



STH Nursing and Midwifery Research and Innovation Newsletter

FROM STH CHIEF NURSE CHRIS MORLEY



I am pleased to share the first Nursing and Midwifery Research and Innovation Newsletter of the year with you. As in previous editions, there are multiple ways you can engage in research within your current role as well as exploring if you would like to undertake further training and development to make research part of your future career plans. Please do take the time to read the newsletter and share with your colleagues. The achievements of research active colleagues across the Trust, winning National awards and having their work published is great to see and may hopefully provide inspiration and encouragement for other colleagues. The Generation study, which I highlighted at the last Nursing and Midwifery Matters session will enable us to offer more of our patients the opportunity to take part in research and also to have genomics testing as part of their clinical care. This will facilitate testing and earlier treatment for 200+ rare conditions, which this genetic testing may identify. In turn this should improve health outcomes for those babies testing positive and increase understanding of the links between genetics and health. This is just one of over 500 active research studies in STH that our patients can choose to participate in, so wherever you work, I strongly encourage you to find out more about the research that is in your area.

OVERVIEW FROM LEAD NURSE FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT GAIL MILLS



Welcome to the first 'Nursing and Midwifery Research and Innovation Newsletter' of 2025. This newsletter highlights lots of ways you can get involved in research as well as some achievements of our colleagues across the Trust and it also shares some of the research activity taking place that might be of interest. Some of the timelines are quite short, so if you are interested in applying for or attending any of them, you will need to act quickly. If you would like to know more about any of the items included, or would like to talk about research or your career aspirations within research more broadly, you can either attend one of the drop in sessions included below, or drop me an email and I will either signpost you to the most relevant person to help you, or we can arrange to meet. We add all of our research and innovation opportunities on the Clinical Research and Innovation Offices website and another valuable resource is the NIHR Regional Research Delivery Network, Yorkshire and Humber regional learning Directory. Links to both of these websites are at the bottom of the page. We will be launching the application process for the next STH Healthcare Professionals Research Internship cohort in the Spring, so now is a good time to start thinking about a potential project or area of interest!

I am delighted to share that the Matron toolkit for research was launched at the end of January, and we are currently planning ways to share how to use the toolkit and to provide support for colleagues at STH to use the resources it provides, to embed research across their clinical areas and workforce, so watch this space! Finally, we are in the process of reviewing progress against our Trust Nursing and Midwifery Research and Innovation Strategy and also updating it to reflect all of the national changes taking place within research and innovation, so that we can maximise the opportunities for our workforce to make research a part of their role, for the benefit of our patients and wider population.

Further information about research and opportunities is available on the Clinical Research and Innovation webpage here: [For Health Professionals - Sheffield Clinical Research](https://sites.google.com/nihr.ac.uk/crnyh-learningdirectory/home) or via the Regional webpage here:

<https://sites.google.com/nihr.ac.uk/crnyh-learningdirectory/home>



AWARDS



Winners of the 2024 Nursing Time Awards at STH

Catherine Harrison

Catherine Harrison, advanced nurse practitioner in haemophilia and haemostasis disorders won the coveted **Nurse of the Year Award**. She was praised by the judges as an *'excellent role model of professionalism, tenacity and passion, consistently going above and beyond expectations.'* An example of her dedication includes the creation of a national course for nurses and allied healthcare professionals to enable them to deliver care to patients with bleeding disorders.

Catherine is a prominent, **research-active** figure. She has been PI on multiple studies, and supports research activity for her patients. Once funding has been obtained, she is also hoping to undertake some independent research into women and girls with bleeding disorders.



Ingrid Fuchs Award for Cancer Nursing – Nurse-led late effects screening service



The Nurse-led Late Effects Screening Service at STH won the **Ingrid Fuchs Cancer Nursing Award** at the Nursing Time Awards. This first-of-its-kind service, originally established in 2009, helps patients manage the physical, mental and emotional consequences of cancer treatment in the months and years afterwards. It is an incredible achievement and showcases some of STH's best work.



What's New?

Identifying rare conditions in babies: **The Generation Study**

AIM: The Generation Study aims to test babies for over 200 rare genetic conditions by performing whole genome sequencing on cord blood samples collected at birth. All the conditions tested for are treatable on the NHS and the idea is that by detecting these conditions earlier, they can be treated earlier which will hopefully lead to better health outcomes.

HOW? Pregnant women/birthing people will be consented to the study antenatally by the Generation Study Research Midwives. Jessop Wing midwives will be collecting the study cord blood samples at birth. Babies blood samples and genomes will be stored securely and linked with their health data throughout life. Approved researchers will be able to apply to access this data to carry out research into the links between genetics and health.

For more information: [Generation Study - Generation Study](#)

Opened: 09/12/2024

National Target: 105,000
babies nationwide by 30/11/2026

Local Target: 30% of all
births at Jessop Wing (140 per
month)

Recruitment to date: 31
(with lots more interested!)

Sponsored by: Genomics
England



The funding for the study has allowed recruitment of two Generation Study-specific Research Midwives who are also the project coordinators and managers (Natalie Khoaz and Kay Underwood pictured respectively above).



What's New?

Empowering Underrepresented Voices in Research: An Arts-Based Approach

Publication by Lorenza Nwafor

Lorenza was seconded to first STH Chief Nurse Fellowship from November 2023 to June 2024. Her fellowship project used art-based approaches to understand South Asian women's barriers to research involvement and participation. She has written a blog about her research, which was recently published in the BMJ Evidence Based Nursing Journal Blog. An incredible achievement!



The blog can be accessed [here](#).

Online Research Drop in Sessions

Join us at one of the sessions below to chat about anything relating to research or innovation. A chance to ask your own questions and to hear from others, as well as find out what is happening across the Trust. Please feel free to share these dates with colleagues - we look forward to seeing you there!

26th February 2025: 11:30-12:00 (click [here](#) to join)

1st May 2025: 10:00-10:30 (click [here](#) to join)





NIHR ACADEMY AWARD OPPORTUNITIES

Post-doctoral event - 'Successfully navigating your post-doctoral research career' on February 12th 2025 in Birmingham

The event will be open to any researchers at a postdoctoral career stage or in the final year of their PhD interested in pursuing their career with NIHR.

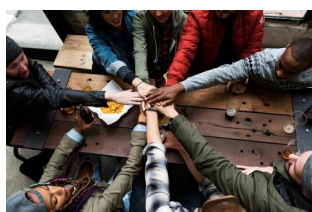
- The webpage and registration form for the event are open via this link:
[About - NIHR Successfully navigating your post-doctoral research career](#)
- The event will be held between **10am and 4.30pm on Wednesday 12th February** in **central Birmingham** and will build on the first event held in 2023 .
- In-person registrations are scheduled to close on **12th January**.
- Virtual registration will stay open until the day of the event.



ROK-UK Smart Clinical Trials Collaboration Award

This new award, in partnership [Korea Health Industry Development Institute](#), will enable you to build working relationships with researchers based in the **Republic of Korea (ROK)**

[Learn more about the ROK-UK Smart Clinical Trials Collaboration Award](#) and our research-match-making scheme. Applications will open mid-January 2025.



Harkness Fellowships



Learn about the Commonwealth Fund's Harkness Fellowships and explore the **fully funded opportunity to spend a year in the United States** conducting research, building leadership skills and receiving mentorship from experts.

Find out more about the fellowship, co-funded by NIHR, at an in-person event on **Wednesday 15 January from 12:45-2:30pm** at the **University of Leeds**.

[Register here:](#)



The Clinician Researcher Credentials Framework

Could you be a research delivery leader?

Are you a healthcare professional with a passion for improving patient care?

Do you want to improve patient outcomes by leading groundbreaking research studies?

Learn more about our **Master's level** clinical research delivery leadership qualifications at this event.

Further information, together with the event registration form can be found on the event home page using the link below:

Virtual event **Could you be a research delivery leader?**
Wednesday 12 March 2025 (12.30pm to 2.00pm)
[Home - Clinician Researcher Credentials Event 2025](#)

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RCN International Nursing Research Conference 2025

Call for abstracts

Submission
deadline
16 March
2025

8 - 10 September 2025
Exeter University, UK

rcn.org.uk/research25

nurse
RESEARCHER

Find out more here: [RCN International Nursing Research Conference 2025 | Royal College of Nursing](#)

Bringing together nursing leaders, researchers, and practitioners, the conference will foster collaboration to advance healthcare solutions, strengthen resilience, and shape the future of global health in an ever-changing landscape.

Coming up...

Matrons Toolkit

The Matrons toolkit was launched by NHS England in the final week of January 2025.

Further information and support to use the tool will follow.

[NHS England » Research toolkit for matrons and other health and care leaders](#)