Welcome to this edition of the R&I Monthly E-bulletin. This month’s issue provides the usual funding opportunities, updates from our charitable partners and departmental news. If you have an item to add to September’s bulletin please email it to Victoria.Church@UHBristol.nhs.uk by Friday 20 September.

This month’s message from David Wynick

This month we received the excellent news that CLAHRC West (Collaborations for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care) has been awarded with a sum of £9 million over 5 years. This investment, from the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), will help ensure patients benefit from new treatments and techniques which could revolutionise future healthcare. On a national scale (13 pioneering research teams across the country have received the award) it is hoped the financial boost will stimulate the research economy and attract more research funding in the future. Each team is working on a number of innovative projects designed to address long term conditions and public health challenges. Professor Jenny Donovan from the University of Bristol will be the Director of CLAHRC West, which is hosted by University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust and brings together our universities, local authorities, NHS Hospital Trusts and Clinical Commissioning Groups to focus on improving health and healthcare for local people. This is a massive achievement and would not have been possible without the hard work of all those involved across the collaborating organisations. For more details on the organisations which make up CLAHRC West please refer to: http://www.uhbristol.nhs.uk/about-us/news/local-health-research-to-benefit-from-national-investment-to-tackle-major-health-challenges/. Congratulations to all!

With best wishes

Professor David Wynick
Director of Research

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1. **R&I Departmental News**

   **This month’s EDGE Handy Hint #12:** View UH Bristol research activity and recruitment in the Monthly Reports uploaded to edge General Documents tab. These can be filtered for recruitment by division, unit and speciality.

   **Transporting samples for clinical trials around the hospital**

   Please ensure samples are transported to the laboratory in safe and secure way. We have had a number of incidents recently where samples have either leaked in transit or the tops have not been put on securely and this poses a risk to porters and laboratory staff.

   Samples should be contained in leak resistant tubes or bottles with the tops on securely that are placed within leak resistant plastic bags. To minimise the chance of dropping specimens, carry all specimens in a pathology collection trolley, transport box, or plastic carrier bag; do not carry by hand or place in a pocket.

   If you need further advice please contact Kirsty Stevenson kirsty.stevenson@uhbristol.nhs.uk or Ext 22392

   **Western CLRN Top tips**

   The WCLRN has produced a guidance document for anyone needing help uploading recruitment data to the NIHR Portfolio: [http://www.crncc.nihr.ac.uk/Resources/NIHR%20CRN%20CC/Nets/CCRN/Western/Documents/Western%20CLRN%20Top%20Tips.pdf](http://www.crncc.nihr.ac.uk/Resources/NIHR%20CRN%20CC/Nets/CCRN/Western/Documents/Western%20CLRN%20Top%20Tips.pdf) As you are all aware the recruitment data on the portfolio is used to allocate funding to our Trust and it is therefore so important that it is accurate. If you need any help uploading the data please contact Mike Lacey at the WCLRN on 0117 342 1375 or via email: Mike.Lacey@UHBristol.nhs.uk

   **NIHR Faculty World**

   The latest issue of Faculty World – the NIHR e-magazine is now online at: [http://viewer.zmags.com/publication/a09593fd#/a09593fd/1](http://viewer.zmags.com/publication/a09593fd#/a09593fd/1)

2. **Celebrating Successes**

   **Dr Ramanan and the MCRN South West team recruit first patient globally into JIGSAW WA28118 trial!**

   Congratulations to Dr Ramanan (Consultant Paediatric Rheumatologist) and the MCRN South West team who have followed up their success in screening and recruiting the first patient **globally** in the JIGSAW WA28117 trial, by also screening and recruiting the first patient **globally** in the sister trial JIGSAW WA28118, which is open to paediatric patients with systemic juvenile idiopathic arthritis.

   The JIGSAW WA28118 is another industry led trial sponsored by Roche Products Ltd, which has been adopted by the NIHR’s Medicine for Children Research Network (MCRN). Dr Ramanan is acting as the Chief Investigator in the UK as well as the local Principal Investigator at UH Bristol. JIGSAW WA28118 is a phase Ib, open-label, multi-centre study to investigate the pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, and safety of tocilizumab following subcutaneous administration to patients with systemic juvenile idiopathic arthritis. Further details of the study can be found at the links below: [http://www.roche-trials.com/trialDetailsGet.action?studyNumber=WA28118&diseaseCategoryId=46&byLocation=true](http://www.roche-trials.com/trialDetailsGet.action?studyNumber=WA28118&diseaseCategoryId=46&byLocation=true) [http://clinicaltrials.gov/show/NCT01904292](http://clinicaltrials.gov/show/NCT01904292)
The trial received NHS permission at UH Bristol on the 5th July, was officially opened to recruitment on the 8th July and the first patient was consented on the 16th July and randomised on the 31st July. This is another fantastic achievement for Dr Ramanan and the team and means we have met the 70 day benchmark for consenting the first patient following submission of a valid research application.

Studies meeting 70 day benchmark

Congratulations to all of the other teams below who have also recruited within the 70 day benchmark!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Study Title</th>
<th>Number of days to first patient</th>
<th>Principal Investigator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Surgery, Head &amp; Neck</td>
<td>POLARIS</td>
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<td>Miss Claire Bailey (Eye Hospital)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OCTAVE</td>
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<td>Mr Adam Ross (Eye Hospital)</td>
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<td>Influence of periodontal condition on Oral Health Quality of Life</td>
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<tr>
<td>Specialised Services, Cardiac</td>
<td>Myocardial Oedema in ST segment elevation myocardial infarction</td>
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<td>Dr Elisa McAlindon (Heart Institute)</td>
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<td>Specialised Services, Oncology</td>
<td>The ACT IV Study</td>
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<td>Dr Kirsten Hopkins (Haematology &amp; Oncology Centre)</td>
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<td>NCRN509 - OSCAR-1</td>
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<td>Dr Axel Walther (Haematology &amp; Oncology Centre)</td>
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<td>UK Haplo</td>
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<td>Professor David Marks (Haematology &amp; Oncology Centre)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women &amp; Children’s</td>
<td>Assessing the impact of Mandometer training on obesity using fMRI</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Professor Julian Hamilton-Shield. (Children’s Hospital)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>Qualitatively exploring the experiences of men with RA</td>
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<td>Dr Caroline Flurey (Rheumatology)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The REMOVAL Study</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>Dr Natasha Thorogood (Joint Clinical Research Unit)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Feature – Head and Neck 5000 is half way there!
The Head and Neck 5000 study is a clinical cohort study aiming to recruit 5000 individuals who have head and neck cancer. The study is part of a £1.85 million programme grant held by Professor Ness into evidence based healthcare for major congenital and acquired problems of the head and neck. The objectives of creating the cohort are to compare morbidity, mortality and quality of life outcomes across different centres; describe the individual economic cost of head and neck cancer care; identify prognostic indicators and to create a resource for translational and applied research in head and neck cancer.

Professor Andy Ness, Katrina Hurley (Senior Surgical Research Nurse) and the Surgical Research team have already opened 64 sites with 7 more due to open shortly. They are also continuously receiving requests from new sites interested in participating. This will no doubt help to ensure they continue their successful recruitment which sees them already well ahead of target. This is truly a fantastic achievement by the team. Congratulations!

4. Upcoming Events

School of Social and Community Medicine Research Seminars at the University of Bristol

Tuesday 3 September 2013, 12:45 pm
Why we should all be Bayesians (and often already are without realising it)

Tuesday 10 September 2013, 12:45 pm
Talk by Dr Oliver Stegle - Details TBA

Tuesday 17 September 2013. 12:45 pm
Talk by Dr Nicole Soranzo - Details TBA

Our seminars run at Canynge Hall during term-time at 12:45pm. Please visit our website for details and further seminars from other school programmes. http://www.bris.ac.uk/social-community-medicine/seminars/

School of Social and Community Medicine Short courses

The School of Social and Community Medicine provides a programme of high quality short courses covering a range of health services research, biostatistics, human genetics, health protection and epidemiological research methods. They are aimed at university staff and post-graduate students, public health specialists, health-care professionals and members of the pharmaceutical and medical device industry. Please visit the short course website for further information about the courses and how to book: http://www.bris.ac.uk/social-community-medicine/shortcourse

(Infectious) disease and point of care diagnostics

A Network meeting entitled “Disease and point of care diagnostics” will take place on Thursday 19 September 2013 from 09:30 – 13:30 in Lecture Theatre 4, Chemistry Building, University of Bristol.

The aim of this half day meeting is to bring together clinicians, scientists and engineers to address the questions of clinical need and available technology within Bristol.

For further information follow this link: http://www.bristol.ac.uk/infection-immunity/seminars/2013/189.html To register your interest and to receive further information: Ebih-admin@bristol.ac.uk and to book a slot on the programme contact: jayne.bailey@bristol.ac.uk

Trauma Day

A Study Day entitled “The Psychological Impact of Traumatic Injuries” is commencing on 13 December 2013, Lecture Theatre 3, UH Bristol Education and Research Centre.
The study day has come about due to ‘The Impact of Injuries study’, which UH Bristol helped to recruit patients to last year. This course will introduce:

- Common psychological reactions to trauma
- How to recognise the symptoms
- Who is at greatest risk
- How to identify the need for specialist support
- Long term implications

Please email Georgina.Elder@UHBristol.nhs.uk to book a place.

**Registration now open for the NIHR Health Technology Assessment Programme (NIHR HTA) Conference - 9-10 October 2013, London**

The HTA Programme is celebrating its impact in clinical and public health research by holding a milestone conference. The conference will focus on clinical effectiveness research and the impact of HTA research nationally and internationally. To find out more and register visit the conference website below.

http://www.profbriefings.co.uk/nihrhta2013/

**Grant Writing and Publication Writing Workshops**

*Particularly aimed at nurses, midwives, AHPs, health care scientists and clinical psychologists*

These workshops will coincide with the October 2013 call for proposals for Research Capability and Above and Beyond Funding.

UHBristol with the support of the University of the West of England are pleased to announce a series of facilitated Grant Writing and Publication Writing Workshops during Summer and Autumn 2013.

The workshops will be held at the UHBristol Education Centre throughout August, September and October. It is intended that at the end of the series we will support you to have either a publication ready for informal peer review or a grant application ready for submission. We are therefore asking that you come with a specific paper or grant idea in mind and that you aim to attend all of the sessions in the series.

The workshops will be held on the following dates in the Bristol Centre for Research in Clinical Practice Meeting Room, Level 3, UHBristol Education Centre:

**Grant Writing Workshops**

Led by Professor Margaret Fletcher, Chair of Clinical Nursing, UHBristol with University of the West of England

**Tuesday 10th September, 7.30 – 8.30 am**
**Tuesday 24th September, 7.30 – 8.30 am**
**Tuesday 8th October, 7.30 – 8.30 am**
**Tuesday 22nd October, 7.30 – 8.30 am**

If you would be interested in attending either series of workshops then please email emma.youde@uwe.ac.uk as soon as possible to book your place. ADVANCED BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL
If you are interested in these workshops but unable to attend these sessions then please email Emma and we can discuss your needs.

5. Grants & Upcoming Awards

NIHR Themed Call: Early Announcement - UPDATE
Preventing the development and spread of Antimicrobial Resistance

We are pleased to announce that the NIHR Antimicrobial Resistance themed call has been launched. Application forms are available from participating programmes’ websites until December 2013, with the EME and HTA Programmes opening first. This call is for research into the evaluation of public health measures, health care interventions and health services to reduce the development and spread of antimicrobial resistance and consequent morbidity.

This call for research is part of a coordinated response by the NIHR to the publication of the 2nd volume of the 2011 Annual Report of the Chief Medical Officer: Infections and the rise of antimicrobial resistance. It will also support the Department of Health-led UK Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy which sets out how the challenges outlined in the report will be met.

This call is intended to cover all aspects of translational, clinical and public health research that could, through new developments or changes in practice, contribute to a reduction in the spread or occurrence of antimicrobial resistance and consequent infections. Research may encompass better prevention, improved surveillance and monitoring and diagnosis as well as the more effective use of existing antibiotics, improved education and training and the development of new antimicrobial therapies and better treatment strategies.

The following NIHR programmes will participate in this call for research:

- Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation (EME)
- Health Services and Delivery Research (HS&DR)
- Health Technology Assessment (HTA)
- Invention for Innovation (i4i)
- Programme Grants for Applied Research (PGfAR)
- Public Health Research (PHR)
- Research for Patient Benefit (RfPB)
- Fellowships programmes

Further information on this call will be available online at www.themedcalls.nihr.ac.uk/amr from mid-July.

SARTRE Bio-E Networking Event

10:00 – 16:30, Tuesday 10 September 2013, University of the West of England (UWE), Room M034, Main Building, St Matthias Campus, Oldbury Court Road, Fishponds, Bristol BS16 2JP

In collaboration with the universities of Bristol, Cardiff, Swansea and UWE this autumn the Severnside Alliance for Translational Research (SARTRE) is launching the third round of the Bio-E Initiative. This internal funding call aims to develop cross collaborative research projects focusing on medical technologies that look to translate innovative research in material sciences, engineering, maths and computational sciences towards bio-medical applications. All those interested are
invited to attend the networking event to be held on 10 September, aimed to inform attendees of the strategic objectives of the project, consolidate the previous online networking and to prepare draft projects to be submitted for the 22 November deadline. Attendance is not required but is highly encouraged for all those wanting to submit an application.

To **register your interest and your area of expertise**, please complete the online form:

https://www.survey.bris.ac.uk/red/bioe3

To **register your attendance** please follow the link below:

http://bioe3.eventbrite.com/

3rd round of calls for support

SARTRE has received financial support from the institutions to set up a small seed corn fund for pilot projects. Funding will be available for 6-8 pilot projects across any combination of the 4 universities (*but most likely 2 universities*) with a funding cap of £12,500 per project per university. **Please note it is not possible to include costs for the appointment of new staff under these pilot projects.**

Contacts for more information

SARTRE and Bristol University Mrs. Patricia Holley, P.Holley@bristol.ac.uk, tel: 01179546966
University of the West of England Dr. Amanda Longley, Amanda.Longley@uwe.ac.uk, tel: 0117 328 3678
Cardiff University Dr. Corinne Squire, squirecm@cardiff.ac.uk, tel: 029 20744190
Swansea University Prof. Steven Conlan, r.s.conlan@swansea.ac.uk, tel: 01792295386

3rd call details:

**Sept 10th Networking event**
Oct 1st Call opens

**Nov 22nd Deadline for receipt of applications**
Dec 12th Applicants informed of outcome
Jan 6th Start of Projects
June 6th Interim Review
Dec 15th End of project Review

**Joint Above and Beyond and UH Bristol Research Capability Funding (RCF) grant call – Autumn 2013**

Deadline 09:00 – Thursday 17 October 2013

**Above and Beyond grants**

Above and Beyond have generously allocated monies for research in University Hospitals Bristol (UH Bristol), and the call is now open for Above and Beyond research grants (up to £20,000). These grants aim to promote high quality biomedical research in the University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust. Research must have the potential of a clear patient benefit, be of high quality, and with an emphasis on translational and applied health services research.

Applications are welcomed from any medical or non-medical UH Bristol employee or university academic holding an honorary contract with UH Bristol.

For an application form and full guidance notes please go to:
UH Bristol Research Capability Funding (RCF) grants

NIHR Research Capability Funding (RCF) is a research funding stream made available by the National Institute of Health Research (NIHR) to help research-active NHS organisations attract, develop and retain high quality research, clinical and support staff. To that aim, UH Bristol launched an NIHR RCF grant scheme in 2010, which can be used to:

a) Fund Research Sessions/PAs (for medical and non-medical staff) to allow time to prepare one or more NIHR research grant applications; and/or,

b) Fund the generation of preliminary or underpinning data to support an NIHR application; a “pump-priming” grant.

The scheme will only fund studies which will directly generate data for NIHR grant applications, and applications should clearly illustrate the need for the research and its potential impact for the NHS. The maximum award per grant is £20,000. Grants for research sessions/PAs only should last a maximum of 12 months. For pump-priming grants, the research project should normally last no longer than 12 months, but the total time may be extended up to a maximum of 18 months to include writing the grant (provided the £20,000 limit is not exceeded).

Application forms and full guidance notes are available at:


Or contact: Victoria.Church@UHBristol.nhs.uk Tel 0117 3420233

Health Services and Delivery Research (HS&DR) Programme

Funding opportunities

Researcher-led workstream: The next deadline is 13:00 on 03 October 2013.

Please check the HS&DR website for the most up to date information.

In addition to the standard researcher-led round, the HS&DR Programme is interested in receiving applications relating to improving environmental sustainability in the NHS, and how this affects the quality and organisation of services. Please see the highlight notice for more details.

Please check the HS&DR website for the most up to date information about our funding opportunities. You can sign up for HS&DR Programme funding alerts by emailing us at: hsdinfo@southampton.ac.uk. Please give your name, job title and organisation in the body of the message.

2014–15 Harkness Fellowships in Health Care Policy and Practice Call for Applications

The Commonwealth Fund invites applications from midcareer professionals (e.g. academic researchers, government policymakers, clinicians, managers, and journalists) from Australia, Canada, Germany, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, and the United Kingdom to spend up to 12 months in the US conducting original research and working with leading US health policy experts. For more details about the Fellowship program, application process and suggested project themes, please visit the Fund’s Web site at www.commonwealthfund.org/fellowships. Deadline for U.K. applications is September 16, 2013.
2013/14 Reminder - Clinical Researcher of the Year 2014

A reminder that the PharmaTimes Clinical Researcher of the Year award 2014 is open for entries.

Are you the researcher that stands out above all others? Could you nominate a colleague for entry?

The Clinical Research Network’s life-sciences industry team is encouraging researchers from across the Network to enter this year’s competition.

Hundreds of entries from 27 countries were received for Clinical Researcher of the Year 2013 and, by testing entrants’ skills on the theme of delivering more with less, the finalists were showcasing the very best in clinical talent.

There are six award categories in the competition:

- Research Site
- CRA
- CTA
- Project Manager
- Team Leader
- Clinical Team

To enter the competition there are three steps to take:

1. Entrants to the Clinical Researcher of the Year competition first complete a multiple choice questionnaire based on ICH/GCP regulations
2. In the second stage, the successful entrants respond to a category-specific challenge, prepared by the industry executive steering Committee
3. The best candidates for each of the six categories are then invited to the finals, where they present to a panel of senior industry judges

Join the alumni of clinical researchers by entering the 2014 Clinical Researcher competition.

Further information and guidance on how to enter can be found online at www.pharmatimes.com/CR.

6. Training & Employment Opportunities

The i4i Life Sciences Accelerator Programme

Need to compile a business plan for medtech or other health research funding? Commercialising innovative health and medical research can be difficult, hence the i4i Accelerator has been established to help. The programme has been developed by i4i, along with experienced medtech industry experts, to equip researchers in industry, academia and the NHS with the skills and knowledge required to put together robust business plans and strong funding applications that will satisfy funding panels, investors and external experts. Dates available include October and November 2013. Visit the website for more information.

Collaboration with industry - Turning conversations into actions

This is an invitation to a free workshop, designed to provide hints and tips on identifying and engaging businesses, that will be of interest to academics who are either brand-new or recent newcomers to industry collaboration. The workshop takes place on Thursday 12 September, 2013, 9.30 am to 4.30 pm.
If you are interested in attending, please follow the link below:

http://www.bristol.ac.uk/nsqi-centre/events/2013/522.html

**WCLRN GCP Training Courses**

06 September 2013 - Introduction to GCP training - Southmead Hospital, Bristol  
24 September 2013 - GCP Refresher training - Musgrove Park Hospital, Taunton

For more information please contact Donna Burnham on 0117 342 1376 or visit http://western.crncc.nihr.ac.uk