RCN Research and Development Co-ordinating Centre

1. RCN 2010 annual international nursing research conference

   11 - 13 May 2010, The Sage Gateshead, England, UK

   A page offering guidance for presenters of oral papers and ViPERs, and for concurrent session chairs has been created. Under Professor Andrea Nelson's leadership, the scientific committee have changed the format this year, so if you are conference regular, please do take some time to read the briefings and familiarise yourself with this changes. The key differences are:

   * Concurrent session presenters will have a maximum of 15 minutes to present followed by 5 minutes for questions. This is a reduction from previous years.
   * There is no time built into the programme to allow delegates to move between papers during concurrent sessions.
   * The scientific committee will be awarding a concurrent session 'paper of the day' on each day of the conference. The award will be judged on the persuasiveness of written nominations received from concurrent session chairs who are invited to nominate papers that they believe they will 'still be talking about in twelve months time'.

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

Career Development Opportunities

2. Research Nurse / Radiographer - Mid Trent Cancer Research Network

   Agenda for Change Band 6. This post is initially a one-year fixed term contract that may be extended further following review.

   The Mid Trent Cancer Research Network is part of the National Cancer Research Network, established by the Department of Health to improve access and recruitment into clinical trials. The Research Nurse/Radiographer will be employed by Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust and based at Lincoln County Hospital. We are looking to appoint a confident highly organised and self-motivated Research Nurse or Research Radiographer to provide dedicated clinical trials support to the health care teams associated with the assigned trials, departments and sites to enable patients across Mid Trent to have access to clinical trial entry. You will co-ordinate the efficient running of these allocated trials and manage your own caseload of patients, under the guidance of the Team Leader, Research Network Manager and Clinical Lead. This is an interesting and varied position, as you will work on trials in various treatment modalities and in various tumour types. This offers immense potential for personal and professional development.

   Website: [http://www.jobs.nhs.uk/showvac/gKnb2W/2186423/912464483](http://www.jobs.nhs.uk/showvac/gKnb2W/2186423/912464483)

   Closing date: 07 May 2010

Research Funding

3. WelcomEurope little guidebook on FP7
This free FP7 (EU 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development) Welcomeurope guidebook (25 pages of methodology and practical advice to get EU Funding in 2010) will help you:

* to develop the methodology required to prepare your research project
* to be able to identify funding opportunities for your project
* to optimize your application and maximize your chances of being selected

Website: [http://www.welcomeurope.com/default.asp?id=820](http://www.welcomeurope.com/default.asp?id=820)

**Current Research Commissions**

4. **National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Health Technology Assessment programme (HTA) - physical or psychological rehabilitation following major trauma**

The NIHR HTA programme call is for proposals concerning people needing physical or psychological rehabilitation following trauma in a military or civilian context. It is part of the Department of Health’s ongoing commitment to provide care to service veterans and builds on investment over the last decade in research capacity in the field of acute trauma, repair, reconstruction and long-term rehabilitation.

Website: [http://www.rcn.org.uk/research/news/funding](http://www.rcn.org.uk/research/news/funding)

The deadline for applications for the next submissions is 01 July 2010.

5. **National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Invention for Innovation (i4i) Programme - Stream 1, feasibility study**

i4i provides investment in, and improved identification of, promising healthcare technologies in order to accelerate the development of new healthcare products for the 21st century. i4i funds translational research, extending between basic research and pre-clinical trials or health technology assessments. This part of the innovation process is an area of high technological and business risk, and the projects funded by i4i reflect this. i4i is positioned at the upstream part of the innovation process, close to ideas generators and matching the innovation process as closely as possible. The i4i feasibility study stream funds project proposals of up to 12 months to investigate first whether a piece of prior basic research or an innovative use of an existing technology could provide a solution to an existing or emerging healthcare need.

Website: [http://www.rcn.org.uk/research/news/funding](http://www.rcn.org.uk/research/news/funding)

The closing date for applications under Call 6 is 02 July 2010.

6. **National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation (EME) programme**

The EME programme is funded by the MRC and managed by the NIHR as the lead organisation for clinical trials and evaluation. The EME programme is broadly aimed at supporting science driven studies with an expectation of substantial health gain. The clinical studies are likely to be mostly randomised controlled trials but other forms of evaluation appropriate for the intervention under study will also be supported. The EME programme is an ongoing research funding opportunity. Applicants are welcome to submit a preliminary application at any time, however there are three submission deadlines each year.

Website: [http://www.rcn.org.uk/research/news/funding](http://www.rcn.org.uk/research/news/funding)

The deadline for applications for the next submissions is 12 July 2010.
7. **National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Research for Patient Benefit (RfPB) programme**

The NIHR RfPB Programme invites applications for projects in health services research and public health. RfPB is a nationally co-ordinated funding stream for regionally commissioned research. Projects within scope will study the way that NHS services are provided and used; evaluate whether interventions are effective and provide value for money; examine whether alternative means for providing healthcare would be more beneficial in terms of cost and effectiveness; and/or formally assess innovations and developments in healthcare which will benefit patients. Grants are funded up to 36 months in duration with a total maximum cost of 250kGBP.

Website: [http://www.rcn.org.uk/research/news/funding](http://www.rcn.org.uk/research/news/funding)

Competition 13. The closing date for registration of intention to submit is 13 August 2010. The deadline for submission of applications is 24 September 2010.

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### Fellowships/Studentships

8. **PhD funded studentship, The Centre for Wellbeing and Quality of Life, Bournemouth University**

"An exploratory investigation into the experience of wellbeing of people living with chronic skin conditions and the implications for the nursing workforce"

The objectives of this research project are:

* To examine the nature of the experience of wellbeing among those people living with chronic skin conditions and the dimensions of this experience
* To describe the wellbeing resources that this group are able to draw on
* To empirically test a theoretically and philosophically derived existential theory of wellbeing using phenomenological data (Todres & Galvin)
* To examine the developmental and educational implications for the nursing workforce for this vulnerable group, as a basis for improving wellbeing and quality of life

Informal enquiries: Professor Elizabeth A Rosser, Tel: 01202-962 185, email: erosser@bournemouth.ac.uk.

Website: [http://www.rcn.org.uk/research/news/career](http://www.rcn.org.uk/research/news/career)

The application deadline for this studentship is 28 May 2010.

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### Research Training

9. **School for Health, University of Bath Online Open Week**

10 - 14 May 2010

The Professional Doctorate in Health from the University of Bath is designed to give nurses and other healthcare professionals the chance to study and carry out research whilst remaining in practice. The next cohort begins in September 2010, with the application deadline in June 2010. The online open week offers potential students the chance to find out what it's really like to study via online, distance learning with sample resources, activities and a chance to join in discussions online with tutors and current students. Please register for the event beforehand by contacting the School

Contact: Sabine Bachinger
Email: health@bath.ac.uk
10. **Postgraduate training opportunities**

For many years now, the RCN R&D Co-ordinating Centre has produced a biannual special edition of the weekly bulletin, focusing on postgraduate training opportunities. The next edition will be sent out W/C 31 May 2010. Invitations to update information currently appearing on this section of the website have been sent out, but if you have a postgraduate training opportunity and your institution is not listed, please send particulars to Dave O'Carroll, email: david.ocarroll@rcn.org.uk.

**Criteria for inclusion.** There are many useful services detailing comprehensive listings of postgraduate opportunities. Our web page does not purport to do this. The purpose of the RCN Research & Development Co-ordinating Centre website is to bring together information for nurses, midwives and health visitors (and other health care professionals) interested in research and practice development. If you would like to include a postgraduate course in this section, we ask that you carefully consider whether the course meets the following criteria: **the primary focus of the course is research and/or practice development.** All postgraduate courses will have a strong research theme, but typically to be included in this section, the course title will mention research and/or practice development. The main exception to this is that of Doctorates (both taught and research), all of which will be included. Additionally, the course must have been validated.

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

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**User Involvement**

11. **INVOLVE Value+ toolkit launched**

This toolkit, written primarily for patients and patient organisations, is one output from the Value+ Project, which addressed the growing need to support the exchange of information and experience on good practice relating to patient involvement in EC projects. "It contains a wealth of information, advice and resources that could be used in the UK context and will also be useful for researchers and those involving the public in research activities"


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**Knowledge Transfer - Finding the Evidence**


This publication aims to tell the story so far about the personalisation of adult social care services. It is intended to set out our current understanding of personalisation and its implementation, exploring what personalisation is, where the idea came from and placing the transformation of adult social care in the wider public service reform agenda.


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**Knowledge Transfer - Practice Development**

13. **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 (21/04 to 27/04/2010) 85 new records have been added to the DARE, NHS EED and HTA databases.

**Abstracts of the week**

i) **A meta-analysis of fear of falling treatment programs for the elderly.** This review found that interventions effectively decreased fear of falling and increased fall efficacy in the elderly. The best outcome was achieved after four months. However, the small number of studies limited generalisability of the results. Possible publication and language biases and inappropriate pooling of studies suggests these conclusions may not be reliable.

ii) **A systematic review of the effectiveness of communication interventions for health care providers caring for patients in residential care settings.** The review concluded that communication training improved health care providers' communication skills, knowledge and outcomes for patients in long-term residential care. The intervention component that delivered this effect could not be identified. Given restricted reporting, the small number of studies and the possibility of language and publication biases, the authors conclusions should be interpreted with caution.

iii) **Heparin versus citrate for anticoagulation in critically ill patients treated with continuous renal replacement therapy.** The author concluded that regional citrate anticoagulation was associated with increased haemofilter circuit survival time and lower risk of bleeding, compared with systemic heparin anticoagulation, in continuous renal replacement therapy for patients with acute renal failure. The reliability of this conclusion is unclear, given restrictions in the search strategy, and failure to minimise errors and bias in the review process.

iv) **Quality of life in children with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia: a systematic review.** The authors of this review concluded that there were discrepancies between children's and parents' accounts of quality of life, which led to varied findings across physical, psychological, psychosocial, and cognitive domains, and disease and treatment symptoms. These conclusions reflected the evidence presented, but might need to be treated with caution due to the possibility of missing studies.


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**Knowledge Transfer - Disseminating Your Research**

14. **NIHR CLAHRC for South Yorkshire conference 2010, "Collaborating to improve our health service through research and its implementation"**

06 - 07 October 2010, Sheffield, England, UK

We would like to invite registrations of the above conference, organised and hosted by NIHR CLAHRC for South Yorkshire. The first day of the conference will have an academic focus, and the second day will be a demonstration of what our NIHR CLAHRC for South Yorkshire has achieved through partnership working, including with other CLAHRCs, and engagement with the NHS. Both days will include joint presentations between academics and senior NHS managers who will highlight the benefits of joint working to South Yorkshire. All nine CLAHRCs and individuals working in related areas are invited to submit abstracts.


Closing date for abstracts: 18 June 2010
15. **International Conferences in Community Health Nursing Research Biennial Symposium 2011, "Embracing equity and diversity in community health nursing research"**

04 - 06 May 2011, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Researchers, practitioners, clinicians, health administrators, policy makers and managers in community and public health nursing, and in other community health disciplines, are invited to join us from around the world. Hosted by the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Alberta, the symposium will focus on the broad themes of diversity, health equity, and community health nursing research in the 21st century, and provide a forum for discussion, debate, and networking.


The deadline for abstract submission is 31 August 2010. Please note that all presentations are poster format.

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**Events**

16. **"Changing Parenting Culture" seminar series, "Pregnancy and pregnancy planning in the new parenting culture"**

22 - 23 June 2010, University of Kent, Canterbury, England, UK

This seminar will bring together academics from a range disciplines, to discuss the way in which pregnancy is being re-conceptualised at a time when parenthood has become the object of increasing attention and concern. The event is supported by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and British Pregnancy Advisory Service (bpas). Speakers will address how anxieties about parenting are 'extending backwards' into pregnancy and even pre-conception, with potential parents increasingly being regarded as in need of 'parent training'. Papers will consider the validity and impact of claims that a healthy baby requires a stress-free pregnancy; the impact of contemporary parenting culture on reproductive decision-making, in particular, abortion; the increasing pressure for men to become actively involved not just in baby-care but in guiding and supporting their partner's antenatal choices; and the way in which the new norm of 'intensive parenthood' is shaping the regulation of reproductive technology. The conference will also include a comparative discussion of US and UK controversies surrounding the consumption of drugs and alcohol by pregnant women.

Contact: Jan Macvarish  
Email: J.Macvarish@Kent.ac.uk  
Website: [http://www.rcn.org.uk/research/news/events](http://www.rcn.org.uk/research/news/events)