

RESEARCH BULLETIN

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN DECEMBER 2021 — FEBRUARY 2022

Tuesday 11th January 12.30pm— 1.30pm	Professor Dhillon will present his vision for the NIHR Academy Book your place through Eventbrite . Contact: Dr. Carole Burnett, leedsth-tr.LMBRUnit@nhs.net
Tuesday 11th January 2.00pm—3.00pm	CCA Research Centre's Associates and Fellows meeting Microsoft Teams Contact: Katherine.Sumner@nhs.net
Tuesday 18th January 12.30pm—2.00pm	Research Team meeting Microsoft Teams Contact: Katherine.Sumner@nhs.net
Wednesday 19th January 2.30pm—4.00pm	SPRIG (Stroke Pathway Research Interest Group) meeting Microsoft Teams Contact: Katherine.Sumner@nhs.net
Wednesday 23rd February 9.30am— 4.00pm	Sheffield Palliative Care Research Network Microsoft Teams To receive an invite, please contact Katherine.Sumner@nhs.net
Wednesday 2nd March 2.00pm—3.00pm	CCA Research Centre's Associates and Fellows meeting Microsoft Teams Contact: Katherine.Sumner@nhs.net

RECENT PUBLICATIONS from members of CCAG Research Centre:

- **The potential therapeutic value for bereaved relatives participating in research: An exploratory study** Catriona Mayland. *Palliative and Supportive Care*, September 2021.
- **What Is Intensity and How Can It Benefit Exercise Intervention in People With Stroke? A Rapid Review** Gavin Church, Ali Ali. *Frontiers in Rehabilitation Sciences*, September 2021.
- **Humanist Chaplains Entering Traditionally Faith-Based NHS Chaplaincy Teams** Lindsay van Dijk. *MDPI*, September 2021.
- **A rapid review and expert identification of the Allied Health Professions' interventions as a contribution to public health outcomes** Sally Fowler-Davis, Lisa Farndon, Jane Manson, Sue Pownall. *Public Health in Practice*, November 2021.

Are you publishing your work? Many people in the Care Group are undertaking audit and service evaluations as well as research and the outcomes of these small projects (or the large ones) can be written up and submitted for publication. All the studies that are published in peer reviewed journals are collected automatically via a system in STH known as *MyPublications* and this is an important way for the work to be noted internally and contribute to the performance of research in the Care Group. We are about to bring together all the work from 2018 and so please make [Kat Sumner](#) aware if you would like a *MyPublications* account and if you have published some of your work last year.

CCA Care Group Research Centre

IN THIS ISSUE...

- 1... WHAT'S HAPPENING/
RECENT PUBLICATIONS
AND PUBLISHING
- 2... STUDY TO SUCCESS
- 3... PROFILING CCA
RESEARCHERS
- 4... PPI/CURRENT STUDIES

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

[KAT SUMNER](#)

OR

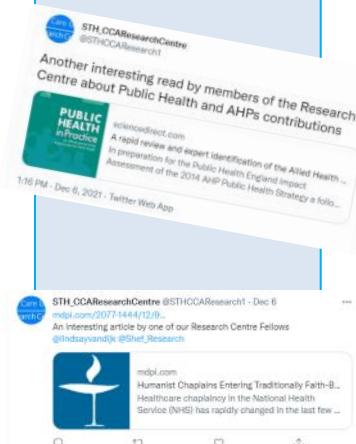
[LISA FARNDON](#)

NEW



@STHCCAResearch1

**THE CCA RESEARCH
CENTRE IS ON
TWITTER!**



FOLLOW US!

study to success



Dr Laura Evans—We are delighted to let you know that Laura has had her doctoral degree conferred on her at a Sheffield Hallam University Graduation ceremony. It is a significant achievement to be awarded the highest formal academic degree and it reflects many years of advanced study and original research. Many congratulations to Dr Laura Evans.



Jane Manson - Jane has been successful in obtaining the HEE Bridging Funding and her NIHR Fellowship idea will be to investigate Community Palliative rehabilitation through a realist review and national survey of models of care followed by in-depth case studies looking at different models and their impact on the patient, caregiver, clinician and system. Jane is hoping to submit next year and if successful begin her Fellowship in 2022.

Carolyn Taylor - Carolyn was successful in obtaining the HEE/NIHR predoctoral Bridging programme funding. This will provide time and support to develop her NIHR doctoral fellowship application. For her doctoral fellowship she wishes to investigate the best support for weight management following spinal cord injury. Looking at when is the best time to approach patients with the impact on energy needs following their injury and how to support post discharge with possibly remote monitoring.



Sean White—My STH clinical role for the last 17 years has involved caring for people on home enteral feeding, including supporting people with motor neuron disease (MND) making decisions about gastrostomy feeding tube placement. It soon became apparent that supporting people with MND to make these decisions was ethically, emotionally and clinically complex, and also that there was very little evidence to inform practice. This was my motivation to develop my academic career. I completed the MSc Clinical Research in 2015, and since then took advantage of any opportunities to widen my research experience and strengthen my academic CV. I was very lucky to be 'in the right place, at the right time, including being co-applicant on a NIHR RfPB grant application, developing the [mytube resource](#), becoming co-applicant on the NIHR HighCALS programme grant, and successfully

applying for the Clinical Research Academy (CRA) Fellowship at the University of Sheffield. The CRA allowed a lot of 'thinking time', opportunities to develop my academic network, and with expert mentorship I was able to construct a competitive application. After sitting back and taking a breath for a few months after pressing the submit button, I focused preparing for the interview. This included 4 mock interviews which were invaluable to practice how I would try to justify why the NIHR should spend money on me. After 2 years of work, I was so pleased to hear I was successful and continue my journey to becoming a clinical academic. Three months in, I am enjoying the process and looking forward to sharing my findings to those who may benefit from the research I am conducting.



Profiling CCA Research Centre Associates



Research Associate **Sabrina Eltringham:**

I am a Speech and Language Therapist and Stroke Association Post Graduate Research Fellow and I currently combine my clinical role with studying part time for my PhD at Manchester Metropolitan University. My involvement with research began when I applied for the NIHR funded MSc in Clinical Research. This gave me the knowledge and theoretical underpinnings of research and skills in research methods. Shortly after the MSc I joined NIHR Collaboration for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care (CLAHRC) South Yorkshire as a Research Associate where I was responsible for working in the priority area of dysphagia and supporting the implementation and evaluation of the recommendations arising from a dysphagia e-learning project. This involved delivering the intervention and data collection and analysis of the quantitative and qualitative data from the different methods used. On completion of the CLARHC secondment I became Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) Coordinator for the Therapeutics and Palliative Care Directorate. This was a new post which was developed as part of the Directorate's research infrastructure to develop research capability and capacity and to ensure that PPI underpinned our research. I set up the Directorate Patient Research Panel and supported clinical researchers to develop their research proposals. I am currently in the final year of my PhD which is investigating how does variation in assessment and management of dysphagia in acute stroke affect development of stroke-associated pneumonia (SAP). The potential learning outcomes of my research will highlight barriers and facilitators for reducing SAP, which is a frequent post stroke complication.



Sabrina



Carol

Research Associate **Carol Keen:**

I am a clinical-academic physiotherapist working at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals. My clinical work is in promoting physical activity and exercise in patients with pulmonary hypertension - a rare respiratory disease which causes people to feel breathless and fatigued. I am halfway through my PhD, which I am undertaking part-time at Manchester Metropolitan University. I am studying the impact of the rehabilitation service that I deliver to my patients, and examining outcomes measures that could be used to assess its impact. I have almost completed the data collection of my main study, which looks at the 1-minute sit-to-stand test in this group of patients.

COVID has presented so many challenges to my research. For example, I had to pause my studies for 6 months while I supported COVID clinical areas; my study underwent a complete redesign as patients were no longer attending hospital or other clinical services; recruitment has been harder as less patients are coming to face-to-face clinics. Despite all this, the patients I have invited to join my study have been enormously supportive and responsive, wanting to help if they can. Many feel that healthcare has done so much in the last 18 months, and participating in a study is a way that they can give back. I have always valued being a clinical-academic – I love my research and I know that it makes a huge difference to the quality of patient care, but the enthusiasm from participants has made it all the more special for me.

The **Stroke & Aphasia Patient and Public Involvement panel** is a small but committed group of stroke survivors and their supporters who continue to meet monthly via Teams to provide feedback to stroke researchers from across Sheffield Teaching Hospitals, University of Sheffield and Sheffield Hallam University. Since the last Research Bulletin we have provided researcher feedback on a range of projects including a Virtual Reality project for swallowing rehabilitation, an electrical stimulation of the arm project and a project exploring footdrop and mobility. Several of the panel members have become involved as co-applicants or with co-design work on current projects. We are always interested to hear from new and returning researchers and to welcome new members to the group. Please contact [Jenni Crisp](#) with any queries.

The **Across the Care Group PPI panel** continues to meet virtually every two months. In addition, the panellists have been consulted via email and phone by researchers in between the formal meetings. Next year's meetings will be held on Thursday afternoon on the following dates: 20th January, 21st April, 14th July and 13th October. The panel are keen to meet face-to-face but will continue to meet virtually if restrictions are still in place due to covid.

Unfortunately, we received the news that three of our long-standing **Community Elders Panel** panel members have sadly passed away in recent months. They provided honest and insightful feedback, always delivered in a kind manner, and have greatly contributed to our research. They will be sadly missed.

The panel have begun to provide feedback to researchers over the phone, but are looking forward to face-to-face meetings when allowed. As covid restrictions ease recruitment to the panel will be a priority, and will continue to encourage a diverse membership. For any queries for the Across the Care Group or Community Elders PPI Panels, please contact [Anne Silvester](#).



CCA Care Group
Research Centre

Studies

UPDATE



There are a number of COVID and non COVID studies that we are continuing to support or are in the process of setting up:

COVID Studies

Louise Patterson – will be acting as PI on a long-COVID study studying *Long Covid Personalised Self-Management Support Evaluation (LISTEN)*

Non-COVID studies

Kate Kontou – Is leading the STH input into a national study studying *Strength assessment and strength training in pulmonary rehabilitation: an online survey of services in England*

Carol Keen – Is the PI on a study looking at *Pulmonary HypERTension and measurement of exercise capacity REMotely: the PER-SPIRE study*. This is a multicentred study that patients treated in Sheffield have the option to participate with.

Sue Pownall – Has been working with SHU to develop and produce of a 'ready to market' tool to measure the consistency of thickened fluids.

Nat Jones – Is the PI and will be working with Rotherham Hospitals FT and Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals FT to assess the feasibility of a breakfast group intervention for acute stroke units, and provide intensive eating and drinking interventions as well as integrated multi-disciplinary team working and personalized care (BISTRo)

Commercial Studies

Mel Hill – is going to be a PI on a commercial study investigating the tolerability of a new supplement for use in PKU patients called PKU sphere liquid by VitaFlo.

Lauren Gregory – is the PI on a commercial study investigating the tolerability of a new High Protein Shot produced by Nutricia. This is being completed with the head and neck patients in WPH.