

Welcome to the latest edition of the NIHR School for Primary Care Research (SPCR) newsletter.

Welcome to the September 2025 edition of the NIHR School for Primary Care Research (SPCR) newsletter. This issue features new research highlights, blog posts, and publications.

News:

Short film highlighting chronic pain aims to encourage more research participants

Your Voice Matters, the main output of a 2024 SPCR PPIE grant lead by Sarah Harrison, is a powerful new film created by people living with chronic pain to inspire, connect, and drive more inclusive research.



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UK dementia patients may be taking antipsychotics too long

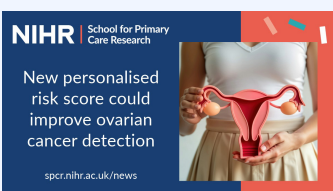
New UCL-led, SPCR study published in The Lancet Psychiatry warns that many people with dementia in England are prescribed powerful antipsychotic drugs for far longer than national guidelines recommend.



[READ MORE](#)

New personalised risk score could improve ovarian cancer detection

Researchers from Queen Mary University of London (QMUL) have developed and validated 'Ovatoools'; a new clinical tool that could help GPs detect ovarian cancer earlier and improve outcomes cost-effectively.



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Blog Posts:

Learning from each other: Insights from a public co-applicant collaboration in primary care research

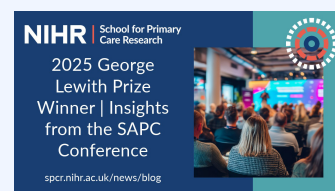
As part of an SPCR-funded study, Louise Ting and Charlotte Archer reflect on working together to explore the benefits and challenges of remote consulting for anxiety and depression in primary care.



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2025 George Lewith Prize Winner | Insights from the SAPC Conference

Milou Ottolini and Dhanush Ammineni, the winners of the George Lewith Prize 2025, reflect on their visit to the 53rd Society for Academic Primary Care (SAPC) Annual Scientific Meeting.



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Mapping cultural sector activities for older people from global majority backgrounds in the UK: learnings from the TOUS study

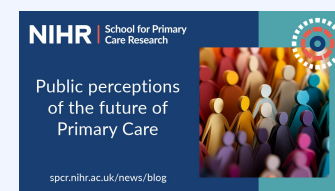
In this blog, Debra Westlake and Stephanie Tierney from the University of Oxford reflect on identifying what cultural activities are offered for older people in the UK from global majority backgrounds.



[READ MORE](#)

Public perceptions of the future of Primary Care

In this blog post Jessica Drinkwater and Sarah Skyrme discuss 'Public perceptions of the future of Primary Care' and the first workshop for public contributors getting involved with SPCR 737 award.



[READ MORE](#)

Researcher Spotlight:

We are pleased to share the next edition of our SPCR Researcher Spotlight series, featuring two of our researchers, Dr Adam Geraghty from the University of Southampton and Professor Nathan Davies from the University College London.

This series highlights the impact of continued SPCR research capacity and development funding since its introduction in 2010.

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SPCR Researcher Spotlight





Dr Adam Geraghty and Professor Nathan Davies

Career progression from early career to senior research roles



PPIE Updates:

Funding opportunity: Round 2 - SPCR Public Involvement, Engagement and Dissemination Enablement Fund

Funding is available to SPCR members for project- specific activities (up to £2,000) and department-wide activities (up to £5,000). The deadline to apply is **Thursday 23 October by 5pm**. To find out more please review the [fund page](#) and updated guidance on our website.

Evaluating impact of PPIE

Tuesday 21 October 2025: 13.00 – 14.30

This session, co-delivered by People in Health West of England, the University of Bristol's Centre for Academic Primary Care, and the NIHR's School for Primary Care Research will share more about the different approaches that can be used when evaluating public involvement. We will be looking at four specific tools: PiiAF, [PIRIT](#), the [Public Impact Log](#) and the [Cube Evaluation Framework](#), with time for questions at the end.

Recent News & Blogs

- Your Voice Matters, the main output of a 2024 SPCR PPIE grant lead by Sarah Harrison, is a powerful new film created by people living with chronic pain to inspire, connect, and drive more inclusive research: [Short film highlighting chronic pain aims to encourage more research participants](#)
- As part of an SPCR-funded study, Louise Ting and Charlotte Archer reflect on working together to explore the benefits and challenges of remote consulting for anxiety and depression in primary care: [Learning from each other: Insights from a public co-applicant collaboration in primary care research](#)

NIHR Three Schools' Updates:

The Three NIHR Women's prisons: how can we engage lived experience to improve primary care for women with severe mental illness?

Thank you to everyone that attended the recent NIHR Three Schools' Mental Health Programme Webinar. For anyone who was unable to attend a recording of the session is now available on our YouTube channel.



[WATCH HERE](#)

Mental Health Programme Online Seminars

- [What should emotionally safe coproduced research with lived experience researchers on sensitive topics look like?](#) 22 October 2025, 12 to 1 pm



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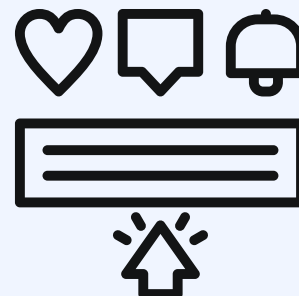
[Bluesky](#)



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IN Focus:



Suicide Prevention Day

10 September 2025

SPCR IN Focus | Suicide Prevention Day

The triennial theme for World Suicide Prevention Day (2024–2026) was “Changing the Narrative on Suicide”. This theme called on us all to challenge harmful myths, reduce stigma, and foster open, compassionate conversations about suicide. To mark Suicide Prevention Day the NIHR School for Primary Care Research (SPCR) highlighted some projects that demonstrate the power of community in supporting mental health and wellbeing.

[READ MORE](#)

Publications:

[Cost-effectiveness of CA125- and age-informed risk-based triage for ovarian cancer detection in primary care](#)

Garth Funston et al writes for medRxiv.



[SPCR Project: 629](#)

[Primary care practitioners' and patients' views on the benefits and challenges of remote consulting for anxiety and depression in UK general practice: a qualitative interview study](#)

Charlotte Archer et al writes for the British Medical Journal.



[SPCR Project: 598](#)

[Antipsychotic prescriptions in people with dementia in primary care: a cohort study investigating adherence of dose and duration to UK clinical guidelines.](#)

Juan Carlos Bazo Alvarez et al writes for The Lancet Psychiatry.



[SPCR Project: 674](#)

Juan Carlos Bazo Alvarez was also funded by Three Research Schools Mental Health Programme (grant no. MHF012).

Publications (Continued):

[Understanding and improving compound pressures in general practice: a realist review protocol](#)

Sophie Park et al writes for British Journal of General Practice.



[SPCR Project: 593](#)

[Calcium and Albumin Blood Tests, Ethnicity, and Cancer Incidence in Primary Care in the UK](#)

Sarah Bailey et al writes for Cancers



[SPCR Project: 511](#)

[Distribution and quality of privately-funded general practices in England: a cross-sectional analysis.](#)

Joseph Hutchinson et al writes for the British Journal of General Practice.



Joseph Hutchingson holds a Primary Care Clinician Career Progression Fellowship (CO95).