

RCN Research Society

1. 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 5, "Information - a prescription against pain", Jack Hayward, RCN, London, 1975.**

[Abstract: Dr Hayward's study proves that relevant information given to patients expecting an operation substantially reduces their post-operative pain and anxiety. General friendliness, although desirable, is no substitute for factual information and the author's information schedule might well be adapted to other aspects of nursing care. The experimental design of the study is unique in the present series and should prove of outstanding interest to nurse researchers.]

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

Career Development Opportunities

2. National Institute of Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) and the Royal College of Nursing - Call for reviewers

The Department of Health has asked the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) to develop a new wave of clinical guidelines. The RCN is seeking nurses with knowledge and experience for the following conditions to participate in the review of the draft consultation documents when they become available:

- i) Antibiotics for neonatal infection (Clinical Guideline)
- ii) Autism in adults (Clinical Guideline)
- iii) Headaches (Clinical Guideline)
- iv) Incontinence in neurological disease (Clinical Guideline)
- v) Neutropenic sepsis (Clinical Guideline)
- vi) Pain and bleeding in early pregnancy (Clinical Guideline)
- vii) Peripheral arterial disease (Clinical Guideline)
- viii) Psoriasis (Clinical Guideline)
- ix) Anaphylactic episode (Short Clinical Guideline)
- x) Hyperglycaemia (Short Clinical Guideline)
- xi) Peritoneal dialysis (Short Clinical Guideline)

Please contact Caroline Rapu if you would like to be involved in this work.

Contact: Caroline Rapu

Email: caroline.rapu@rcn.org.uk

3. Research Nurse, Patient Care Research & Innovation Centre, UCL Institute of Child Health

UCL Grade 7, 28,983 - 35,646GBP per annum depending on skills and experience. The post is funded for 5 months full time.

This an opportunity for a research nurse 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. 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> (Job reference 1121443)

Closing date for receipt of applications: 30 November 2009

Research Funding

4. 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

5. National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Health Technology Assessment (HTA) programme - Commissioned Research

The NIHR Health Technology Assessment (HTA) programme invites research proposals on the following topics:

Primary Research (outline proposals):

- i) Nicotine replacement therapy pre-loading
- ii) Are screening programmes for permanent hearing loss in children at school entry cost-effective?
- iii) Duodenal stenting for malignant gastric outlet obstruction
- iv) Antibiotics in the management of atopic eczema

Evidence Synthesis (full proposals):

- i) Efficacy of diversion and aftercare programmes for offenders using class A drugs
- ii) The diagnostic utility of selective nerve root blocks
- iii) Sentinel lymph node biopsy and staging of vulval cancer
- iv) Non-invasive methods for the assessment and monitoring of liver fibrosis and cirrhosis
- v) Angioplasty for peripheral arterial disease
- vi) Intervention programmes for children of parents who have a severe mental illness

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

The submission deadline for consideration in the next round is 08 January 2010

6. National Institute for Health Research Trainees Co-ordinating Centre (NIHR TCC) - Fellowships

- i) **Doctoral Research Fellowship (NIHR-DRF)**. Offers 3 years full-time funding (or 4 or 5 years part-time) to undertake a PhD and is aimed at individuals, of outstanding potential, early in their research careers. It aims to fast-track them through a customised research training programme in an environment reflecting their individual talents and training needs. It is anticipated that successful applicants would become independent research leaders within 6 to 10 years of completing an NIHR-DRF Award.
- ii) **Post-Doctoral Fellowship (NIHR-PDF)**. Offers 3 years full time funding (or 4 or 5 years part-time) to individuals who are able to demonstrate their potential as researchers but do not, as yet, have sufficient experience to be fully independent. Applicants must show evidence of a clear commitment to a research career in the forms of outputs from doctoral and post-doctoral research, where applicable. Applicants will not have more than 3 years WTE post-doctoral research experience at the time of applying.
- iii) **Career Development Fellowship (NIHR-CDF)**. Offers 3 years full-time funding (or 4 or 5 years part-time) to individuals who have significant and successful post-doctoral experience. Applicants should be able to provide evidence of a clear commitment to a research career, success in the form of outputs from doctoral and post-doctoral research and the likelihood that during a Fellowship they would become fully independent researchers. Applicants will not have more than 7 years WTE post-doctoral research experience at the time of applying.
- iv) **Senior Research Fellowship (NIHR-SRF)**. Offers 5 years funding to undertake a programme of research and is aimed at outstanding individuals who are currently independent researchers and can demonstrate the potential to become academic and research leaders within the duration of an award. An NIHR-SRF is expected to enhance existing career opportunities for both themselves and others in health related research and support the development of collaborative partnerships within and between HEIs and NHS in response to identified health needs.

In 2008, 1 of the 29 awards went to a nurse; in 2009, 4 of the 44 awards went to nurses.

Website: <http://www.nihrtcc.nhs.uk/nihrfellow/>

Closing date for completed applications is 11 January 2010.

Consultations

7. 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) **European Commission**, "Issues Paper - The EU role in global health" [Lead: Susan Williams. Deadline: 9th December 2009]
- ii) **Department of Health**, "Consultation on the proposed framework for Quality Accounts" [Leads: Kim Manley and Tim Curry. Deadline: 10 December 2009]
- iii) **Department of Health**, "Supporting our future NHS workforce: a consultation on the NHS Bursary Scheme" [Lead: Gill Robertson. Deadline: 11 December 2009]
- iv) **Higher Education Funding Councils**, "Research Excellence Framework: Second consultation on the assessment and funding of research" [Lead: Ann McMahon. Deadline: 16th Dec 2009]
- v) **Care Quality Commission**, "Consultation on CQC strategy for 2010-15" [Lead: Leela Barham. Deadline: 24 December 2009]
- vi) **Department of Health**, "Call for evidence - review of restrictions on private patient income: the

- NHS foundation trust private patient income cap" [Lead: Tim Curry. Deadline: 31st Dec 2009]
- vii) **Department of Health**, "Consultation on proposed tobacco control regulations in England (under the Health Bill 2009)" [Lead: Fiona Smith. Deadline: 4th Jan 2010]
- viii) **Department of Health**, "Direct payment for health care: a consultation on proposals for regulations and guidance" [Lead: Stuart Abrahams. Deadline: 8th January 2010]
- ix) **Department of Health**, "Direct payment for health care: a consultation on proposals for regulations and guidance" [Lead: Stuart Abrahams, Tim Curry and Gary Kirwan. Deadline: 8 January 2010]
- x) **Department of Health**, "Draft Measures for Psychology Support Services for the Manual for Cancer Services" [Lead: Alan Dobson. Deadline: 8th January 2010]
- xi) **Mayor of London**, "London Health Inequalities Strategy Public Consultation Draft" [Lead: Jan Maw. Deadline: 10 January 2010]
- xii) **Monitor**, "Publication of Monitor's consultation on additional annual reporting requirements for foundation trusts for 2009-10" [Lead: Tim Curry. Deadline: 25th Jan 2010]
- xiii) **Care Quality Commission**, "Consultation: Interim Registration Fees for the NHS" [Lead: Leela Barham. Deadline: 26th Jan 2010]
- xiv) **Department of Health**, "Review of NHS children's services" [Lead: Fiona Smith. Deadline: Sir Ian to report with recommendations by March 2010]

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

8. 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) Strategies to prevent unintentional injuries among under 15s: consultation on the evidence (26 October - 23 November 2009)
- ii) Constipation in children: draft guideline consultation (1 October - 25 November 2009)
- iii) Colorectal cancer in patients with ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease and polyps: draft scope consultation (28 October - 25 November 2009)
- iv) Thrombocytopenic purpura - romiplostim: appraisal consultation document (5 - 26 November 2009)
- v) Rituximab for the treatment of relapsed/refractory chronic lymphocytic leukaemia: appraisal consultation document (10 November - 1 December 2009)
- vi) Preventing unintentional road injuries among under 15s: road design: draft guidance consultation (4 November - 2 December 2009)
- vii) Preventing unintentional injuries among under 15s in the home: draft guidance consultation (4 November - 2 December 2009)
- viii) Chronic myeloid leukaemia - dasatinib and nilotinib: appraisal consultation document (16 November - 7 December 2009)
- ix) Bacterial meningitis and meningococcal septicaemia in children: guideline consultation (22 October - 17 December 2009)
- x) Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (update): draft guideline consultation (10 November 2009 - 5 January 2010)
- xi) Delirium: draft guideline consultation (11 November 2009 - 6 January 2010)
- xii) Consultation on the NICE response to the Kennedy report (Ends 13 January 2010)

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

Research Networks

9. UK Clinical Research Facility Network

Established in April 2008, the UK Clinical Research Facility Network (Network) supports a portfolio of activities embracing all Clinical Research Facilities (CRFs), NIHR Biomedical Research Centres and Units and those working in experimental medicine centres across the UK. Under the direction of the

Strategic Planning Team the purpose of the Network is to share expertise and good practice between facilities. A major achievement during the past year has been the launch of the highly successful UKCRF Network portal. It provides a platform for sharing good practice, knowledge and expertise, opportunities for collaboration and information exchange, helps avoid duplication and underpins the Networks main objectives of promoting excellence and consistency in terms of CRF operation across the network. The UKCRF Network has become a recognised and invaluable focal point for the collaborative growth and sharing of translational clinical research expertise. The plans for the next 12 months will be to build on initial success and develop new initiatives. For further information about the UKCRF Network or to join the portal please

Contact: Shane Hoy, Operations Manager
Email: shane.hoy@manchester.ac.uk

Research in Progress

10. Health Care Support Workers in the UK

Susan Watt, Learning and Development Coordinator (Professional Practice), RCN Scotland is currently undertaking an integrated systematic literature review looking at policy, strategy, and challenges of healthcare support workers/care assistants migrating into pre registration programmes and Higher Education in the UK. If anyone has any research or work (articles, books, presentations, published or not) that they could share, it would be appreciated. Anything used will be acknowledged in the published work.

Contact: Susan Watt
Tel: 0131 662 6152
Email: susan.watt@rcn.org.uk

Contributions to be sent ideally by 10 December 2009, but anytime before the end of 2009 would be fine.

11. National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Public Health Research (PHR) programme suggestions form

The NIHR PHR is interested in anything that that could improve the health of people in local communities anywhere in the UK. We're not just talking about healthy eating, how to stop smoking or how to prevent the spread of diseases like 'flu'. Your idea could be to do with air quality, public transport, urban design - anything at all that could help to make people healthier. Anyone can make suggestions. We want to hear from you whether you are a public health professional, work in a related field or are a concerned member of the public.

Website: <http://www.phr.nihr.ac.uk/suggest/0.asp>

User Involvement

12. Patient and Public How to Guide - NIHR Research Design Service for the North West

The guide information is aimed at researchers involved in NHS research and their collaborators in the university sector. It is designed especially to help those applying or thinking of applying for NHS research funding. Research managers, service users and the wider public may also find the information useful. We would like to thank Dr Sue Hinder (RaFT Consulting) and Dr Tracey Williamson (RDS Adviser University of Salford) for their significant input in producing the content of the guide and their feedback which was valuable in producing the online version. Please have a look and hope you find it useful. We welcome any feedback on its usefulness and we plan to revise the guide overtime in response to comments and suggestions.

Website: http://www.rds-nw.nihr.ac.uk/PI/how_to_guide.php

Knowledge Transfer - Finding the Evidence

13. RCN Clinical Governance e-Bulletin

The RCN Clinical Governance e-Bulletin will keep you up to date with clinical governance news, developments, publications and events. Emailed on a fortnightly basis it is organised around key themes such as patient safety, quality improvement tools and techniques, patient focus, and e-health. Some issues focus on specific topics; so far these have included patient and public involvement, Essence of Care, patient safety, falls, and infection control. To register for this fortnightly e-Bulletin, please click on the link on the Clinical Governance section of the RCN website.

Website: http://www.rcn.org.uk/development/practice/clinical_governance

14. National Institute of Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) latest published guidance - October 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) Depression in adults (update)
- ii) Depression in chronic health problems

Technology appraisals

- i) Acute coronary artery syndrome - prasugrel
- ii) Cervical cancer (recurrent) - topotecan

Public health

- i) None

Interventional procedures

- i) None

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

15. Journal of Research in Nursing

Journal of Research in Nursing publishes research on nursing topics and themes. Original research is published with the aim of encouraging evidence-based practice and improving the quality of patient care. It is a leading journal that underpins good research with current policy. Each issue contains papers on a variety of topics in relation to health care, as well as a Focus section that highlights key up to date issues through papers written by experts in that specific field. The contents of the most recent Journal of Research in Nursing, November 2009, Volume 14, No. 6 includes:

- i) **Janet Stevens:** The professional obligation; speaking out to improve care
- ii) **Louis Appleby and Tony Butterworth:** Fifty years of endeavour, prevention and health in mental health policy
- iii) **Ian McGonagle, Christine Jackson, and Ian Baguley:** Mental health policy to practice; too much loose change?
- iv) **Gary Winship, Joy Bray, Julie Repper, and Robert D. Hinshelwood:** Collective biography and the legacy of Hildegard Peplau, Annie Altschul and Eileen Skellern; the origins of mental health

nursing and its relevance to the current crisis in psychiatry

v) **Terence V. McCann, Lorna Moxham, Kim Usher, Patrick A. Crookes, and Gerald Farrell:**

Mental health content of comprehensive pre-registration nursing curricula in Australia

vi) **Claire Manning and Theodore Stickley:** Childhood abuse and psychosis; a critical review of the literature

vii) **Elizabeth Walsh and Dawn Freshwater:** The mental well-being of prison nurses in England and Wales

viii) **Tony Butterworth:** Responsibility in research; the need for stout hearts and extra imagination in financially challenging times

Website: <http://jrn.sagepub.com/>

16. Nurse Researcher

Nurse Researcher is an international journal of research methodology in nursing and healthcare. Published quarterly, it is focused primarily on the needs of pre- and post-registration students, practitioners and educators, and contains authoritative papers on the appropriate application and relevance of research methods to nursing and healthcare.

The main aim of the journal is to educate readers in how to evaluate and appreciate research work through increasing their understanding of the methods which underlie it. RCN members can access the full text articles of Nurse Researcher via the RCN Library & Information Services:

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

The contents of the current issue of Nurse Researcher, Volume 17, Number 1, 2009 includes:

i) Editorial by **Leslie Gelling**

ii) Commentary by **Kader Parahoo**

iii) An exploration of the origin of classic grounded theory by **Jennifer Moore**

iv) Grounded theory: methodology and philosophical perspective by **Tahereh Najafi Ghezalje and Azita Emami**

v) Using survey data to assist theoretical sampling in grounded theory research by **Kay Currie**

vi) Systematic review protocols: an introduction by **Lisa S Whiting**

vii) A research routine to assess bias introduced by low response rates in postal surveys by **Rosemary Ford and Gabriele Bammer**

viii) Reconciling methodological approaches of survey and focus group by **Mulli Lawal**

ix) Seeing both the forest and the trees: a process for tracking individual responses in focus group interviews by **Val Goodwin and Brenda Happell**

x) Uses of a research diary: learning reflectively, developing understanding and establishing transparency by **Kathryn A Clarke**

xi) Developing and testing attitude scales around IT by **Rod Ward, Margaret Glogowska, Katherine Pollard and Pam Moule**

xii) Opinion piece by **Nigel Cox**. Subjects of concern: troubling categories

Website: <http://nurseresearcher.rcnpublishing.co.uk/>

Knowledge Transfer - Practice Development

17. 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 (04/11 to 10/11/2009) 185 new records have been added to the DARE, NHS EED and HTA databases.

Abstract of the week

A meta-analysis of the efficacy of sulfasalazine in comparison with 5-aminosalicylates in the induction of improvement and maintenance of remission in patients with ulcerative colitis. This review concluded that there was no difference in the efficacy and tolerability of sulfasalazine compared to mesalamine or olsalazine for treatment of ulcerative colitis. Withdrawal due to adverse events was lower with balsalazide than sulfasalazine confident, but conclusions could not be made that balsalazide was better. The authors' conclusions were appropriate, but potentially important clinical differences were not considered.

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

Events

18. Lanarkshire Research Advisory Group (LRAG) seminar series 2009/2010

LRAG aims to: *Share Expertise; *Facilitate Networking; *Encourage Research Activity; *Provide Accessible Research Specific Seminars; *Share Current Research Information. The seminar series is free of charge and is held in the evenings from 4.30 - 6.30pm in the School of Health, Nursing and Midwifery (Caird Building), University of the West of Scotland, University Campus Hamilton.

10 Dec 2009, "**Hermeneutics**", Yvonne Robb/Trudi Marshall, Glasgow Caledonian University/NHS Lanarkshire

12 Jan 2010, "**Grounded Theory**", Dr. Glenn Marland, University of the West of Scotland

Feb 2010, "**Action Research**", To be confirmed

16 Mar 2010, "**Quantitative Research Methods**", Jean Rankin, University of the West of Scotland

22 Apr 2010, "**Mixed Methodology including Triangulation**", Claire Chalmers, University of the West of Scotland

18 May 2010, "**Questionnaire Design/Interview Techniques including Focus groups**", Claire Chalmers/Angela Kydd & Pauline Banks, University of the West of Scotland

15 Jun 2010, "**Attending an Ethics Committee**", To be confirmed

For further information please contact the LRAG Coordinator

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