

School for Primary Care Research

Increasing the evidence base
for primary care practice

January 2017

SPCR news

NHS

National Institute for
Health Research



Opioids and reproductive dysfunction in women

A systematic review published in [Pain](#) has found mixed evidence in the 12 papers reviewed of the link between long-term opioids in women with chronic non-cancer pain and reproductive dysfunction in women.

[Comprehensive Systematic Review of long-term opioids in women with chronic non cancer pain and associated reproductive dysfunction.](#)

The paper is accompanied by a video which can be viewed [here](#).

Gene Feder awarded OBE

Professor Gene Feder has been awarded an OBE in the Queen's New Year Honours List for services to healthcare and victims of domestic abuse.

Professor Feder has worked at the University of Bristol since 2008. He is Professor of Primary Care at the University's Centre for Academic Primary Care and a practising GP at the Helios Medical Centre in Bristol. He replaces Professor Chris Salisbury as SPCR Board Member and CAPC Head of Department in February this year.

In 2012, Gene was funded by the School to conduct a pilot for an individually, randomised, parallel group controlled trial to determine if a psychological intervention delivered by domestic violence advocates is effective and cost effective. In addition, he conducted a longitudinal measurement of cortisol in association with mental health and experience of domestic violence and abuse: Cortisol Evaluation in Abuse Survivors. Read the full [press release](#) from the University of Bristol.

National awareness in February

4
World
Cancer
Day

15 - 19
Obsessive-
compulsive
disorder
week

22 - 28
Eating disorders
awareness
week

New Junior Doctors' Contract makes hospital work less attractive

Funded by the NIHR School for Primary Care Research, research has concluded that fewer doctors are training in acute hospital specialty areas since hearing of the decision to implement the Junior Doctors' Contract.

The study was conducted by researchers at the University of Manchester's Division of Population Health and Economics and supported by staff at the UK Foundation Programme.

Lead Principal Investigator Dr Sharon Spooner, from the University of Manchester, says many doctors do not go on to take specialty training posts immediately after they have completed their five year degree and two year Foundation Programme training. "From 2011 to 2015, the proportion

Overall survival rates following heart failure

Routinely collected medical records from more than 54,000 patients aged over 45, from 1998 to 2012, show overall survival rates following diagnosis with heart failure. The researchers found survival rates vary depending on a person's age, gender, other health conditions and blood pressure. The data shows survival rates have not changed over time.



NUFFIELD DEPARTMENT OF
PRIMARY CARE
HEALTH SCIENCES

Taylor CJ et al. Survival following a diagnosis of heart failure in primary care. *Family Practice* (2017). doi: <https://10.1093/fampra/cmwx145>

Survival of patients with heart failure has not improved

New research conducted at the University of Oxford has shown survival rates for patients with heart failure have not improved since 1988.

GP and lead author, Dr Clare Taylor, from the [Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences](#) commented: "Heart failure is a common condition which causes patients to feel out of breath and their ankles to swell up. We wanted to understand more about the disease and see if there had been an improvement in survival over time."

Read the [press release](#)

of doctors not proceeding directly from Foundation training to specialist training increased from 29% to 48%."

"Our survey shows that many newly qualified doctors have altered their career plans as a result of the contract. Doctors are aware that their skills have global value, and some are prepared to change their

personal and career plans to achieve their goals: many go abroad, and some leave medical work entirely."

Publication: ['Stick or twist? Career decision-making during contractual uncertainty for NHS junior doctors'](#). *BMJ Open*. S Spooner, Jon Gibson, Dan Rigby, Matt Sutton, Emma Pearson, Kath Checkland. Read the [press release](#) from the University of Manchester.

NHS
National Institute for
Health Research

School for
Primary Care
Research

Increasing the evidence
base for primary care

Negotiating Referral Acceptance During the BWeL Trial

Enhancing communication in clinical settings

DPhil student Charlotte Albury received a competitive ESRC bursary to attend an advanced training workshop in applied Conversation Analysis at Loughborough University from 2-3 February 2017.

The ESRC bursary will enable Charlotte to apply new analytic perspectives to her School funded

research, "The focus of this research is on communication during the BWeL trial, where patients were offered a free referral to weight watchers or slimming world by their GP. My analysis centers on how doctors construct these treatment recommendations, and which formulations positively motivate patients to attend their free referral."

SPCR Facebook Page for PPI

Emma Palmer-Cooper

The School for Primary Care Research is exploring new avenues and methods to support research involvement, and engage with our PPI contributors and the wider public.

Whilst we have a social media presence for our research community @NIHRSPCR, there has been less engagement on social media with the public. We are in the process of setting up the SPCR Patient & Public Involvement & Engagement Facebook page.

The aim of this page is to post news articles relating to published research from across the School, as well as to advertise new involvement opportunities. This could include adverts for specific groups of people for research projects, or general notices of ongoing opportunities at each site. We will also post PPI-related blogs on the page.

Using PPI for page development

We will be advertising an opportunity for existing PPI contributors to advise on the page development before it is officially launched. We will create a panel of up to 3 contributors, who will be involved in the process of naming and branding the site, as well as developing appropriate wording for the Page Description and 'Impressum'. Advice on appropriate content examples will also be sought from the panel. The opportunity will be open to contributors from across the SPCR who are familiar with Facebook, and as such will be open to virtual participation via video messaging and conference calls if none are local to Oxford. Members of the panel will be reimbursed for their time, according to INVOLVE rates, and travel where appropriate. If you know anyone who would be particularly keen to do this, please let us know.

How researchers can be involved

Please let us know of any research you have carried out that has been published and used PPI, as we would love to collect some content ahead of the launch. Background on the PPI involved would be very useful!



Who cares for the clinicians?

Following the publication of an editorial in the BMJ in June 2016, researcher Dr Joanna Spiers highlights her experiences of the School funded research in a blog.

The publication entitled: ['Who cares for the clinicians? The mental 'health crisis in the GP workforce'](#), argues that doctors are more likely to experience reduced well-being and mental health symptoms, including anxiety, low mood, depression, high stress and burnout.

In the blog 'Translating research into an art performance' Johanna describes the motivation behind the project and the collaborations that helped shape and influence the way the research is being communicated, which includes a performance artist, a mental health campaigner and poet. The finished performance was performed to sell-out audiences at Circomedia in Bristol. Read more about the [Exploring the barriers and facilitators to help-seeking by GPs: improving access to support project](#).

We are also looking for contributors to the SPCR blog to write about their experiences from a researcher perspective, describing novel, innovative or challenging PPI.

If you have something you would like to share regarding PPI, on either the Facebook page or as a blog, please let us know by contacting the SPCR PPI Officer Dr Emma Palmer-Cooper: emma.palmer-cooper@phc.ox.ac.uk.

NIHR news and research

Publications this month

Survival following a diagnosis of heart failure in primary care. Clare J Taylor, Ronan Ryan, Linda Nichols, Nicola Gale, FD Richard Hobbs, Tom Marshall. (2017). Family Practice.

[link](#)

Incidence of venous thromboembolism in care homes: a prospective cohort study. Patricia N Apenteng, FD Richard Hobbs, Andrea Roalfe, Usman Muhammad, Carl Heneghan, David Fitzmaurice, (2017). BJGP.

[link](#)

Stick or twist? Career decision-making during contractual uncertainty for NHS junior doctors. Sharon Spooner, Jon Gibson, Dan Rigby, Matt Sutton, Emma Pearson, Kath Checkland (2017). BMJ Open.

[link](#)

GPs' perceptions of workload in England: a qualitative interview study. Caroline HD Crosson, Helen F Ashdown and FD Richard Hobbs, (2017). BJGP.

[link](#)

Screening for Atrial Fibrillation using Economical and accurate Technology (SAFETY)—a pilot study. Mark Lown, Arthur Yue, George Lewith, Paul Little, Mike Moore. (2017). BMJ Open.

[link](#)

Validation of the AUDIT-C in adults seeking help with their drinking online. Zarnie Khadjesari, Ian R. White, Jim McCambridge, Louise Marston, Paul Wallace, Christine Godfrey and Elizabeth Murray. (2017). BMC Addiction Science & Clinical Practice.

[link](#)

Comprehensive systematic review of long-term opioids in women with chronic noncancer pain and associated reproductive dysfunction (hypothalamic-pituitary-gonadal axis disruption). Emily Wersocki, John Bedson, Ying Chen, Linda LeResche, Kate M Dunn. (2017). PAIN.

[link](#)

Developing an Unguided Internet-Delivered Intervention for Emotional Distress in Primary Care Patients: Applying Common Factor and Person-Based Approaches. Adam WA Geraghty, Ricardo F Muñoz, Lucy Yardley, Jennifer Mc Sharry, Paul Little, Michael Moore. (2016). JMIR Mental Health.

[link](#)

NIHR Dissemination Centre new signal

Young children from deprived areas are more at risk of serious burns and scalds

Five in every 1,000 children under four are injured by burns and scalds each year in England, although these injuries are becoming less common. Serious injuries needing hospital treatment happen more often to children from deprived areas than wealthy areas.

Most burns and scalds are preventable. The findings suggest that programmes to prevent these injuries should be targeted at deprived areas, to reduce the devastating effect of serious burns on young children's lives.

Differing patterns in thermal injury incidence and hospitalisations among 0–4 year old children from England

R Baker, L Tata, D Kendrick, T Burch, M Kennedy, E Orton. Burns Volume 42 Issue 7.2016

[View the signal on the Dissemination Centre's Discover Portal](#)

Publishing soon?

Please remember to send all SPCR funded publications and press releases to Kate Farrington at least two weeks before proposed date of release. All info is available on the [website](#)

Diary dates



SAPC Annual meeting

12 - 14 July 2017

University of Warwick

Deadline for abstracts: before midnight, Sunday 19 February, 2017

<https://sapc.ac.uk/conference/2017>



SAPC South West Regional Meeting

23 March 2017

University of Oxford



SPCR Trainees meeting

18-19 September 2017

Worcester College

Oxford



NIHR Trainees meeting

14-17 November 2017

Queen's Hotel

Leeds



News from PPI in
Oxford

**Involvement
Matters**

The presentations
and posters from
the NIHR Trainee
Meeting 2016
'Research Leaders
of the Future' are
now available on the
[website](#)



Royal College of
General Practitioners

SAPC

Society for Academic Primary Care

Research Awards: call for submissions

The **RCGP Research Paper of the Year** award recognises GP researchers that have undertaken and published an exceptional piece of research relating to general practice or primary care.

Submit a paper for the RPY award here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RPY2016submission>

Deadline: 15 February 2017

The **John Fry Award** is an award by nomination normally presented each year by the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP), in consultation with the Society of Academic Primary Care (SAPC). Read the [selection criteria](#)

Deadline: 17 February 2017