



# Capturing the impact of nursing research: VICTOR and the role of the RCN

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University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

On behalf of the RCN

# Background

- RCN Research Society: impact case studies in the Research Excellence Framework (REF) Kelly et al. 2014
- Interest in promoting and maximising the impact of nursing research
- Bid to Forum Governance Group
- Workshop held 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018

# General themes

- The impact of nursing research and/or the impact of nursing on research
- Impact is more than REF
- Changing roles of nurses and nursing
- Needs to be viewed as a complex system not a linear process
- The importance of culture – or cultures?
- Different strategies across the four nations in the UK
- Different types of impact – patients, families, communities, clinical practice, workforce, education, policy, economic
- Making the invisible visible



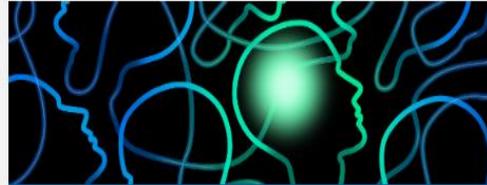
What is the role of the RCN for increasing the visibility and impact of research and nursing

# RCN response: work by the Research Society



- Increasing the visibility of research done by nurses
- Raising the profile of nurses leading research
- Making research resources more accessible
- Providing guidance on the use of the James Lind Alliance research priorities for nursing research

# New forum web pages



## Impact case studies

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## Career insights

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## Research priorities in cancer care

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## Targeted funding for research

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## Lead researchers in cancer nursing

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## Where to publish

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## Innovations in cancer nursing

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# Impact case studies

- Chosen by the forums
- Content guided by VICTOR

## Activity

- Does VICTOR need to be adapted for the profession?
- Use hypothetical research study to apply VICTOR
- Think about the impact on *nursing* not impact on the *organisation*
- How have nurses benefitted or will benefit in the future

# VICTOR: Making Visible the ImaCT Of Research



National Institute for  
Health Research

- YH CRN and CLAHRC YH jointly funded
- Develop tool to collect and make visible the impact of research activity **within NHS organisations**
- Identifying impact where it matters in the NHS and services to people
- Creating a resource to support NHS Trusts to capture and show how clinical research projects have impact within the organisation, to learn from this
- A tool which is specifically about the research impacts within an organisation, not necessarily intended study wide/national impacts
- To help organisations identify and promote the difference clinical research can make to patient care by amplifying a diverse range of impacts

# VICTOR team

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Jo Cooke CLAHRC YH Deputy  
Director and CRN HSR Lead



Judith Holliday Head of Research and Innovation,  
Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust



Natalie Jones Head of Occupational Therapy,  
Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS FT



# Research impact reporting in the NHS: a manager's perspective

QCQ 'well led'  
inspections

Trust Quality Account,  
Annual Report and Quality  
Committee

To demonstrate clinical impact for  
services and for the REF

To support business cases  
and improvement projects:  
Providing examples of where  
research has made a  
difference

Annual research performance  
reporting (CRN annual report):  
Includes case studies

To share stories  
to the Board  
about impact

# The impact of clinical research: some research findings

Bennett  
et al.  
2012

- Academic outputs correlate with better mortality rates: [Health gain](#)

Boaz et  
al. 2015

- There is an association between the engagement of individuals and healthcare organisations in research and improvements in healthcare performance: [Quality / process of care](#)

Jonker &  
Fisher  
2018

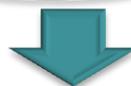
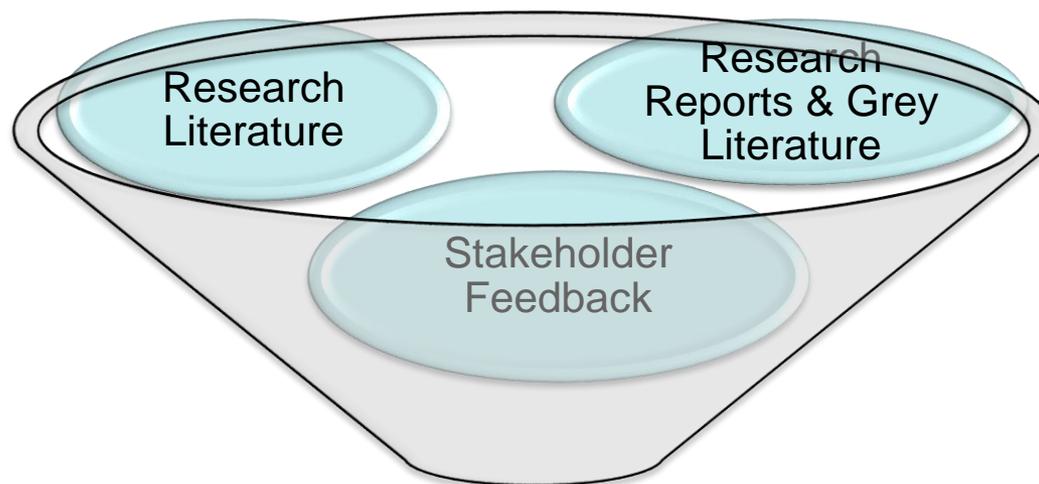
- The mortality-related results shows a correlation between increased research and reduced deaths. Furthermore, there is also a statistically significant association between clinical trials activity and improved CQC ratings: [Quality and health gain](#)

Liniker  
et al.  
2013

- Treatment of patients on clinical trials is associated with considerable cost savings : [Cost effective](#)

Wenke et  
al 2017

- Allied health research positions impact on clinician skill development, research activity, service changes, collaborations, enhanced research and workplace culture and professional development of individuals in the research positions. [Workforce and capacity](#)



Consolidation of Research Impact Frameworks



Draft VICTOR  
Iterations through Pilots ( 2 first phase and then 12 ACORN NHS  
organisations and PPIE consultation)



**V 2 VICTOR**

# Domains



## Knowledge Generation and Knowledge Exchange

Dissemination  
Knowledge sharing  
New Knowledge  
Actionable Outputs

## Health Benefits Safety, Quality for Research Participants and Carers

Health Benefits  
Experience  
Patents  
Experience  
Patient safety  
Equity  
Social Capital

## Economic Impacts

Cost effectiveness  
Cost saving  
Commercialisation  
Commercial income

## Patient Service & Workforce Impacts

Service change  
Skills  
Workforce  
Collective action  
Products, equipment, technology  
Guidelines

## Research Profile and Capacity Building

Research culture  
Research Awareness  
Research capacity  
Networks and collaborations  
Engagement

## Influences

Cohesion  
Reputation  
Recruitment and retention of staff  
Patient and public involvement

# The process



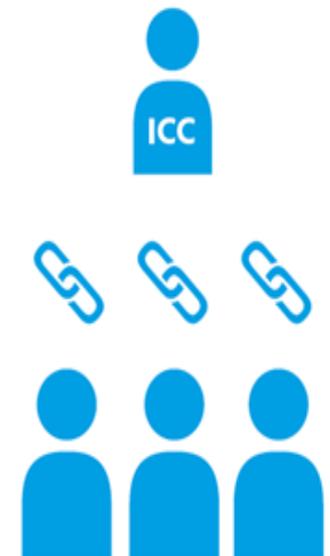
Organisational Research Lead (ORL) identifies studies within the organisation, and wants to share the impact of the research



ORL identifies the person coordinating the project and use of the VICTOR tool. This person is given the role of Impact Case Study Coordinator (ICC)



ICC contacts and coordinates those who were involved in the original study. These can be patients, nurses or other clinical colleagues



Everyone receives a web link, leading them to create their own VICTOR profile. This allows them to all contribute at the same time

# The stakeholders



**Patient, Family  
and Carers**



**Research Support - Manager**  
This person has an overview of the studies in the trust. Links to senior management in the trust and wider research networks external to the trust.



**Chief Investigator - Primary Investigator**  
The person in charge of the running of the project in the trust. Has unique clinical and research expertise.



**Research Team Member -  
Nurse, AHP and Ward Staff**  
Recruits patients and introduces the study to the patient, undertakes procedures, shares information with patients. Might deliver the intervention.



**Industry**  
Including technology development, data linkage, lab work and drug development.

## Knowledge

The knowledge produced has informed the Stroke Association information accessibility guidelines for Aphasia friendly information.



## Influence

Research into wound measurement has facilitated connections between nurses and medical illustrations. This closer working relationship helps us to work collaboratively to improve patient care.



VICTOR  
Impacts

## Health Benefits

Participants who were randomised to the treatment arm received visits from a stop-smoking practitioner who was experienced in working with people with mental illness and who was able to help overcome some of the difficulties of making a quit attempt, for example, inadequate amounts and duration of nicotine replacement therapy is often prescribed by GPs.



## Research Profile

Involvement in research has built our national reputation for research in pressure care, this has provided the nursing team with opportunities do more research to improve clinical practice. We are striving for excellence and are able to problem solve together to improve patient care.

## Service & workforce

Implementing Ampcare ESP has led to a change in the way we deliver services, patients are receiving more intensive therapy which contributes to meeting the National Stroke Clinical Guidelines.

## Economic

The partnership with a commercial organisation to provide training for the use of electrical stimulation is financially beneficial for our organisation

## Knowledge

New techniques to monitor fall rates



## Influence

Initiated NICE Medtech Innovation Briefing (MIB) – Trust as clinical expert.

Strengthened relationships between radiography and pathology

Retaining high quality clinical staff with rare research radiography role



# VICTOR Impacts

## Health Benefits

A screening questionnaire was used to monitor the risk of acute kidney injury. In some patients acute kidney function changes place them at increased or decreased risk. This was closely observed and managed in the study



## Research Profile

It helped the team gain research confidence. This has led to developing a new research portfolio

## Service & workforce

A screening questionnaire was introduced to CT scanning service now embedded into CT and MRI pathways enabling identification of risk factors for kidney dysfunction

## Economic

Grant and industry investment into the Trust

# Wide ranging impacts



Service and  
workforce



Research skills  
and capacity



Patient  
experience

# Potential to support fellowships and clinical PhD



National Institute for  
Health Research

“By going this research in the A&E Department I have been able to influence others to think about research. It has inspired other nurse to think about research, to apply for courses and do masters modules. I was able to provide them will help and guidance”.  
Nurse PhD Student

“By doing this research I have transferred my knowledge and leaning back into the clinical team, this has influenced clinical practice and now we are more aware of research in this area. I am now more confident about sharing the outcomes of research with others”. SALT PhD Student



**Professor Bev Snaith**

Clinical Professor of Radiography University  
Of Bradford and Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust



Lyn Wilson

Lead Research Nurse

Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust



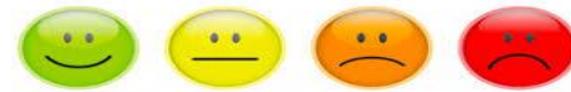
**Bev Taylor**

Senior Research Nurse

Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust

# NHS Trust feedback

- “Victor has been hugely helpful”
- **“Lots came up that we hadn’t expected”**
- “Seeing it written down was very powerful”
- “Some of the case study information will go into a follow on funding bid”
- “Encouraged reflection on challenges”
- **“Uncovering hidden impacts”**
- **“We got a huge amount more information than we would have without the VICTOR structure. Without that we wouldn’t have got the detail”**
- “Patients wanted to give their views”
- “Doing this helped build relationships between the clinical teams and research team”
- **“The Board loved the hexagons – a great visual summary”**
- “It captures people’s attention”
- “It captured additional information that funders wouldn’t have got otherwise”
- **“I wish I’d had it at the beginning when I was designing the study”**
- “You don’t reflect very often and then you think wow, we did that”
- **“Very rewarding for staff (research and clinical)”**
- “It was an educational experience. That interaction has led to clinical teams being more aware of research and that hasn’t been obvious to me before”



# References

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# Thank you

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