



The voice of nursing in the UK

RCN policy report

Standing up for patient and public safety is a new report from the RCN. It describes the lack of clear roles, responsibilities and accountability for workforce planning and supply in England.

[Read the report](#)



Learning disability research

The RCN Foundation is calling for applicants to undertake a scoping project that will identify nursing led/nursing centred interventions that are in place to address the changing needs of the population living with learning disabilities. Apply by 15 December.

Less is more

A plain English summary (PES) is a requirement when applying for funding from the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR). In this blog, Helen McGregor offers some tips for how to improve your PES, and catch the funding stream's eye.

[Find out more](#)

[Read the blog](#)

Research for patient benefit

Competition 40 of the NIHR Research for Patient Benefit (RfPB) programme is now open. Applications are invited for research proposals that are concerned with the day-to-day practice of health service staff. Apply by 20 November.

[Find out more](#)

Arthritis research

Versus Arthritis is partnering with the NIHR Programme Grants for Applied Research (PGfAR) on their cross-programme themed call in the management of chronic pain. Co-funding is available for appropriate studies.

[Apply by 27 November](#)

Research funding opportunities

The following research funding opportunities are relevant for nurse or midwife researchers. Closing dates for December include the following grants.

- [Project grants and early career small grants](#), Diabetes UK, closes 1 December.
- [Travel grant](#), Society for Endocrinology, closes 4 December.
- [PhD studentship and small grants](#), Psoriasis Association, closes 6 December.
- [Doctoral fellowship](#), NIHR, closes 19 December.

You can see more opportunities like these, including fellowships and help to attend conferences, on our research funding web page.

[Find funding](#)

Research support

Birmingham Health Partners is hosting a Pre-doctoral Clinical Academic Fellowship (PCAF) masterclass in Birmingham on 26 November. The event is open to people working in the West Midlands, and will provide information and tips to support your potential application.

[Register interest](#)

Make time to talk

Nicola Burgess is leading an evaluation of the NHS partnership with the Virginia Mason Institute. In this blog, she draws on early findings to illustrate the practical value of creating formal spaces to spread informal knowledge developed through personal experiences.

[Read the blog](#)

Quality improvement

The Academic Health Science Network (AHSN) North East and North Cumbria (NENC) has produced an improvement toolkit. It provides practical advice, tools and resources to help you understand and improve safety culture, and how to select and apply improvement methodologies.

[Download the toolkit](#)

Quality and safety

Did you know the RCN also produces a fortnightly quality and safety bulletin? It highlights the professional work of the RCN and features all the latest news on the following: quality improvement, patient safety, evidence-based practice, patient and staff-focused care and eHealth.

[Sign up here](#)

NIHR research funding opportunities

The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) funds research through its nine programmes, which include Health Technology Assessment and Health Services and Delivery Research.

- [Liver disease](#), closes 27 November.

- [Perinatal mental health](#), closes 27 November.
- [Health inequalities](#), closes 14 January.
- [Non-medical workforce in urgent and emergency care settings](#), closes 16 January.
- [Pain relief strategies for dressing change in chronic wounds](#), closes 22 January.

Alternatively, visit the NIHR web page for a complete list of current NIHR funding opportunities.

[Search for funding](#)

Research support

The NIHR Research Design Service (RDS) provides support to health and social care researchers across England on all aspects of developing and writing a grant application, including research design, research methods, identifying funding sources and involving patients and the public.

[Find out more](#)

Increasing impact

The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) provides national guidance to improve health and social care, and the RCN is a stakeholder for the NICE work programmes. In this blog, Fayona Bareham talks about the different ways you can participate as a nursing professional.

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