

Research and Evidence Bulletin

Research and
Evidence Team
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As things organisational keep moving around us, we all need to keep remembering to build the evidence we need to make these changes, evaluate what is being done differently and share the good (and not so good).

Happy summer everyone

Shona

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Sharing and learning from vanguard evaluation outcomes - how can this inform future services?

In collaboration with five Vanguard projects, local and regional evaluators and NHS England, the NECS Research and Evidence team planned a full day event on Tuesday 27th June 2017 at the Royal Station Hotel, Newcastle upon Tyne to share emerging outcomes from the various vanguard projects in the North East region. Its central location ensured attendance from across the region.

Our initial speaker, Professor Chris Gray (Medical Director from NHSE C&NE) gave a thought-provoking and well received presentation which set delegates up for an interesting day.



Professor David Hunter
– Durham University

Professor David Hunter (Durham University) presented an academic perspective of STPs and health service change.

Michael Lawrie (Senior Analytical Lead, NHSE) then gave an update on national evaluation focus and, judging from evaluation comments received, Dr Dan Cowie's update on STP progress for NTW&ND was very popular.



Michael Lawrie. NHSE

Although evaluation work has only recently been completed, and therefore covers the early phase of Vanguard work done, the regional and local evaluation partners gave an indication of the over-arching themes that are emerging. The presentation around Health Economics highlighted its importance in informing commissioners on the best returns on investment and therefore endorsing future commissioning decisions although again, this is early and therefore limited evidence.

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Sharing and learning from vanguard evaluation outcomes *(from page one)*

A collaborative team from the “Better Care Fund”, based around Stockton-on-Tees, gave a presentation around the “100 day challenge” where they detailed the challenges and benefits of implementing proposed changes which are delivered within a strict timeframe.

The day closed with Professor Rob Wilson from the Business School at Newcastle University involving attendees in a brief exercise around the ongoing evaluation of the role of “middle managers” in achieving change, known as the “AIMING” project – more on that included in this newsletter.

The event was very well attended both geographically and with stakeholder coverage, and feedback received has been positive. Almost all attendees commented on the opportunity this event provided for them to network experiences and contacts, strengthening collaborative working across the region. Many have asked to be updated as future evaluation progresses and the team will be following up on some of the suggestions to how this would be best shared. This event was aimed at the high level, cross-cutting work and a more detailed look at the Vanguard programme of work, evaluation and learning will be done in the Autumn – WATCH THIS SPACE!!!



There are two links below; one leads to videos of some of the presentations and the other to Professor Hunter’s blog around STPs.

Presentations :

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLkgW2Cz1X00KVUbHqjWTvd5R-6Wams1cy>

Blog

<https://chpi.org.uk/blog/stps-an-opportunity-for-much-needed-health-system-transformation/>

Slides from the day can also be requested from NECSU.RETeam@nhs.net

Meet the team

Jody Nichols Researcher



Jody is a confident and versatile researcher, with a Masters in Public Health, who is just about to complete her PhD thesis (hand in date 2017), the title of her research is ‘disadvantaged mothers’ beliefs on factors influencing obesity’.

Whilst completing her PhD, Jody worked within Public Health as a Senior Commissioner and is now employed as a Researcher within the team.

With research experience gained working within the public and private sector as well as academia, Jody has experience of both quantitative and qualitative methodologies. Also experienced in conducting research within the NHS, preparing and presenting research reports at local and regional level.

On a personal note; Jody describes herself as having spent 20 years playing hockey, but her bones are too old now so she enjoys scotch eggs, wine and walking her loyal old dog at the start and end of every day!

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Jody works Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings.

Current projects

The **AIMING project** aims to investigate the innovation support environment in NHS North East of England and in particular the role of management in the reception, adoption and dissemination of innovation.

This phase of the evaluation aims to understand how new care models funded from NHSE in the North East can be spread to a wider geographical footprint, and what support and/or organisational changes need to be made in achieving a more supportive environment for innovation both within and between organisations in challenging circumstances.

If you would be interested in sharing your views on Innovation and New Care Models please contact Dr Ewan Mackenzie

Ewan.Mackenzie@ncl.ac.uk



The Bright Ideas in Health Awards 2017

is now in its fourteenth year. This year's awards are delivered by RTC North in partnership with the Academic Health Science Network for the North East and North Cumbria and the NIHR Clinical Research Network North East and North Cumbria.

Everyone can play a part in developing innovative solutions to the healthcare challenges faced every day. The Awards celebrate the achievements of individuals and teams working within the NHS, industry and academia, who have risen to the challenge of telling us how, and where, they believe that improvements to the service provided to patients can be improved, either through a technical innovation or through better service delivery. The competition, depending upon the category, is open to all SMEs, NHS organisations and academic institutions in the North East of England and North Cumbria. You could win a **cash prize** as well as our support to help you to develop your idea into a new medical product or raise awareness of your innovative service.

To submit your bright idea, please visit

www.brightideasinhealth.org.uk

Categories for the Bright Ideas in Health Awards 2017 are...

- Innovative Technology or Device
- Service Improvement
- Patient Safety and Quality Improvement
- Outstanding Industry Collaboration with the NHS
- Primary and Community Care
- Research Delivery Impact (*Sponsored by NIHR Clinical Research Network North East & North Cumbria*)
- Most Innovative NHS Education Provider (*Sponsored by Health Education England - North East*)

Winners will be announced at the Bright Ideas in Health Awards ceremony, being held on **Wednesday 15th November 2017** at the Hilton Newcastle Gateshead Hotel.

For further information about the awards and for sponsorship opportunities please contact sarah.black@ahsn-nenc.org.uk

New Research and Evaluation Projects for 2017/18

Evaluation of the Heatwave Plan for England *(North Cumbria CCG)*

North Cumbria CCG – working with County Council (Public Health) has recently been granted HRA approval. The study team might be in contact with a number of staff within the CCG for interviews associated with this.

A realist evaluation of care planning for people with long term conditions: what works, for whom and in what circumstances? *(North Tyneside CCG and Newcastle Gateshead CCG)*

This project involves testing the refined theories in focus groups by identifying whether, how, for whom and in what circumstances care planning works in practice, from the perspective of healthcare professionals. This study has been granted ethics approval and awaits HRA approval.

Continued over ...

Following the publication of Research for all in 2016, this follow up report, *Research for All: Sharing good practice in research management*, outlines the conditions needed to support research directors, managers, clinical and non-clinical staff and, ultimately, patients. By way of over 50 case studies the report builds upon the recommendations for collaboration and provides real world examples of good practice to inspire both doctors and researchers alike.

The Newcastle Gateshead CCG Research Strategy that the R&E team developed is included in the report published by the Royal College of Physicians in partnership with the NHS Research and Development Forum.

The examples of good practice from NHS organisations around the country aim to help build the knowledge base for all involved in research. By recognising and addressing barriers to pursuing research, the report encourages both doctors and R&D departments to underpin research as a core activity and demonstrate how it is everyone's responsibility.

The report can be viewed here: <https://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/news/rcp-launches-research-all-sharing-good-practice-research-management>



New Research and Evaluation Projects 2017/18

continued

GP views on electronic repeat dispensing (eRD) and other remote pharmacy services

All 11 CCGs.

This study from the University of Sunderland involves some initial focus groups with GPs, which will then inform a larger national online questionnaire.

The study currently awaits HRA approval.

Patients who aren't engaging in planned Primary care

(South Tyneside CCG)

This project will involve interviews to understand more about patients' perspectives on their non-engagement and advise the GP Practice on interventions and changes that might support engagement. The study currently awaits HRA approval.

Qualitative exploration of the social lives' of Older adults living in care homes

(Newcastle Gateshead CCG)

Led by Dr Holly Standing, the purpose of this study is to provide an in-depth exploration of the social lives of those living in residential care facilities.

In particular, the study aims to give a holistic approach to exploring residents' social lives. This study is currently awaiting Research Ethics Committee review.

An Evaluation of the Referral Processes used by GPs in Northumberland

(Northumberland CCG)

This project is to explore the experience of GPs, hospital doctors and commissioners who use referral management systems and those who do not use a referral management system, and patients who have been referred, or patients with an alternative disposition, in Northumberland.

This project is in the planning phase and has been funded via NIHR Research Capability Funding in partnership with the University of Sunderland.

British Heart Foundation House of Care Programme

(Newcastle Gateshead CCG)

Gateshead is leading one of five projects, funded by British Heart Foundation, piloting the House of Care for people with CVD disease.

The Research and Evidence team are supporting the publication of the evaluation reports and working with the programme team at Newcastle Gateshead CCG. Jody Nichols is supporting as lead qualitative researcher.

For a full list of all current research projects, please contact the team on NECSU.RETeam@nhs.net