those who receive an early diagnosis are typically functioning well, but are faced with coming to terms with a disease with inevitable serious consequences. For many individuals and families, an early diagnosis of dementia has a profound impact on relationships, self-esteem and wellbeing. This briefing is a summary of an award-winning action research study (supported by the Burdett Trust for Nursing, NHS Tayside and the Universities of Abertay Dundee and Edinburgh) looking at how Community Mental Health Nurses (CMHNS) can be trained and supported to help people with dementia and their families.

Copies of the full report are available by contacting Heather Wilkinson, email: h.wilkinson@ed.ac.uk

17. Advancing healthcare practice: the Patients First Programme, Foundation of Nursing Studies and Burdett Trust for Nursing

'Patients first': supporting nurse-led innovation in practice - a programme of support for clinically based nurse-led teams. All patients should experience care that is high quality and patient-focused and whilst the responsibility for continuously improving the quality of care lies with all healthcare professionals, nurses as direct care givers have a key role in identifying potential areas for improvement and leading change. FoNS' new and forward-thinking partnership with the Burdett Trust for Nursing will enable clinically based nurses to lead innovative local projects that will develop nurses, nursing and healthcare practice to advance and improve patient care in any healthcare setting across the UK. Over a period of 12 months, the programme provides support and facilitation to clinically based nurse-led teams to help them to develop, implement and evaluate locally focused innovations that improve patient care. Funding of up to 3,000 GBP is also available.

Who can apply? Clinically based nurses and nurse-led teams who have identified with patients an aspect of care that needs to be improved and who can demonstrate a commitment to:

- * Developing a greater understanding of the practice issues by using a variety of approaches to inform and evaluate the development of practice and improvement of care
- * Working in ways that enables the inclusion and participation of patients and other key stakeholders in all aspects of the project
- * Using a systematic approach to development and improvement

Website: http://www.fons.org/ahcp_pffunding.asp

Closing date for applications is 29 January 2010

Knowledge Transfer - Disseminating Your Research

18. RCN Emergency Care Association annual conference, " Emergency care: you make the difference"

22 - 23 October 2010, Cardiff City Hall, Cardiff, Wales

This conference will examine some of the current and future challenges to emergency care and the critical role of the nurse and allied health professional in addressing these. Topical, practical sessions on the creation and implementation of initiatives for change will be augmented by sessions on effective leadership and management of developing services.

Contact: Kathryn Clark

Tel: 020-7647 3585

Email: emergencycare@rcn.org.uk

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

Abstract deadline: 30 March 2010

19. 39th British Society of Gerontology annual conference, "Identities, care and everyday life"

06 - 08 July 2010, Brunel University, London, England

Our interdisciplinary conference provides an opportunity for participants to engage with contemporary cutting-edge developments in research, policy and practice in ageing and ageing studies.

Website: <http://www.bsg2010brunel.org.uk/>

Deadline for receipt of abstracts: 29 January 2010

Events

20. North & East Yorkshire & Northern Lincolnshire Comprehensive Local Research Network (NEYNL CLRN) Palliative Care Specialty Group conference, "Including the excluded - research in people with advanced disease"

13 - 14 January 2010, York, England

For more information, contact Jane Ash, NEYNL CLRN, email: Jane.Ash@nhs.net