



## THE NURSING AND MIDWIFERY RESEARCH AND INNOVATION NEWSLETTER; SUMMER 2024



### FROM STH CHIEF NURSE CHRIS MORLEY :



Welcome to the Summer edition of the Nursing and Midwifery Research and Innovation Newsletter 2024. It continues to be an exciting time for nursing and midwifery research both locally and nationally. We are currently interviewing for our next cohort of interns to commence in the autumn, and I look forward to the graduation of our current cohort in September and hearing about the interesting and impactful projects they have delivered as well as all they have learnt throughout the programme.

Lorenza Nwafor, Chief Nurse Fellow has completed her project and her term as our first Chief Nurse Fellow and I'm delighted to share that she was awarded the best abstract for an early career researcher at the RCN International Nursing Research Conference where she will be presenting her impactful work. Nationally, there has been a recent launch of the [SORT tool](#) (self-assessment of organisational readiness for research tool) which our Professor of Nursing Julie McGarry co-developed with colleagues from the University of Sheffield and was commissioned by NHS England. Colleagues are utilising the tool to assess our own readiness for research across nursing and midwifery, and they will develop an action plan, using the tool, in order to deliver our Trust's [Nursing and Midwifery Research and Innovation Strategy](#).

There are opportunities to get involved in this work, by contacting Gail Mills. Within the newsletter are also funded opportunities to undertake a master's qualification which I encourage those without an MSc to consider applying for.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks to Professor Julie McGarry for all she has contributed to STH and to developing capacity and capability for research across nursing and midwifery at the Trust and to wish Julie all the best for her retirement.

### CAREER OVERVIEW FROM PROFESSOR OF NURSING JULIE MCGARRY:

This will be my final newsletter as Professor of Nursing as I retire in July after over four decades as a registered nurse. I have held a number of clinical and academic roles as a dual qualified nurse and remain as passionate about my profession as ever – it has been a quite a journey from my first day as a 17-year-old student nurse (I was allowed to start the course just before my 18th birthday but only for the theory part at the beginning of my training). My parents didn't think I would stick at it – but it was all that I wanted to do - and when I qualified as a registered nurse, they were so very proud. I have worked in mental health and adult nursing environments – in hospitals and primary care. I have met the most incredible people, travelled internationally, been given so many opportunities, learnt so much and for the most part have had an immensely enjoyable career for which I am grateful. Although, I have worked in the academic setting for a number of years, I have always remained clinically focused – working predominantly with survivors of violence and harm - and during the pandemic returned to a full-time clinical position as a senior safeguarding lead for an NHS Trust. From there I joined the University of Sheffield and Sheffield Teaching Hospitals with a lead role in capacity building for nursing research and we have, as a team, made a number of significant steps in this regard. For me, curiosity and enquiry alongside the pursuit of excellence in patient care are at the forefront of all that I do and I know that our achievements to date will continue to build.

Nursing is constantly changing and of course there are challenges. However, there are also huge rewards. In this newsletter we will celebrate colleagues' recent achievements as well as highlighting current opportunities and ways in which you can consider your next steps in your own career journey. With my very best wishes, Julie.

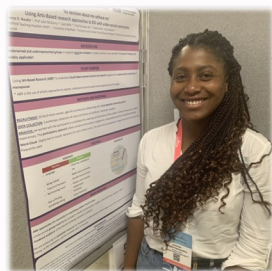
# Achievements



## Amy Webster

I have worked as a nurse for the last 13 years, with 12 of these years working in the Emergency Department. I started at STH in 2014 and started my ACP training the same year. I have also worked for World Extreme Medicine as a remote 'medic' on CBS TV show *Survivor*. I became a Royal College of Emergency Medicine (RCEM) Credentialed ACP in 2020 and I am currently working as a Senior ACP in Emergency Medicine at STH.

Alongside my ACP role, in January I successfully applied for a years secondment at The University of Sheffield as a Research Fellow. This role is a development role and is proving me the opportunity to work alongside the research teams at STH and at The University of Sheffield and develop my own research. I am also acting as a link between the Trust and the University to help promote nursing research within the trusts research strategy. I am currently developing my own research and I am aiming to research the ED nursing experience in relation to managing patients who present to the ED with Mental Illnesses, hoping to improve care and provide support to the nursing team in managing this cohort of patients.



## Lorenza Nwafor

My name is Lorenza, and I was seconded to Chief Nurse Fellow from November 2023 to June 2024.

My fellowship project used art-based approaches to understand South Asian women's barriers to research involvement and participation.

This nurse-led and codesigned study, has received significant recognition. Following thorough review by the International Scientific Advisory Panel, the project won the Best Abstract at the RCN International Nursing Research Conference 2024! I also had the opportunity to share about the project at our STH Nursing Conference, the BRC Showcase and the UKCRFN Conference. Currently, we are working on summarising our findings in an animation resource for research professionals. We are also engaging with local stakeholders to disseminate findings with the wider public.

My heartfelt thanks to the rest of the team for their support and NIHR Sheffield CRF and CRN Y&H for empowering nurses to lead in research!

## MSc opportunities

# Clinician Researcher Credentials Framework



**NIHR** | National Institute for  
Health and Care Research



**Are you a healthcare practitioner who aspires to be a Co-Investigator or Principal Investigator?**

- ⇒ **The Clinician Researcher Credentials Framework** provides **Master's** level qualifications, undertaking workplace-based modules based on existing research projects in the local area **supported by an experienced researcher.**
- ⇒ It's for **experienced healthcare practitioners from all professional backgrounds** who want to take on **leadership roles in clinical research delivery.**

Further Information can be found on the [Clinician Researcher Credentials Framework website.](#)

You can also register for updates such as event registration and application deadlines by completing [this form.](#)



## Burdett Trust award



A Burdett Trust Grant has been awarded to the stroke team led by Dr Amanda Jones, Stroke Nurse Consultant under the Cerebrovascular Accident Programme Call. The funding will be used to undertake a comprehensive evaluation of a unique nurse led 'One stop Multidisciplinary stroke clinic for young stroke patients (mobile patient, under 65) 6 weeks post discharge from hospital. The new clinic is the first of its kind led by Dr Amanda Jones, and supported by members of the stroke MDT: a stroke nurses, dietitian, psychologist, and a representative from the Stroke Association. Patients attending the clinic have the unique experience of having a 2-hour long appointment where they see all members of the MDT to provide a more holistic and patient centred approach to post hospital stroke care. The clinic initially ran from March to October 2023 with positive feedback from staff and patients. The Burdett funding will allow the clinic to fully evaluate its impact on stroke patients and their carers.



## NIHR INSIGHT Programme

Attention aspiring clinical academics in  
**Yorkshire and the Humber!**

Visit [NIHR INSIGHT Programme for Yorkshire and Humber – Developing our researchers of the future \(leeds.ac.uk\)](https://www.leeds.ac.uk/nihr-insight) for more information.

**Are you an early career registered Healthcare professional or Undergraduate student in Healthcare or Social Science?**

**Are you interested in channelling your passion for Health and Social Care into a research or clinical academic career?**

**Could you help to mentor colleagues to develop the research delivery leaders of the future?**

### What is it?

The NIHR INSIGHT programme for Yorkshire & Humber a collaboration between Universities and NHS partner organisations for **early career professionals** to receive a **funded place on an eligible masters programme to develop your research skills.**

### Eligible programmes for 2024/2025:

University of Leeds – [MSc Health Informatics with Data Science](#)

University of Sheffield – [MSc Clinical Research](#)

University of Sheffield – [MPH Public Health](#)

University of York – [MSc Health Research](#)

University of Bradford – [MSc Social Sciences Research for Healthcare](#)



## Developments since the launch of the Research and Innovation Strategy (Oct 2023)

**UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) is moving into the second year of its 5 year 'Transforming Tomorrow Together' strategy.**

Since the launch of the UK's Research and Innovation Strategy in 2023, several key developments have taken place aimed at strengthening the country's position as a global leader in research and innovation. This includes:

- **Investment in UK R&I capability:** such as the [North West Space Cluster](#) and the [Northern Ireland Cyber-Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) Hub](#). This framework includes substantial investments, such as £2.5 billion for quantum technologies and £100 million for innovation accelerators.
- **Policy Reforms and initiatives:** the creation of the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology and the implementation of a digital funding system to streamline research applications and collaborations.