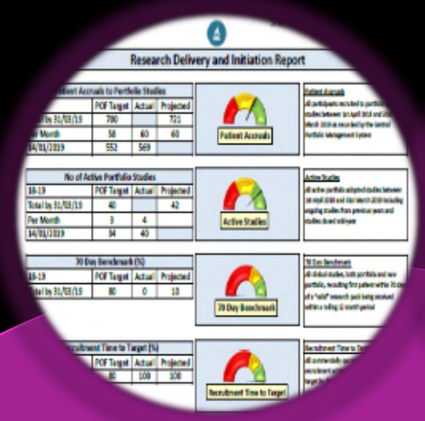
Making Research Core Business: Methods to Engage NHS Staff & Participants with Research

One of Sheffield Teaching Hospital Trusts' 5 key objectives is to deliver excellent research, education and innovation. This OG&N research team has undertaken a number of innovative strategies over the last 12-18 months to boost the profile of research within the busy clinical environment at the Jessop Wing and ensure students, staff and service users are given the opportunity to be involved in the research process.



Students

- Taking on students for a day during placements to shadow the research delivery team.
- Representing research at open days and recruitment events.

Staff

- Holding research cafes as informal, drop in learning events where staff can read displays, talk to research staff and participate in a mock clinical trial.
- Having research updates as standing items at clinical forums, MDT meetings, staff huddles and executive meetings.
- Disseminating research news and events through multi-media channels and clinical educators.
- Encouraging interested staff to become Research Champions and be more involved in identifying patients and promoting studies.
- Running a Small Grant Scheme to encourage all staff to consider developing their own research ideas.
- Inclusion of research to induction schedules for new midwives, nurses and doctors.

Service Users

- Facilitating an experienced and diverse Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) Panel which has assisted in securing more than £6.7million in grants for local research.

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