1. **RCN Study of Nursing Care series**

This groundbreaking series was commissioned by the then Department of Health and Social Services in England, and produced 12 reports, an introduction and a conclusion. To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the RCN Research Society under the auspices of the RCN, this series has been digitised and is available to download as PDF files. Each week we will highlight one of the series.

"In 1966 the Royal College of Nursing was invited by the then Ministry of Health to undertake studies to develop measures of the quality of nursing care. The importance of the subject was well recognised, as were the difficulties, but progress is impossible if not start is made. The work began in 1967. The investigation of quality of nursing care is clearly a responsibility of the profession itself, but nurses, trained and experienced in research, are not yet available in sufficient numbers. The College project, therefore, includes provision for training and supervision for nurse research assistants by experienced research workers who give their time generously for the purpose." Extract from the foreword of the series by Dame Kathleen Raven, Chief Nursing Officer, DHSS


[Abstract: *Nil by Mouth?* Is a study of an aspect of technical nursing care. It falls into a group of nursing tasks which are governed by medical policy. The quality of care in this group is affected not only by the policy itself but by the communication of the policy to those concerned with carrying it out, their understanding of it and the organizational process by which the nurse translates the policy into practice. This study shows the many complexities and pitfalls in each link of this chain and in it those who mind about the quality of nursing care will find suggestions for action in their own situation. In the design of the study a method has been developed which can be adapted for examining other aspects of nursing care which devolve upon medical policy.]

Website: [http://www.rcn.org.uk/research/rs/pubs/sinc](http://www.rcn.org.uk/research/rs/pubs/sinc)

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2. **Akinsanya award for innovation in doctoral studies in nursing 2010**

In association with Anglia Ruskin University and Journal of Research in Nursing

This Award, now in its fourth year, will be granted to the most innovative doctoral
thesis in the nursing disciplines, submitted to the Award Committee. Excellence in scholarship, innovation and the potential to influence health care policy or practice will be the main criteria for deciding the Award. To be eligible for the Award, applicants must:

* be a member of the RCN Research Society
* have been awarded a doctoral degree, during the period 01 September 2008 to 31 August 2009 (submit documentary confirmation of date degree awarded n.b. not graduation)
* submit an extended abstract, maximum 1000 words by 30 September 2009 to akinsanyaaward@rcn.org.uk
* must lodge a copy of the thesis with the Steinberg Collection, RCN Library (email Billie Joel, billie.joel@rcn.org.uk for more details)

The successful applicant will be supported in the dissemination of their work through a variety of media and will be awarded a free place at the RCN international nursing research conference in Newcastle Gateshead in 2010. They will also receive a cash prize of 250GBP.

Website: [http://www.rcn.org.uk/research2010](http://www.rcn.org.uk/research2010)

Closing date for applications: 30 September 2009

### Career Development Opportunities

#### 3. Children's Research Nurse, Somers Clinical Research Facility, Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Trust, London

**Agenda for Change Band 6**

We are seeking to recruit a motivated Children's Research Nurse to join our expanding clinical team. With support from the Children's Research Sisters, you will co-ordinate a number of clinical trials/studies from a variety of specialities. This will include the recruitment of participants, facilitation of the consent process, administration/co-ordination of the interventions required, monitoring of the children taking part in the studies, and accurate collection and submission of the data obtained, in line with the study protocols and research regulations.

Website: [http://www.ich.ucl.ac.uk/jobs_gosh.html](http://www.ich.ucl.ac.uk/jobs_gosh.html)

Closing date for applications: 26 July 2009

#### 4. Senior Research Nurse Manager, Norfolk and Norwich University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

**Agenda for Change Band 8a, fixed term contract for 3 years.**

Required to manage our existing research nursing team, you will be responsible for research nurses working within the Trust and will play a key part in the development of the research nurse role. You will support, lead, supervise, manage and co-ordinate all Trust Clinical Research & Trials Unit nursing teams throughout the hospital. In addition to management responsibilities, you will work with multi-disciplinary teams to actively recruit, educate and monitor patients entered into trials and ensure accurate data collection using their skills and
knowledge of clinical trials and research. For an informal conversation, please contact Dr Paul Worth, Tel: 01603-287 914, email: paul.worth@nnuh.nhs.uk; Professor John Potter, Tel: 01603-593 548, email: john.potter@uea.ac.uk; or Mr Krishna Sethia, Tel: 01603-286 776, email: Krishna.sethia@nnuh.nhs.uk

Website: http://www.nnuh.nhs.uk/jobs/

Closing date for applications: 27 July 2009

5. Trial Co-ordinator, Division of Community Based Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, University of Glasgow

Salary: 25,623 - 28,839GBP per annum pro rata (0.5 FTE). Funding for 9 months initially: secondment option may be available.

You will be responsible for the day-to-day management of a multi-centre clinical trial in stroke rehabilitation - AVERT (A Very Early Rehabilitation Trial). This includes the support and training of the recruiting centres, monitoring the adherence of trial protocol, and ensuring accuracy and completeness of data collection.

Website: http://www.glasgow.ac.uk/jobs (Ref: 00158-1)

Closing date for applications: 31 July 2009

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Research Funding

6. The Queen's Nursing Institute (QNI)/Burdett Trust for Nursing Fund for Innovation and Leadership

This new funding partnership will support nurse-led local projects which aim to improve the care of patients and to enhance the leadership skills of nurses. We support innovative projects, led by community nurses, midwives or health visitors, which set up new services or improved ways of working for the benefit of patients. All project leads will benefit from the QNI's support including a unique and highly-rated programme of developmental workshops during their project year. The programme will aim to achieve sustainable innovation in services, and a new cohort of confident nurse leaders for the future. Grants of up to 5,000GBP for each project are available in addition to a full year programme of professional development and support.

Website: http://www.qni.org.uk/project-funding/fund-for-innovation.html

Closing date for applications: 28 September 2009

7. Bupa Foundation Philip Poole-Wilson Seed Corn Fund

The maximum award is 20,000GBP and it is expected that activities funded would be completed within a year. To nurture new research ideas, the new Philip Poole-Wilson Seed Corn Fund will consider exploratory/pilot research projects in any of the Foundation's areas of interest:

* surgery
* preventive medicine and epidemiology
* health information and communication between patients and health professionals
* health at work
* mental health of older people

If you are a health care professional involved in research or university based researcher with an interest in health or social care with a great idea for new research in one of these areas, you can apply for a grant to help you develop your ideas. This could be to support pilot work, for example, or to bring together a team of people to work on a proposal.

Website: [https://grants.bupafoundation.co.uk](https://grants.bupafoundation.co.uk)


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### Current Research Commissions

8. **National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Research for Innovation Speculation and Creativity (RISC)**

The NIHR RISC Programme invites applications for speculative, novel proposals that could lead to a step change in the care and management of patients. The maximum grant has been increased from 100kGBP to 200kGBP per project for this third competition. Awards are normally for 12-18 months duration.

Website: [http://www.nihr.ac.uk/proposals/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.nihr.ac.uk/proposals/Pages/default.aspx)

The closing date for applications is 4 August 2009.

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### Fellowships/Studentships

9. **PhD Studentships, Graduate School of Medicine, Dentistry and Nursing, University of Dundee**

The awards cover both tuition fees and stipend in the form of a generous tax-free bursary of 15,000GBP per annum

i) Investigating the role of stress, loneliness and social isolation on psychosocial and clinical outcomes in people with cancer

ii) Reducing inequalities in lung cancer: addressing social, psychological and structural barriers to service uptake

iii) Seamless Care for Women and Children Experiencing Domestic Abuse (SCWEDA)

Contact: Debbie Smith, Secretary to the Graduate School of Medicine, Dentistry and Nursing
Email: [d.j.smith@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:d.j.smith@dundee.ac.uk)
Consultations

10. **NHS Clinical Knowledge Summaries (CKS) Work programme Topic Reviews**

CKS provide a source of clinical knowledge for the NHS about the common conditions managed in primary and first contact care. The knowledge is practical and reliable and helps healthcare professionals confidently make evidence-based decisions about the healthcare of their patients and provides the know-how to safely put these decisions into action.

CKS are keen to receive feedback on draft Topic Reviews. In addition to feedback from experts, professional organizations and patient groups, they are particularly interested to receive feedback from healthcare professionals who use the service. We can acknowledge your involvement on the CKS website and/or in a letter that you may wish to add to your continual professional development or appraisal folder.

Draft CKS topics available for feedback - deadline for comments 7 August 2009
i) Amenorrhea
ii) Diarrhoea - antibiotic associated
iii) Gastroenteritis
iv) Gonorrhoea
v) Schizophrenia
vi) Traveller's diarrhoea - prevention and advice
vii) Urethritis - male

Draft CKS topics available for feedback from early August 2009
i) Back pain (low) sciatica
ii) Chilblains
iii) Eating disorder
iv) Diabetes
v) Measles
vi) Tiredness
vii) Uvetitis (acute anterior)

Draft CKS topics available for feedback from late August 2009
i) Breast cancer - family history

Draft CKS topics available for feedback from early September 2009
i) Gastro-oesophageal reflux in children
ii) Fibroids (uterine myomotomy, leimyomas)
iii) Mumps
iv) Premenstrual syndrome
v) Restless leg syndrome
vi) Teething problems

Draft CKS topics available for feedback from early October 2009
i) Colorectal screening
ii) Ectopic pregnancy
iii) Lymes disease
iv) Hirsutism
v) Retinal detachment
vi) Rubella
vii) UTI - men
viii) Whopping cough

Website: [http://www.cks.library.nhs.uk/about/getting_involved/](http://www.cks.library.nhs.uk/about/getting_involved/)

### 11. RCN-led Consultations

The RCN is asked to comment on a huge array of consultation documents many of which have a very short timescale. To give RCN members a greater opportunity to feed into this process an up-to-date list of consultations is available on the RCN website. Recent consultations with RCN leads and deadlines in brackets include:

i) **Nursing and Midwifery Council**, "Consultation on the maximum size of the practice committees" [Lead: Jane Naish, Howard Richmond. Deadline: 17 July 2009]


iii) **Department of Health**, "Draft guidance on provisions to deal with nuisance or disturbance behaviour on NHS premises in England" [Lead: Kim Sunley. Deadline: 4 August 2009]


viii) **Care Quality Commission**, "Guidance about compliance with the Health and Social Care Act 2008 (Registration Requirements), Regulations 2009" [Lead: Leela Barham. Deadline: 24 August 2009]

ix) **National Information Governance Board for Health and Social Care**, "Consultation on Guidance on the amendment of medical and social care records following a request from a person receiving care" [Lead: Anne Casey. Deadline: 4 September 2009]


xii) **Department of Health**, "Health protection regulations: a consultation" [Lead: Jan Maw. Deadline: 30 September 2009]

Research in Progress

12. National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Health Technology Assessment programme (HTA) recently commissioned projects

The HTA programme is part of the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR). It produces independent research information about the effectiveness, costs and broader impact of healthcare treatments and tests for those who plan, provide or receive care in the NHS. The following projects have been recently commissioned:

i) 08/101/01 A systematic review of prevention and intervention strategies for populations at high risk of engaging in violent behaviour: Update 2002-2007

ii) 08/92/01 Trabectedin for the treatment of advanced metastatic soft tissue sarcoma

iii) 08/65/02 The value of Positron-Emission-Tomography (PET) in pre-operative staging of colorectal cancer

iv) 08/16/01 Systematic review and meta-analysis of the current evidence on the duration of BCG protection

v) 07/01/02 Care of older people who fall: evaluation of the clinical and cost effectiveness of new protocols for emergency ambulance personnel to assess and refer to appropriate community based care

Website: http://www.hta.ac.uk/

User Involvement

13. DIPEX/Healthtalkonline

DIPEX has created two websites of people's experiences of almost 50 different illnesses and health conditions. The websites are aimed at patients, their carers, family and friends, doctors, nurses and other health professionals and are based on in-depth qualitative research carried out by the DIPEX Health Experiences Research Group at the University of Oxford. Users of our websites will find accounts – presented through video, audio and written material – which resonate with their own perspectives and experiences of issues such as reaction to diagnosis, consultation with their doctor, effect on work, social life and relationships, decisions on treatment options and side-effects. The questions that patients want answered are identified in their interviews and summarised on our websites.

To date, we have covered illnesses including cancer, heart disease, neurological conditions (Parkinson's, epilepsy and autism) chronic health issues (HIV, diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis) and mental health. We also provide experiences of women's health (pregnancy, breastfeeding, antenatal screening) and publish young people's experiences (including epilepsy, sexual health, teenage cancer)

Website: http://www.healthtalkonline.org/ and http://www.youthhealthtalk.org

Completed Research & Development - Open Access
14. **RCN Clinical Governance e-Bulletin**

The RCN Clinical Governance e-Bulletin will keep you up to date with clinical governance news, developments, publications and events. Emailed on a fortnightly basis it is organised around key themes such as patient safety, quality improvement tools and techniques, patient focus, and e-health. Some issues focus on specific topics; so far these have included patient and public involvement, Essence of Care, patient safety, falls, and infection control. To register for this fortnightly e-Bulletin, please click on the link on the Clinical Governance section of the RCN website.

Website: [http://www.rcn.org.uk/development/practice/clinical_governance](http://www.rcn.org.uk/development/practice/clinical_governance)

15. **NHS Clinical Knowledge Summaries (CKS) Work programme**

**clinical topics**

CKS provide a source of clinical knowledge for the NHS about the common conditions managed in primary and first contact care. The knowledge is practical and reliable and helps healthcare professionals confidently make evidence-based decisions about the healthcare of their patients and provides the know-how to safely put these decisions into action. New and updated CKS topics - July 2009.

**July 2009**
- Acne vulgaris
- Alopecia areata
- Endometriosis
- Epilepsy
- Heart failure - chronic
- Nappy rash
- Parkinson's disease
- Rheumatoid arthritis

**CKS podcasts**

To enhance the service the first in a series of CKS audio podcasts on 'hot' clinical issues have been developed and are available from the KnowledgePlus section of the CKS website or through iTunes at the following location: podcasts / Science and Medicine / NHS Healthcast. There are nine new podcasts available in the KnowledgePlus section of the CKS website:

- Anaphylaxis (2)
- Breast cancer
- Missed contraceptive pills
- Overview of CKS
- Red eye (2)
- Reducing antibiotic prescribing
- Smoking cessation

Website: [http://www.cks.library.nhs.uk/home](http://www.cks.library.nhs.uk/home)

16. **National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Health Technology Assessment Programme recently published monographs**

The HTA programme is part of the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR). It produces independent research information about the effectiveness, costs and
broader impact of healthcare treatments and tests for those who plan, provide or receive care in the NHS. The most recently published monographs include:

i) **07/56/01** Sensitivity analysis in economic evaluation: an audit of NICE current practice and a review of its use and value in decision-making (Andronis) Health Technol Assess 2009; 13.29

ii) **01/13/03** A randomised controlled trial to compare minimally invasive glucose monitoring devices to conventional monitoring in the management of insulin-treated diabetes mellitus (MITRE) (Newman) Health Technol Assess 2009; 13.28

iii) **03/09/01** Paracetamol and Ibuprofen for the treatment of fever in children: the PITCH randomised controlled trial (Hay) Health Technol Assess 2009; 13.27

Website: [http://www.hta.ac.uk/](http://www.hta.ac.uk/)

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### Knowledge Utilisation


Using curriculum documents, participant evaluations, and self-reflection, this paper describes a unique Summer Institute hosted by the CIHR in Cornwall, Ontario, Canada. The authors of the paper outline the key aspects of a successful training initiative that could inform organizations and agencies worldwide with an interest in or who have a mandate for KT.

Website: [http://www.implementationscience.com/content/4/1/33](http://www.implementationscience.com/content/4/1/33)

18. **The Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD)**

   CRD is part of the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) and is a department of the University of York. CRD, which was established in 1994, is one of the largest groups in the world engaged exclusively in evidence synthesis in the health field. CRD undertakes systematic reviews evaluating the research evidence on health and public health questions of national and international importance. We produce the DARE, NHS EED and HTA databases which are used extensively by health professionals, policy makers and researchers around the world. We also undertake methods research and produce internationally accepted guidelines for undertaking systematic reviews.

   **CRD databases updated**

   This week (01- 07/07/2009) 126 new records have been added to the DARE, NHS EED and HTA databases.

   i) 21 full abstracts of quality assessed systematic reviews

   ii) 2 full abstracts of quality assessed economic evaluations

   iii) 103 health technology assessments

   **Featured abstract of the week:**

   i) The benefits of statins in people without established cardiovascular disease but
with cardiovascular risk factors. This generally well-conducted meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials concluded that statin use in patients without established cardiovascular disease, but with cardiovascular risk factors, was associated with significantly improved survival and large reductions in the risk of major cardiovascular events. This conclusion reflected the results of an appropriate synthesis of large, high-quality trials and is likely to be reliable.

Website: [http://www.york.ac.uk/inst/crd/index.htm](http://www.york.ac.uk/inst/crd/index.htm)

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### Disseminating Your Research - Call for papers/Journals

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<tr>
<th>19. <strong>Change Champions Toolkit Seminar</strong>: &quot;Investing in the health workforce: aligning strategy, leadership and the team&quot;</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5 - 6 November 2009, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia</strong></td>
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<td>An increasing number of speakers are being attracted from the UK. The conference organisers encourage potential UK speakers to contact them, as, depending on the quality of the paper, airfares and accommodation may be negotiated.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contact: Char Weeks Tel: +61 (2) 4963 5150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:change.champions@bigpond.com">change.champions@bigpond.com</a></td>
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<td>Abstract deadline: 31 July 2009</td>
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<th>20. <strong>RCN Occupational Health Nursing conference</strong>: &quot;Occupational health practitioners: facilitating change&quot;</th>
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<td><strong>03 - 04 November 2009, Southport, England</strong></td>
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<td>Papers are invited from all professionals working in the field of health, wealth and wellbeing, with a focus on new approaches, adaptability, dynamic and innovative service delivery.</td>
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<td>Website: <a href="http://www.rcn.org.uk/events">http://www.rcn.org.uk/events</a></td>
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<td>Abstract deadline: 31 July 2009</td>
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<th>21. <strong>RCN Education forum conference 2010</strong></th>
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<td><strong>26 - 27 February 2010, Blackpool, England</strong></td>
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<td>This event aims to bring together all those involved in nursing education and skills training wherever it is delivered and whoever delivers it. Nursing education is moving through a period of rapid transition and we will be looking for both papers and posters that explore themes within an exciting agenda of constant change and new developments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Website: <a href="http://www.rcn.org.uk/events">http://www.rcn.org.uk/events</a></td>
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Abstract deadline: 3 September 2009

Events

22. **RCN 15th International Network for Psychiatric Nursing Research (NPNR) conference, "Mental health nursing research: Measuring success - multiple perspectives"**

24 - 25 September 2009, Oxford University, Oxford, England

The full programme is now available and the keynote speakers have been announced:

i) Richard Lakeman, Dublin City University, Ireland
ii) Diana Rose, PhD, Senior Lecturer in User-Led Research, Institute of Psychiatry, King's College London
iii) Len Bowers, Professor of Psychiatric Nursing and Head of Research, City University
iv) Theo Stickley, Nottingham University.

Website: [http://www.rcn.org.uk/events](http://www.rcn.org.uk/events)

23. **University of Stirling Department of Nursing and Midwifery conference, "Enhancing decision-making in healthcare practice"**

29 September 2009, Stirling, Scotland

Contact Tracy Sheppard
Tel: +44 (0)1786 466 340
Email: decisionmakingconf@stir.ac.uk

Website: [http://www.nm.stir.ac.uk](http://www.nm.stir.ac.uk)