

Research and Innovation Newsletter

April 2025 | Issue 51

A note from the Head of R&I



We ended our last quarter on a fantastic high, with our end-of-year accrual target reaching 5,051 — the highest accrual target we have achieved in the last four years. This has only been made possible by the dedication of the team and the involvement of wider Trust staff in Research and Innovation.

We began the month by officially launching Scarborough Coastal Health and Care Research Collaborative (SHARC) in partnership with York St John University. SHARC was launched at the Palm Court Hotel by Trust CEO Simon Morritt (pictured right). SHARC has continued to grow, and we look forward to seeing it go from strength to strength.

Our new Research and Innovation Strategy has been approved and is now accompanied by a slide deck that can be used for all corporate presentations when required.

Just a reminder that applications are currently open for the Trust Hospitals Charity Education Bursary. Information about this and how to apply can be found through Staff Room. The deadline for applications is mid-May.

I would also like to welcome our new Medical Laboratory Assistant to the team, who will be working in the Commercial Team. Hannah Doxey joined the team on 21 April and will be working alongside Ella.

- Lydia Harris

Institute of Health and Care Improvement

YSJU's IHCI are hosting their second annual Research Showcase which takes place on the 15th July 2025. If you wish to submit an abstract and showcase your work please complete this [form](#)

[Click here to register your attendance](#)



Care Group Research Leads

Medicines York - [Dr Luke Bridge](#) ([Deputy Dr Chris Hayes](#)).

Surgery and Family Health - [Dr Joe Carter](#) & [Dr Michael Lim](#) (Surgery) [Dr Dominic Smith](#) & [Dr Leila Fahel](#) (Family Health)

Cancer, Specialist & Clinical Support Services - [Mr Pouya Alaghband](#) & [Dr Bhavani Rengabashyam](#)

Head of AHP Research - [Dr Fran Butler](#)

Lead Research Nurse and Head of Nursing Research - [Cate Laven](#)

Clinical Lead for SHARC - [Dr Phil Dickinson](#)

Clinical Director of Research & Innovation - [Professor James Turvill](#)

01904 726996

Contact Us

yhs-tr.research.governance@nhs.net

www.research.yorkhospitals.nhs.uk/

@YorkResearch YSTHNHSFT LinkedIn

@uorkresearch.bsky.social

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES, GRANTS, AND SCHEMES

THRIVE i4i Funding Stream – THRIVE offers up to £150,000 over 9 months to support the development of the technology and a structured programme of entrepreneurial training, mentoring, peer support and networking. Through the programme the innovators will explore the market for their innovation and identify potential routes for commercialising (spin-out vs licensing) or sustaining their innovation (Intrapreneurship). The programme supports innovations that can reduce health inequalities and meet needs in underserved communities. For more information follow this [link](#). The closing date for this is 16th May 2025 1 PM.

Hospital at home/virtual wards: integration opportunities, improving service delivery and evaluating impact
– The NIHR The Health and Social Care Delivery Research (HSDR) Programme is interested in funding research on hospital at home (also known as virtual wards) acute care services for adults or children and young people. This funding opportunity covers optimising service design, improving service equity and delivery, evaluating the impact on health and social care, and innovations in service integration. This funding opportunity is thought to open on Tuesday 6 May 2025. For more information please click [here](#).

Population Health Career Scientist – The NIHR wish to develop and enhance research expertise in the most important areas affecting population health by supporting the next generation of independent public health research leaders. As the need to tackle wider preventable risk factors and determinants of health receives wider recognition, there is an expectation that the research supported through this award will be of importance and relevance to local government, ideally with explicit support from local government colleagues. For more information please click [here](#).

Greenspace and natural environments – is looking to fund research which evaluates the health impacts of the interventions which change access to green and blue space. The programme supports innovations that can reduce health inequalities and meet needs in underserved communities. For more information follow this [link](#).

TRAINING, DEVELOPMENT, AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Bursaries for Qualifications In Clinical Research Delivery – Apply now to take masters level courses aligned with the [Clinician Researcher Credentials Framework](#). The qualifications are for all experienced healthcare practitioners who want to take on leadership roles in clinical research delivery. Bursaries are available to pay the course fees for regulated health and care professionals, except doctors and dentists. The deadline for bursary applications is 12 noon on 1 July 2025. For further information, please visit the [NIHR website](#).

Research Development Programmes for Social Care Nurses – The NIHR are delighted to share with you details of 2 new opportunities for nurses who work in social care to improve their research skills and help create a research-friendly culture at work. You can apply for funding to work on research for 1 day a week for a year for: Social Care Nurse Research Internships (12 places available) or Social Care Nurse Research Champions (24 places available). All details are on the [webpage](#).

PI PP Cohort 4 – The NIHR's Principle Investigator Pipeline Programme is now open to AHP staff. The programme allows you funded time to lead a research programme as a principle investigator and develop your research career. Full details about the award can be found [here](#).

Power of Stories Seminar – York Medical Society invites: Medical Students, practising and retired colleagues from all healthcare professions and non-members to attend the Art of Medicine Seminars. The next seminar on May 21st from 19:00 to 21:00 focuses on The Power of Stories and is available to book for free [here](#).

Co-developing theatre on sensitive subjects – This NIHR Bristol BRC webinar will launch a new how-to guide to co-developed theatre as a format for disseminating research on sensitive subjects. Hear from researchers, theatre-makers and public contributors involved in the community play Hard Evidence, which inspired the how-to guide. Hard Evidence was co-created with survivors of domestic abuse who were also public contributors on a study, alongside community theatre makers and researchers. [Find out more and book](#)

Research Grant Submissions

Glaucoma UK - Co-designing an educational intervention to reduce fields test anxiety in glaucoma patients. Mr Pouya Alaghband £86,025.00

Bowel Cancer Research UK - Evaluation of CCE Usage and Effectiveness in the UK, Prof. James Turvill £159,438.79

RDF25 Manchester

R&I's Lisa Ballantine will be presenting alongside SeeChange's Bex Blakey at the RDF25 Conference in Manchester in May. Their talk entitled: Coastal Communities Cracked, Urban Unities Unlocked: Addressing Health Research Inequities in Underserved Areas will be presented on May 19th.

This talk will discuss underserved communities effectively responding to underserved population challenges informing NHS research agenda, it is important to develop methods that ensure the voices of people from underserved communities are heard in the planning and delivery of research. Using alternative and less traditional approaches to connecting with our local populations can help support local health priorities.

Coastal Communities share the experiences of underserved communities often and are complex in nature and are observed to be contributors to, and impacted by, wider societal inequality. Connecting research to improve health among a population shaped by historical social and cultural factors require community engagement through VCSEs to actively involve a local population in the research process. Recent Patient and Public Involvement activity reveals our local population are described as "tight-knit" and in some cases distrustful of "outsiders" therefore VCSEs are a core function in our collaborative, to address the unique challenges faced by these communities leading to more relevant and impactful research outcomes.

MSK Care and Values - Paper

Musculoskeletal colleagues recently published an article authors exploring Clinical Governance in MSK care.

Clinical governance, traditionally structured around the "seven pillars" (risk management, education, patient experience, information management, clinical effectiveness, audit, and staff management), is essential for ensuring safe and effective care. However, the paper highlights that MSK AHPs consider additional elements vital for comprehensive CG, suggesting a broader scope than the traditional model. The authors collected surveys from 52 participants, mostly physiotherapists (96.15%) working within the NHS (90.38%), with 53.85% holding clinical leadership roles. The majority (73.08%) strongly agreed that CG was crucial for care quality. No significant differences were found between clinical leads and non-leads. The results indicate that MSK AHPs highly support CG and value a more expansive range of activities beyond the traditional pillars, suggesting that the current CG frameworks may not fully capture the activities clinicians see as vital for effective care. You can read the paper [here](#).



Webinars and Conferences

Hospital at Home & Virtual Wards Conference 2025 – YARC are putting together a programme featuring the latest research, renowned speakers from across the UK. Abstracts for the conference are invited. Selected abstracts will be invited to give either a 10-minute presentation or a 2-minute rapid-fire talk on Monday 23rd June or Tuesday 24th June 2025. Posters will be displayed during lunch, giving delegates the chance to discuss their work. Please use [this form](#) to submit your abstract proposal. Submission guidance can be found [here](#).

Reducing inequalities across the care pathway for minority ethnicities – YARC are hosting a learning from policy research focused on reducing inequalities for minority ethnic communities living with dementia, Parkinson's disease, motor neurone disease, or Huntington's disease. As part of the project, they have: Identified and examined community campaigns aimed at raising awareness and/or reducing stigma around neurodegenerative conditions in minority ethnic populations. To book the webinar on May 14 please click [here](#).

Celebration Days

On Tuesday 6th May it was International Day of Midwife. We worked with our local VCSE Treasure Chest, our midwifery team, and the sexual health clinics to showcase the value of research within midwifery and the contributions our midwifery teams make in times of crisis.

We will also be celebrating International Day of the Nurse on Monday 12th May. The theme this year is wellbeing for nurses and R&I will be highlighting mental health research conducted by our nursing staff and we have teamed up with the nursing team to conduct a bake off and produce wellbeing boards. More information can be found [here](#).

Furthermore, we will be celebrating International Clinical Trials day on Wednesday 20th May, showcasing the fantastic work of our R&I Team. Information about the day can be found on the official website [here](#).

New Clinical Trials Regulations

New regulations for running clinical trials in the UK are being brought into law. We are very excited to see the new regulations for running clinical Trials in the UK have been signed into law and came into force on 10th April 2026 following a 12 month transition period.

These changes will have a significant impact on how we conduct and manage clinical trials to:

- Put patients and their safety at the focus of all clinical trials and bring the benefits of clinical trials to everyone
- Cut duplication and unnecessary delays, while maintaining robust oversight of the safety of trials
- Create a proportionate and flexible regulatory environment, reducing bureaucracy for lower risk trials
- Cement the UK as a destination for international trials
- Provide a framework which is streamlined, agile and responsive to innovation

The NIHR GCP E-learning suite will be updated in line with the new regulations in time for the end of the implementation period.

More information is available:

[On the government website](#)

[In the HRA newsletter](#)



Invitation to Participate

Colleagues are requesting your support for an important research project titled "Exploring Racial Bias in Healthcare and Healthcare Education: A Survey of Healthcare Professionals." This study has officially launched following ethics approval in January 2025, and we are eager to gather insights from a diverse range of healthcare professionals.

The research aims to examine the prevalence and impact of racial bias in healthcare settings and education. To ensure a comprehensive understanding, they are seeking participants from various professional backgrounds. The survey can be accessed directly via this [link](#).



Publications

To view the full list publications please click on the boxes below. Papers can be read by following the individual DOI of each paper within the documents.

To access the list of authors please click on the below boxes. Note that access may occasionally need to be granted to open these files.

[March 2025 Publication List](#)

[February 2025 Publication List](#)

[January 2025 Publication List](#)

[December 2024 Publication List](#)

[Our Research Strategy](#)

Research and Innovation Ideas

If you have a research or innovation project in mind and would like to find out about funding please contact either [Lisa](#) or [Cameron](#), our dedicated Grant Writers, who will help you fund find, facilitate your application. This includes original research ideas, career development awards aimed at starting a research career, as well as helping to link you up to the appropriate academics at our partner organisations to start building your wider research and innovation network.

Have something you want to include?

If you have something you wish to include, such as an award you have won, a research spotlight article, or a research event you think would like to include in the staff newsletter please contact Cam either by e-mail or drop him a message over teams.