

RCN Research and Development Co-ordinating Centre

1. RCN 2010 annual international nursing research conference - call for papers - DEADLINE EXTENDED BY 1 DAY

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>

Due to the high volume of traffic on the online abstract system, the deadline for the receipt of abstracts has been extended by 1 day, and is now 5PM (GMT), 3rd November 2009.

RCN Research Society

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 3, "Physiological measures of anxiety in hospital patients", Anne Munday, RCN, London, 1973.**

[Abstract: The *Physiological measures of anxiety in hospital patients* illustrates the variety of techniques used to tackle the problem of measuring effectiveness of nursing care. It is the only study of the series to explore the physiological reaction to stress. The nursing procedure selected for study was patients' use of the bed-pan or commode. Changes in heart-rate and in the activity of the palmar sweat glands were used as measures of physiological response. While stress is known to raise the

heart-rate it decreases secretion of the palmar sweat glands so that the two measures are inversely related. It was found that use of the bed-pan did increase stress as measured by the heart-rate and the Palmar Sweat Index; but the Palmar Sweat Index showed great variability both between patients and in the same patient on different occasions, thus highlighting the difficulties of arriving at an objective measure of nursing care.]

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

3. RCN annual international nursing research conference - Chair of Scientific Committee 2011-2013

The RCN Research Society are seeking expressions of interest for the Chair of the Scientific Committee 2011-2013. The Chair will take over from Professor Andrea Nelson at the conference in May 2010. Details of the roles and responsibilities can be found in the Scientific Committee section of the 2010 website. Informal discussions are encouraged; please contact Professor Andrea Nelson, Tel: 0113-343 1373, or Dr Ann McMahon, Tel: 01292-442 633. Expressions of interest should be emailed to Vita FitzSimons, email: vita.fitzsimons@rcn.org.uk.

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

Deadline for submissions of interest: 23 November 2009

4. RCN Research Society Northern region Winter event, "Evidence based practice"

30 November 2009, 12.30 - 17.00, Post Graduate Centre, University Hospital of North Tees, Stockton

Speakers: Dr Sharon Hamilton, Dr Eileen Scott, Jane Greenaway and John Blenkinsopp.

All Welcome, 10.00 GBP for RCN members, 20.00 GBP non-RCN members. Students FREE. Light lunch and refreshments included.

To book a place,

Contact: Deborah Whetter

Tel: 01642 624524

Email: Deborah.whetter@nth.nhs.uk

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

5. RCN Research Society 2009 annual Winifred Raphael Memorial Lecture

"Nursing, Workforce and Health Outcomes: Historical Reflections and Research" by Professor Anne-Marie Rafferty, Dean of Florence Nightingale School of Nursing and Midwifery, King's College London

The notes from this lecture are now available on the website. The webcast will be available shortly.

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

Career Development Opportunities

6. Research Nurse/Midwife/Physiotherapist, UCL Institute of Child Health - Portex Anaesthesia, Intensive Therapy & Respiratory Medicine

UCL Grade 6 25,546 - 29,964 GBP per annum depending on skills and experience. This post is full time, however, flexible hours/part time working will be considered.

We are currently undertaking a multi-centre project with infants with Cystic Fibrosis. Based in the

Respiratory Physiology Laboratory at Great Ormond Street Hospital, you will receive suitable training and support that will enable you to undertake lung function testing. You will also be involved in recruitment and day-to-day running of the project. The post-holder will assist with research that has been funded by the Cystic Fibrosis Trust, which aims to develop better ways of detecting early changes in lung function and structure in young infants diagnosed with CF through newborn screening.

Website: <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/jobs/> (Ref: 1118118)

Closing Date for applications: 16 November 2009

Research Funding

7. Funding opportunities, The Stroke Association

i) **Research Project Grants.** Applications are invited for research project grants in the field of stroke. Grants are limited to a maximum of 70,000 GBP per annum for up to three years (up to a maximum of 210,000 GBP).

Closing date 5 February 2010

ii) **Junior Research Training Fellowships.** The Fellowships are intended primarily for Nurses and Therapists to study towards a post graduate qualification relevant to stroke research. Fellowships are available for 35,000 GBP per year for up to three years.

Closing date 15 January 2010

iii) **Senior Research Training Fellowship.** Fellowships of 175,000 GBP for three years will be awarded to outstanding postdoctoral candidates from the Nursing or Allied Health Professions, and are intended to enable the Fellow to embark on an independent career in academic stroke research.

Closing date 15 January 2010

Website: http://www.stroke.org.uk/research/apply_for_funding/index.html (Application forms, terms and conditions, closing dates and guidance)

Fellowships/Studentships

8. Clinical Research Training Fellowships, Medical Research Council (MRC)

Fellowships provide support for up to three years (four years for patient-orientated research). This includes a personal salary and annual travel allowance. Fellows are required to register for a research degree, normally a PhD.

Website: <http://www.mrc.ac.uk/Fundingopportunities/Fellowships/index.htm>

Closing date for applications: 22 January 2010

Consultations

9. Research Excellence Framework: Second consultation on the assessment and funding of research

HEFCE are currently consulting on behalf of the four funding councils in the UK on the Research

Excellence Framework (REF); the new arrangements for the assessment and funding of research in UK higher education institution that will replace the Research Assessment Exercise (RAE). Following an initial consultation on the REF published in late 2007 HEFCE have developed detailed proposals for the REF. The proposals build on a pilot exercise on the use of citation information, consideration of how to assess the impact of research as a key new element in the framework, lessons drawn from the 2008 RAE, and extensive expert advice and discussions with a wide range of stakeholders. HEFCE will issue guidance on the REF in 2010 after completing the consultation. The first REF exercise is due to be completed in 2013.

The RCN Research Society will be responding to this consultation: if you would like your thoughts to be considered as part of the RCN response, please send your comments to Dave O'Carroll, email: david.ocarroll@rcn.org.uk by 20 November 2009.

Website: http://www.hefce.ac.uk/pubs/hefce/2009/09_38/

The consultation will run to 16 December 2009.

Knowledge Transfer - Finding the Evidence

10. **Smith, N. et al (2009), "Identifying research priorities for health care priority setting: a collaborative effort between managers and researchers"**

To date there has been relatively little published about how research priorities are set, and even less about methods by which decision-makers can be engaged in defining a relevant and appropriate research agenda. We report on a recent effort in British Columbia to have researchers and decision-makers jointly establish an agenda for future research into questions of resource allocation. This is an open-access article.

Website: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1472-6963/9/165>

11. **The Change Foundation symposium, "Bridging the 'know-do' gap"**

How can research be used to influence health-care decision making and improve practice? Over fifty nursing leaders, Ministry of Health policy experts, and health-care KT practitioners attended the symposium, which was moderated by Change Foundation Chair Scott Dudgeon, with welcoming remarks by Vanessa Burkoski, Ontario's Provincial Chief Nursing Officer. In addition to an animated discussion about how to overcome barriers to effective KT and implement strategies to create a more evidence-based policy-making culture in Ontario, the symposium showcased on-the-ground lessons from provincial nursing practice improvement projects funded by the Nursing Secretariat and supported by The Change Foundation from 2004 to 2009. The diverse projects ranged from an oncology framework for Advanced Practice Nurses to a website for street nurses.

Website: <http://www.changefoundation.ca/news.html>

Knowledge Transfer - Disseminating Your Research

12. **10th Enhancing Practice conference, "Celebrating innovative, creative and strategic healthcare, social care and education practice"**

13 - 15 September 2010, Belfast, Northern Ireland

This is a participative, democratic event aimed at practitioners, practice developers, facilitators, educators, researchers and policy makers.

Contact: Kathryn Clark
Email: enhancingpractice@rcn.org.uk
Website: <http://www.rcn.org.uk/enhancingpractice>

Closing date for abstracts: 30 March 2010

Events

13. UK Centre for the History of Nursing and Midwifery in collaboration with the John Rylands University Library, "History of midwifery seminars"

25 November 2009, 4.30 - 7.00pm, The historic reading room, John Rylands University Library, Deansgate, Manchester, England. Cost 10 GBP per person (includes wine/soft drink)

"The contribution of midwifery texts and teaching aids to eighteenth-century midwifery education" by Professor Helen King

followed by

"A close-up examination of selected eighteenth-century midwifery treatises"

To reserve a place, please

Contact: Janette Allotey
Email: janette.allotey@manchester.ac.uk