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SPCRN NEWS

ISSUE 3

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Best Recruiting Practice Award



We would like to congratulate Dr Shaw & Partners, Kingsway Medical Practice, Glasgow, who won the Best Recruiting Practice Award at the

SSPC Conference 2010. Kingsway Medical Practice took part in 7 SPCRN studies over 2009/2010. Sheila Grant, Practice Manager and Dr Elaine Cameron attended the conference to receive their award. The SPCRN team would like to thank them as well as all the other practices who have taken part in these studies and hope we continue to work together in the future. For more information on

the SSPC Awards at the 2011 Conference please see www.sspc.ac.uk/events/awards.

SAPC Conference 2010, Aileen Grant



At the SAPC 2010 conference in Norwich I presented pilot work by University of Dundee on the feasibility of a register of research interested patients which is proposed to be held by the SPCRN. At present Scotland's technical ability to identify people eligible for medical research studies is not yet matched by a practical capability to approach them directly to ask them to consider participation in those studies. The consequence is that recruitment to research is much more difficult than it might be and consequently some projects fail.

Two focus groups were held in Tayside, Scotland to ascertain patient and GP views towards holding a register of patients interested in being contacted for research. Members of the public and GPs were in favour of

a register of people interested in taking part in research however, their concerns varied. The public preferred a model where a register of patients interested in taking part in research was temporarily linked to various existing databases to minimise ineligible patients being contacted. Researchers would contact an organisation (proposed to be the Scottish School of Primary Care) who would contact the record-linkage administrator and the administrators of the existing databases. These databases would be searched for eligible patients through their CHI number and these anonymised data would be linked to the patient consent database to generate a list of eligible and research interested patients.

GPs had greater concerns over

confidentiality but were generally supportive. The GPs were concerned with research ethics, access issues and the Data Protection Act. They were keen for the scheme to have Caldicott approved policy. The GPs also raised concern as to how this would impact on their workload.

The University of Dundee and University of Edinburgh have just been awarded a small grant by the CSO to explore the feasibility of a research register in more detail. This research is supported by NHS Tayside and NHS Lothian who have also financially contributed to the research costs. Further research and pilot work is now required to explore the creation of a register in more detail.



ReSeT Guidance



New guidance (ReSeT) to replace ARCO (Attributing the revenue costs of externally-funded non commercial research in the NHS) was issued in March 2010 with a planned implementation date of September 2010. In May, following consultation between the English Department of Health (DH) and research funding partners on the im-

plementability of the new guidance, it was decided not to proceed with implementation. DH intends to continue discussion with its partners to agree on an approach that builds on the original principles of attribution set out in 1997. A meeting will be held in September between the 4 health departments to discuss the way forward. CSO is commit-

ted to reaching a national, workable resolution to this matter and will keep key stakeholders informed of developments. In the meantime the existing ARCO guidance should continue to be consulted.

Patient and Public Involvement



Patient and Public Involvement Conference, Stirling Management Centre, 16 June 2010

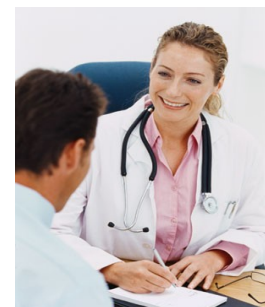
This conference was organised on behalf of the Scottish networks by the Scottish Diabetes Research Network to help further develop the use of PPI in the day to day running of the networks in Scotland. Lay representatives and research staff were brought together for a series of presentations and workshops, opened by Shona Robison MSP, Minister for Public Health and Sport. There were a couple of outstanding presentations. One by Heather Goodare on her personal experiences of participating in research

which led to patients challenging the results of a cancer study that has been reported in BMJ under the headline "death by complementary medicine". Another by Jennifer Newman on the Young Persons' Advisory Groups who advise the Medicines for Children Network in Liverpool on, amongst other things, leaflet and website design. The workshops were also very informative and thought-provoking (I particularly enjoyed the one on consent) and provided a useful forum for discussion between lay people and those more formally involved in research.

It was a good day, well worth attending. For researchers, it was a useful opportunity to hear the patient perspective, and a great opportunity for us to meet the potential SPCRNI PPI repre-

sentatives. Much of the feedback related to the general nature of the topics covered and the diverse range of delegates – perhaps the topics of future meetings could be more focused, but it would be a shame to limit the interaction between researchers and real people. We now need to build on the enthusiasm generated by this meeting to develop a true partnership with the SPCRNI PPI representatives.

Marie Pitkethly
SPCRNI East Node Co-ordinator



SSPC Conference 19th & 20th April 2011, Edinburgh

“THINK GLOBAL”

Next years SSPC Annual Conference will take place on the 19th & 20th April 2011 at the Raddison Blu Hotel, Edinburgh. The Conference focuses on International Primary Care research and will be an ideal opportunity to sample the breadth of research activity of relevance to primary care, and network with research minded colleagues from across the world. The conference will be over 2 full days, with a dinner on the first evening along with the SSPC Awards Ceremony. For more information on the awards ceremony please see www.sspc.ac.uk/events/awards

Key Note Speakers:

- Professor Carmel Hughes, Primary Care Pharmacist at the University of Belfast
- Professor Jan de Maeseneer - Head of the General Practice and Primary Health Care Department at Ghent University in Belgium
- Dr Merrick Zwarstein - Senior Scientist at the Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre in Toronto
- Professor Jane Gunn - Chair of Primary Care Research and Head of the Department of General Practice at the University of Melbourne



If you would like to be added to the mailing list to be kept up to date with conference emails please email l.wilkie@cpse.dundee.ac.uk

“Survival of the Fittest” - a conference designed to help prepare you, your organisation and its data for the NHS of the future.

The Tenth PRIMIS+ Conference

**21st & 22nd
Sept**

For its tenth annual conference, PRIMIS+ will focus on the importance placed on data quality within the NHS in light of the recently released NHS White Paper. With commissioning at the heart of the NHS, PRIMIS+ is to dedicate several sessions to this important topic. This year's event will look at commissioning solutions currently operating within primary care and how best to prepare your organisation for the times ahead.

Held at The East Midlands Conference Centre, Nottingham on Tuesday 21 and Wednesday 22 September 2010, the event will feature distinguished plenary speakers from The NHS Information Centre (The NHS IC) for health and social care amongst other health sector organisations.

A keynote speaker at this year's event is Dr Mark Davies, Medical Director, The NHS IC for health and social care who will talk more about

the role of The NHS IC and PRIMIS+ in improving data quality within the NHS.

Dr Martin Bardsley, Head of Research at The Nuffield Trust will be presenting a key note presentation on the use of information for Predictive Risk Assessment.

The event will include workshops on commissioning with NHS Dudley presenting on Primary Care Commissioning and Northamptonshire Integrated Care Partnership talking about NENE Commissioning. Other workshops are on: MIQUEST query writing, new data quality queries and master classes on PRIMIS+ CHART and CHART Online.

Who should attend: Commissioning Leads, Primary Care Leads, Primary Care Managers, Education, Training and Development Leads, Information Governance Leads and Managers, NHS Managers, Programme Managers, Directors & Managers of IT and Informatics, IT spe-

cialists, PRIMIS+ Facilitators, System and Application Trainers, Knowledge Management/Change Management Trainers, Training Managers/Leads, Practice Managers, IT Managers and GPs.

The latest programme, online registration and special offers are available on the Conference section of the PRIMIS+ website at <http://www.primis.nhs.uk/index.php/events/primis-annual-conference-2010>.

For telephone enquiries, please contact the PRIMIS+ Communications team on 0115 846 6420 or email conence@primis.nottingham.ac.uk

**East
Midlands
Conference
Centre
Nottingham**

NHS

The
Information
Centre
for health and social care

PRIMIS+



The University of
Nottingham

National Studies

SPCRN is currently involved in recruiting patients for the following National Studies:

Study Title	Chief Investigator	Areas Recruiting
ASCEND: A randomised 2x2 factorial study of aspirin versus placebo, and of omega-3 fatty acid supplementation versus placebo, for primary prevention of cardiovascular events in people with diabetes	Dr Jane Armitage, University of Oxford	East, North, North East, South East & West
The Scottish Family Health Study (Generation Scotland)	Professor Andrew Morris, University of Dundee	East & West
Influenza A/H1N1v in pregnancy: An investigation of the characteristics and management of affected women and the relationship to pregnancy outcomes for mother and infant.	Professor Simon Thomas, University of Newcastle	East, North, North East, South East and West
PATHWAY 1: Monotherapy vs Dual Therapy for Initial Treatment for Hypertension.	Professor Morris Brown, University of Cambridge	East, South East & West
PATHWAY 2: Prevention and treatment of hypertension with algorithm based therapy (Pathway) Number 2. A multicentre Phase 4 study of optimal treatment of drug resistant hypertension.	Professor Morris Brown, University of Cambridge	East, South East & West
PATHWAY 3: A multicentre phase 4 study of comparison of single and combination diuretics in low-rennin hypertension.	Professor Morris Brown, University of Cambridge	East, South East & West
UK component of EUDRAGENE: studying the pharmacogenetics of selected adverse drug reactions (ADRs): identifying possible cases of ADRs through primary care databases and hospitals across the UK	Dr Mariam Molokhia, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine	East, West, South East, North, North East
Disease Susceptibility in Women – The Million Women Study	Professor Valerie Beral, University of Oxford	East, West, South East, North, North East
Interval	Professor Nigel Pitts	East, West, South East, North
Hand-held maternity records	Professor Vikki Entwistle	East, North East

For more information on any of these National Studies please see our website www.sspc.ac.uk/spcrn/current_projects or contact the relevant Node Co-ordinators. Email addresses can be found below.

Node	Health Board	Staff	Emails
East	NHS Tayside, NHS Fife	Marie Pitkethly, Node Co-ordinator Kim Stringer, Research Officer	m.c.pitkethly@cpse.dundee.ac.uk K.Stringer@cpse.dundee.ac.uk
South East	NHS Lothian NHS Borders	Kelly McGorm, Node Co-ordinator	Kelly.mcgorm@nhs.net
West	NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde NHS Ayrshire & Arran NHS Lanarkshire NHS Forth Valley NHS Dumfries & Galloway	June Anderson, Node Co-ordinator Yvonne McIlvenna, Node Co-ordinator Janice Reid, Research Officer	june.anderson@clinmed.gla.ac.uk Y.McIlvenna@clinmed.gla.ac.uk janice.reid@clinmed.gla.ac.uk
North East	NHS Grampian NHS Shetland & Orkney	Amanda Cardy, Node Co-ordinator	a.h.cardy@abdn.ac.uk
North	NHS Highland NHS Western Isles	Samantha Holden, Node Co-ordinator	Samantha.holden@nhs.net

Local Studies

SPCRN is currently involved in the following local studies. To find out more information on any of these studies please contact the relevant Node Co-ordinator.

Study Title	Chief Investigator	Area Recruiting
VitDish: Can high-dose vitamin D supplementation reduce blood pressure and markers of cardiovascular risk in older people with isolated systolic hypertension?	Dr Miles Witham, University of Dundee	East
AESOPS Study: The effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of opportunistic screening and stepped care interventions for older hazardous alcohol users in primary care	Professor Simon Coulton, University of Kent	East
Cross sectional survey of the individual, social and environmental determinants of physical activity participation in older people.	Professor Marion McMurdo, University of Dundee	East
TRACE RA: Trial of atorvastatin for the primary prevention of cardiovascular events in rheumatoid arthritis.	Professor Jill Belch, University of Dundee	East
Maximising physical function in later life: a 2-centre randomised controlled trial of progressive resistance exercise training in combination with ACE inhibition.	Professor Marion McMurdo, University of Dundee	East
Does Vitamin D reduce blood pressure and LV mass in resistant hypertensive patients with vitamin D sufficiency	Professor Allan Struthers	East
Sharing responsibility: the public health impact of a nurse-led telemetric home blood pressure monitoring service	Dr Janet Hanley, Napier University	South East
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease: The impact of a telemetric COPD monitoring service: Randomised controlled trial with nested qualitative study.	Dr Brian McKinstry, University of Edinburgh	South East
Telesynth: computer-generated voices for telecare messages.	Dr Maria Klara Wolters, University of Edinburgh	South East
Phase 1 Randomised Placebo Controlled Cross-Over Trial to evaluate the safety and effect of SRT-2104 of vascular dysfunction on otherwise healthy smokers and patients with type 2 diabetes, commercially funded by SIRTRIS Pharmaceuticals)	Professor Dave Newby	South East
CAMERA: A randomised placebo controlled trial of metformin on progression of carotid atherosclerosis in non diabetic patients with cardiovascular disease treated with conventional risk reducing agents.	Professor Naveed Sattar, University of Glasgow	West
COBALT: Cognitive Behavioural Therapy as an adjunct to pharmacotherapy for treatment resistant depression in primary care - a randomised controlled trial.	Dr Nicola Wiles, University of Bristol	West
A novel assessment of vascular disease, and its association with insulin resistance and adiposity in South Asians.	Professor Naveed Sattar, University of Glasgow	West
Effect of macrolides (Azithromycin) on asthma control, airway inflammation, and bacterial colonisation in smokers with asthma.	Professor Neil Thomson, University of Glasgow	West
Evidence of risk for the development of premature cardiovascular disease in juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JACS).	Dr Janet Gardner-Medwin, University of Glasgow	West
The feasibility of a pedometer-based walking programme in combination with physical activity consultation in Scottish adults aged 65 years and over in a primary care setting.	Professor Nanette Mutrie, University of Strathclyde	West
Interstroke: Importance of conventional and emerging risk factors for stroke in different regions of the world and in different ethnic groups: a case controlled study.	Professor Peter Langhorne	West

New Member to the SPCRn Team



Michelle Rostant-Bell – Research Officer

I write this on my first day in the post of Research Officer so am embarking on a steep learning curve. I will be working with Rebecca Skillen to help cover Kelly McGorm's post whilst she is on maternity leave.

My background is in public health research. I worked for several years for NHS Lothian in the role of Senior Researcher with a specific remit for drug misuse and HIV. Following a career break, which was essentially a

year travelling with a little bit of public health work in Australia, I returned to Edinburgh to undertake my nursing training which I completed in 2008. Post-qualification, I worked for a short time at the Transplant Unit at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh until the demands of one baby and the one on the way took over!

I am looking forward to combining my experience of research and front line health care to support the work of the network as well as learning about a broad range of research projects. I will be based at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital and can be contacted via email at Michelle.Rostant@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk

Social Events

Away Day—Oct 2010

The SPCRn team will be taking part in some voluntary team building activities at The Brae Riding for Disabled, this will include grooming horses, rag-worthing, cleaning the stables, stone-picking from fields, mending fences or poo-picking! Look out for some photos of the team in their wellies and waterproofs in issue 4.

Moon Walk, Edinburgh

CONGRATULATIONS to Jill Sutherland, SPCRn Administrator who completed the Moon Walk, 26.2 miles in 8 hours and raised £410 for breast cancer.



SPCRn

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SPCRn can help by:

- Providing advice on the practical aspects of conducting research in primary care
- Calculating the costs of involving primary care staff in research and arranging their reimbursement from the NHS support cost budget for eligibly funded studies
- Linking researchers and practices by recruiting health care professionals and practice staff to studies
- Providing practical assistance with recruitment of patients
- Trouble-shooting where recruitment becomes problematic

We would like to thank the practices who help us recruit patients for studies we are involved in. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Download a copy of our
Annual Report at
www.sspc.ac.uk/spcrn/reports