

# RESEARCH BULLETIN



## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN MAY—NOVEMBER 2020



Following a pause on all but COVID research studies, the Research Centre is now linking with the directorates on which studies can be restarted or moving through set up to being opened.

Carolyn Taylor has returned from her research secondment and clinical work over the recent months to join Tom Almond as research coordinator. Thank you to Louise Patterson for covering the role during her secondment.

**Catriona Mayland** has been involved in a study looking at the Rapid evaluation of the COVID-19 pandemic response in palliative and end of life care: international delivery, workforce and symptom management (CovPall).

Along with other directorates in the Trust IGSM have been involved in supporting the Randomised Evaluation of Covid-19 Therapy [RECOVERY] study.

Dietetics are about to open a study that is reviewing the dietetic input with COVID patients

There are a number of non COVID studies that we are continuing to support or are in the process of setting up. Some of the practical issues have been changes to protocols with patients not being seen face-to-face or have been put on hold by the sponsors. Studies we are looking at supporting include :

**Dr Ali** - Deconditioning and sarcopaenia after stroke study – DECONSTRCKT. This study is looking at the time course of the development of sarcopaenia after stroke and its determinants, particularly with relation to stroke severity and disability, physical activity, systemic inflammation and nutritional status. **Maria Levesley** - Development and feasibility-testing of a home-based exercise training and compression hosiery intervention for people with venous ulceration [FISCU II]. **Francesca Jacques** - VenUS 6: Adjustable hook-and-loop-fastened compression systems for the treatment of venous leg ulcers. This study will involve patients with venous leg ulcers to be randomised to different compression bandages. **Tricia Fox** - A cluster randomised controlled trial to assess the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of the 'Your Care Needs You' intervention to improve safety and experience of care transitions (The PACT study). This package of care is looking at enhanced information given to patients during their admission and on discharge from hospital. **Gavin Church** - Developing a framework for a stroke specific exercise group intervention. This is part of his NIHR PCAF award. **Kelly McCaskill** - Delegation of insulin administration to non-registered healthcare workers in community nursing teams: an evaluation of care and practice for older people with diabetes [CINDI].

The Clinical Research and Innovation Office (CRIO) have been advising us on which studies are appropriate to consider opening and are now looking at studies that are non COVID studies that are not impacting on other support services such as laboratories or pharmacy. We hope to be able to open more studies over the coming months.

If anyone has any queries about studies listed about or studies they are involved in then please let [Tom](#) or [Carolyn](#) know. They are happy to discuss any possible studies with you as well.

### IN THIS ISSUE...

1... WHAT'S HAPPENED  
DURING COVID (PHASE  
ONE)

2... FUNDING  
OPPORTUNITIES, PPI AND  
RECENT PUBLICATIONS

-----  
GOT A NEWSWORTHY  
RESEARCH STORY  
YOU'D LIKE TO SEE  
FEATURED IN THE NEXT  
BULLETIN?

PLEASE CONTACT:

[KAT SUMNER](#)

OR

[LISA FARNDON](#)



[@Shef\\_Research](#)

**THE CLINICAL  
RESEARCH AND  
INNOVATION OFFICE**



**IS ON TWITTER!**

**Oxford Covid Vaccine Trial**—Due to the large numbers of volunteers participating in the Oxford Vaccine trial, the CRFs at RHH and NGH needed as much staff support as possible. Louise Patterson initially offered support within monitoring/administrative role, which involved checking participant consent forms, updating study site files and preparing participant paperwork for upcoming clinics. She also supported the reception team, helping participants upon arrival and booking future appointments, and now helps clinically with the follow-up appointments. These involve re-consenting participants, taking blood samples and performing observations post vaccine booster.

**Update on health and social care research projects for educational purposes**—Back in March the Health Research Authority (HRA) and devolved administrations announced the decision to stop reviewing applications for individual undergraduate and master's student projects until further notice while we prioritised the urgent review of COVID-19 studies. The pause on health and social care research projects for educational purposes has now been extended until September 2021. This decision is in line with national priorities for NHS/HSC to support COVID-19 studies and the restart of clinical trials and studies as well as the continuing pressure of the COVID-19 pandemic. The HRA are not reviewing applications for individual undergraduate and master's student research projects until September 2021. Any students with approved studies are reminded to check with the relevant NHS/HSC organisations locally about whether or not their projects may continue.

The **RDS YH Public Involvement Fund call 7** opens on 1st December 2020. Researchers in Y&H can apply for funding of up to £500 to support the involvement of the public in developing research ideas and grant applications. Details of what the funds can be used for, further guidance and an application form can be found [here](#). Call 7 closes on 15th January 2021 with the panel meeting on 26th January 2021 so researchers will hear the outcome shortly after.

**NIHR—Doctoral Fellowship Round 5**—The NIHR Doctoral Fellowship funds individuals from a range of health and social care professions to undertake a PhD in an area of NIHR research. The Fellowship funds full salary support (including protected time to concentrate on research), PhD fees and research costs, a bespoke training and development programme to meet individual needs. Applicants from clinical or social care practice are able to include up to 20% clinical time as part of the Fellowship, to ensure the maintenance of their clinical competence whilst undertaking the Fellowship. [Click here](#) for more details.

**Publication: Capitalising on the transformational opportunities of early clinical academic career training for nurses, midwives and allied health professionals.** BMC Medical Education—November 2020. [Click here](#) to read the full article.



**Publication: Covid-19: What do we know about “long Covid”? As recognition grows that many patients have long lasting effects, Elisabeth Mahase examines the evidence and the response.** Published in thebmj, July 2020; read the full article [here](#).

## Patient and Public Involvement Update

Anne Silvester has taken over as the PPI Coordinator for the **Across the Care Group Panel**. The Across the Care Group Panel has commenced virtual meetings. This worked sufficiently well for the panel to continue with this format for the near future, although the members are looking forward to when face-to-face meetings can resume. The meetings will occur more frequently but last for a shorter time period as the panel felt this would work better when meeting online. If any researchers are wanting to consult the panel please contact , Anne Silvester via email: [anne.silvester@nhs.net](mailto:anne.silvester@nhs.net) The next meeting is planned for mid January 2021.

The **Community Elders Panel** have also resumed providing feedback to researchers in the last month. Instead of being consulted in person the panel members are now providing advice over the phone. Unfortunately two panel members have had to resign due to failing health, but we are hoping to recruit new members again in the new year. Researchers wanting to consult the panel please contact Anne via email: [anne.silvester@nhs.net](mailto:anne.silvester@nhs.net).

The **Stroke and Aphasia PPI panel** has started up again meeting via MS Teams. We had a social/ technology troubleshooting session in September, and our first “proper” meeting in October. It was good to see one another's faces though there are some inevitable challenges with meeting virtually, and drinks and sandwiches were missed! In October we discussed a feasibility study exploring exercise in acute stroke and, as ever, panel members provided some very valuable insights from their lived experience for the researcher. We have agreed to have more frequent but shorter meetings in the current situation and will be meeting for approximately one hour/ month (Monday 16th November, 2020 and Monday 14th December, 2020 at 11.00am) Please contact Jenni Crisp ([jenni.crisp@nhs.net](mailto:jenni.crisp@nhs.net), 07814237997) with any queries about the panel.

Further details about the three panels can be found on the [CRIO website](#).