



## THE NURSING AND MIDWIFERY RESEARCH AND INNOVATION STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

*“To create a sustainable environment where there are opportunities to transform the clinical landscape, embedding research and innovation, empowering nurses and midwives to engage with, deliver and lead on research and innovation in order to drive excellence, transform care and give the best patient outcomes”*

### FROM STH CHIEF NURSE CHRIS MORLEY



Welcome to the Spring edition of the Nursing and Midwifery Research and Innovation Newsletter 2024. It remains an exciting time for nursing and midwifery research both locally and nationally. We will be shortly advertising the 2024 applications for the STH research internship programme – two of our recent interns are featured in the Nursing Profiles section of this newsletter. We are also seeking abstracts and attendees for our International Nurses Day event which will be held on the 10th May with DBTH and the University of Sheffield. Please take a few moments to read through the newsletter as this event and other opportunities that may be of interest to you and your team are highlighted here. There are also opportunities to get involved in the STH Nursing and Midwifery Research and Innovation Strategy implementation group discussions. Julie and Gail are also offering regular online coffee drop-ins where you can ask about specific opportunities or to generally discuss ideas or aspirations wherever you are in your career.

### OVERVIEW FROM PROFESSOR OF NURSING JULIE MCGARRY AND LEAD NURSE FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT GAIL MILLS



Welcome to our special extended Spring edition of the Nursing and Midwifery Research and Innovation Newsletter. We are delighted to share an extended newsletter which highlights some of the potential career roles and pathways within research at STH as well as promoting upcoming opportunities for nurses and midwives to make research their business. We will be giving a research update at the March Nursing and Midwifery Matters session and are currently planning a research focussed Matrons Masterclass so you can find out more about the benefits and opportunities research brings, including sharing a new toolkit for Matrons to use to support their teams to engage in research.



We are part of the organising committee for the N&M conference at STH and we are looking forward to showcasing some of the excellent work taking place within nursing and midwifery research at STH on the day. There is also an opportunity for you to attend a celebration event for International Nurses Day on 10<sup>th</sup> May so please do read on for details of how to register.

Finally, as always, we have shared dates and links to our upcoming drop-in sessions where you can informally discuss anything research or innovation related with us; we hope some of you can join these.

## Expressions of Interest wanted to lead or join working groups for the N&M R&I strategy

To help us drive forward delivery of the strategy and develop impactful research, we are looking for enthusiastic individuals to volunteer to lead working groups for each of our 5 themes:

1. Aligning nurse and midwifery led research and innovation with public need
2. Releasing nurses and midwives research potential
3. Building the best research system
4. Developing future nurse and midwifery leaders of research
5. Digitally-enabled nurse-led research

For more information, please see the full strategy and implementation plan which is available here: [For Health Professionals - Sheffield Clinical Research](#)

- If you are interested in any of the above areas we are also looking for people to join these working groups when established.

Chief Nurse Chris Morley is supportive of colleagues who are interested in being actively involved in the strategy working group. Please contact Julie or Gail if you would like to discuss further or register your interest in volunteering to lead one or more of these working groups by emailing [gail.mill2@nhs.net](mailto:gail.mill2@nhs.net) and [j.h.mcgarry@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:j.h.mcgarry@sheffield.ac.uk) outlining 1) which working group you are inter-

# Nursing Profiles



**Hester Astell** - I have been a nurse for 6 years, which I have spent working in the Accident and Emergency department here at STH. In 2022, I was successful in gaining the opportunity to take part in the Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Healthcare Professionals (NMAHP) research internship, provided by STH in partnership with the University of Sheffield.

Through this opportunity I was able to undertake a project within my department looking at how to improve the domestic violence pathway by way of a survey of staff knowledge, skills and performance. A topic I am very passionate about as a Safeguarding Champion. After the experience of the internship, I decided I wanted to delve more into the world of research and the impact it has on nursing today.



**Lorenza Nwafor** - I am a Research Sister, and Chief Nurse Fellow since November last year. I started my journey in research in 2021, as a band 5.

In my role, I enjoy applying my clinical skills, the level of autonomy in running a study, and collaborating with participants to bring progress in medicine. In regard to my fellowship, I am making the most of the opportunity of learning about art-based project with the mentorship and support of two remarkable Professors of Nursing. I also love that we are reaching out to groups that are underserved in healthcare and research, such as women and ethnic minorities. Additionally, it is rewarding to witness women sharing their experiences because they feel their voices will make a difference to healthcare practice.

Working in research has helped me grow in my confidence, both personally and professionally. I have had various development opportunities, with the latest being the Chief Nurse Fellowship. During this Fellowship I have been empowered to lead, participate in, and deliver research that listens to people's needs to shape services. I highly recommend applying to a Chief Nurse Fellowship to any colleague that wants to carry out their own research!



**Faith Kibutu** - I am a Research Sister at NIHR CRF Sheffield. I started my nursing career as an internationally educated nurse before moving to the UK.

Throughout my time working in clinical research, I have seen the positive impact that the clinical trials we support have on improving public health. Our department's key objective is to promote the engagement and empowerment of nurses, midwives, and allied health professionals by offering internships that focus on conducting projects for academic growth and service improvement.

Currently, my internship project aims to address the low participation rates of ethnic minorities in clinical trials within NIHR CRF and Sheffield Teaching Hospitals. I believe that the knowledge and insights gained from this project will help us ensure inclusivity in our recruitment processes for clinical trials. My experience in clinical research has been extremely rewarding, and I am excited to continue our efforts towards enhancing public health through research.



**Jane Ireson** - As a Clinical Nurse Specialist, I held a National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) Doctoral Fellowship and am now a Researcher in Residence: Cancer Experience at Weston Park Cancer Centre. I am proud to work at WPCC as we are one of only two specialist national centres in the UK treating gestational trophoblastic disease which is a rare pregnancy-related cancer.

I have led research looking at the impact of this cancer on patients' quality of life; to do this I have developed a web based tool that gathers self reported feedback from patients about how their cancer treatment impacts their health and wellbeing. By integrating this tool into routine care we now offer a personalised virtual nurse-led service throughout the GTD pathway, and this means we prioritise the concerns that matter to patients which is at the heart of what we do. I was delighted and honoured that I won the best-ranked research paper for this work at an international cancer conference in 2023. I hope this shows how innovative nursing led research and care can positively impact on cancer practice not just here, but potentially across the world.

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

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

Could you be a research delivery leader?  
Save the date for our virtual event  
Wednesday 20 March 2024 (12.30pm - 2.00pm)  
Registration open soon

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

- Suitable for all healthcare professionals who have no or limited research experience and those currently working in research delivery. All courses are designed for part time learning to fit around busy schedules.
- All courses consist of theory-based online learning modules and a research practice experience module. The 'research practice' module helps learners to develop their skills and expertise by working on research projects alongside experienced mentors.

A number of DHSC funded bursaries for course fees will be available. Further details will be provided at the event.

Further information can be found on the [Clinician Researcher Credentials Framework website](#). A link with more details and registration for this online event will be added to the website soon.

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

## Online Research Drop in Sessions

We are holding regular online research drop-in sessions via Microsoft Teams for any nurses or midwives wanting to know more about how to get involved in research, discuss potential ideas for projects etc. Details of the next couple of sessions are below; please use the links to join the meetings if you would like to be involved:

Thursday 9th May 2024 (16:00 -16:30) - Click [Here](#) to join the meeting

Wednesday 12th June 2024 (14:00 - 14:30)- Click [Here](#) to join the meeting

Thursday 11th July 2024 (12.30 - 13:00) - Click [Here](#) to join the meeting



## International Nurses Day event on the 10th May 2024



**Event Registration form** - This is a Google form and it has a link to join the Conference for those who would like to attend online. Here is the link to the form: <https://tinyurl.com/IND2024-Registration>

## Writing Workshop



Please join the writing for publication on-line session with Julie McGarry and Gail Mills

Tuesday 14th May 2024 (11:00-12:00) - Click [Here](#) to join the meeting.



# Matrons and Health and Care Leaders Research Community of Practice

## Calling all matrons and leaders in health and care...

If you are an innovative leader who would like to develop yourself and your service through research, then this community of practice is your one stop shop. We are delighted to be officially launching the matrons and health and care leaders research community of practice forum.

If you are a leader working in health and care, this forum is for you. You do not need any experience in research to join as the forum is a route to hear from how others have grown research to be part of their service. It is an opportunity to develop yourself as a leader that understands the research climate and how it fits into clinical and care practice. It is offering a different perspective on how you can develop your service and staff to the highest standard to offer patients a high-quality evidence-based service where choice and opportunities for research are on offer

**We are holding a series of webinars where you will have the opportunity to talk to like minded clinical and care colleagues, many with limited or no experience in research**

Date and Time	Topic	MS Teams
21st March 2-3pm	Link roles in the new age Research delivery champions	Meeting ID:359 950 040 012 Passcode: c94BWw
11th April 2-3pm	A new approach to appraisals	To be confirmed
10th May 2-3pm	Leaders' role in research safety and governance	To be confirmed
7th June 2-3pm	Recruitment & retention a new perspective	To be confirmed
2nd July 2-3pm	Extended multidisciplinary teams, how researchers can support your service	To be confirmed
19th Sep 2-3pm	Quality improvement, practical evidence based practise and how research activity improves care.	To be confirmed
18th October 2-3pm	Being involved in research, the patient perspective	To be confirmed

Please sign up [here](#)

Please also sign up to this Futures NHS webpage where you can see the team behind the scenes and scour the resources that are supportive of your role. [Link](#)

## Literature Searching Service

**Is there a clinical issue that you would like to understand the evidence behind? If so, the STH library team can help!**

The library can conduct thorough and comprehensive literature searches on a particular topic on your behalf. If you require the evidence on a clinical issue, the Knowledge and Library Service can do this for you to save you time.

Research papers and information can be requested for a number of reasons including the development of guidelines, service improvement, care of a specific patient, CPD and research projects. All you need to do is let us know what information you need, and we can do the searching for you. We search a wide variety of databases and aim to find the best available evidence for your particular clinical or non-clinical query.



If you would like to request a search, either email [sth.library@nhs.net](mailto:sth.library@nhs.net) or complete this [form](#).