



Academic Directorate of Neurosciences

Sheffield Teaching Hospitals **NHS**
NHS Foundation Trust



Research Newsletter

Issue 2, November 2012

Welcome to the second issue of the Research Newsletter for all staff working within Neurosciences

New Neurosciences Research Funding

The Academic Directorate of Neuroscience has a sum of funding generated from: Accrual of patients into NIHR (National Institute of Health Research) portfolio studies via the SYCLRN (South Yorkshire Comprehensive Research Network). The Research Capacity Funding (RCF) stream from NIHR awarded projects to the Trust and Overhead and research capacity funding awarded to the Directorate from commercial study income. We also have the possibility of support for high quality research proposals from the Ryder Briggs Trust (Chairman Dr Richard Grunewald) and the Neurocare Charity.



We wish to use this funding to build our research capacity and to stimulate clinical research that has the potential to:

- Benefit patients
- Enhance the clinical and academic reputation of Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust through the generation of high quality publications and presentations
- Attract excellent personnel to work locally
- Attract charitable donations via the supporting charity Neurocare

This funding will be available for all Neurosciences staff to apply for and the first call with the application form will be sent out via email on the 21st December 2012

News from the Directorate

- **Offering a lifeline for people affected by memory problems and dementia**
Dementia care experts from the University of Sheffield are hoping to tackle low dementia diagnosis rates in the city with a pioneering Information Pack which offers unprecedented advice and guidance for people with memory problems.
- **National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) - Research for Patient Benefit Grant Awarded**
Dr Markus Reuber, Dr Daniel Blackburn, Dr Kirsty Harkness and Professor Annalena Venneri along with collaborators at the University of York, have been awarded a National Institute of Health Research for Patient Benefit (NIHR RfPB) grant of over £220k to investigate how people with memory problems describe and talk about their symptoms to see if this can help speed up diagnosis.
- **Waitrose Community Matters Scheme Award to SITraN and SMND RAG**
Following a successful application by the Sheffield Motor Neurone Disorders Research Advisory Group (SMND RAG), the Sheffield Institute for Translational Neuroscience (SITraN) has been awarded the Waitrose Community Matters Scheme award.



Feedback

We would welcome any feedback on the Research Newsletter or suggestions for future topics.

Please send any comments to
rosie.legrys@sth.nhs.uk



Ali Mortimer



Carina Mack



Jo Marsden

The Important role of Research Nurses in the Academic Directorate of Neurosciences highlighted

The importance of Research Nurses cannot be underestimated. A great deal is being done corporately to provide the infrastructure to support and develop this professional group. The key elements are highlighted here by Carina Mack, Clinical Manager in Neurology, who represents the H & N Group and inputs into developments which support research nurses.

After the retirement of two of our most senior nurses within STHFT we would like to welcome Rachael Cooper, Nurse Director for Critical Care and Operating Services who has delegated responsibility from Chief Nurse, Alison Mortimer, Lead Nurse for Research STHFT.

The Trust's current research agenda and subsequent research recruitment has provided us with the opportunity to review the systems and processes which underpin the work of the nursing research workforce.

A Research Nurse Steering Group chaired by Rachael Cooper has been formed to concentrate on strategy, the terms of reference are currently being finalised. Membership includes a Research Link Nurse from two clinical groups including the H & N Group. Jo Marsden, Assistant Nurse Director from H & N Group will join this group and share responsibility with Carina Mack.

Events and Courses

Stroke Research Forum 25 January 2013

This is the 5th in a series of research forums at SITraN held by the Directorate to showcase the strengths of research within the theme and to increase collaborative working.

Short presentations will be punctuated with a networking session.

A registration link will be sent out shortly.

Neurosciences Research Clinics

2nd Friday of the month
11.00-12.00

The research co-ordinators ((Ram and Jodie) hold a research clinic at the Clinical Research Office ((CRO) at 11 Broomfield Road.

Please bring along any research related questions or documentation and we would be happy to help.

GCP Training Dates 2013

Introduction Course

10th January--All Day
27th February--All Day
27th March--All Day
22nd April--All Day

Refresher Course

25th January--a.m.
18th February--a.m.
12th March--a.m.
18th April--p.m.

For more information
Contact:
e.jepson@sheffield.ac.uk

Statistics Clinics

The Clinical Research Office ((CRO) hosts fortnightly statistical support clinics to assist researchers conducting studies within STH. Support and advice is provided by qualified statisticians for Researchers. Appointments are available on Friday lunch times and can be made by contacting Gaurika Kapoor on 0114 2265939 or Gaurika-Kapoor@sheffield.ac.uk

External Review

On 5th and 6th December We are being visited by Professor David Newby who is Director of R & D at Edinburgh University and Head of the CRF and Fiona McArdle who is the Research Manager in Edinburgh. They are here to participate in an external academic review. We want them to meet as many people involved in the clinical research process in Sheffield as possible.

Useful contacts



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