
NIHR SCHOOL FOR PRIMARY CARE RESEARCH (SPCR) PUBLIC COLLABORATOR TRAINING BOOKLET

This package has been collaboratively developed **Exeter Collaboration for Academic Primary Care (APEX) Public Collaborator Group** and **SPCR Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement** leads.

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Share your ideas & get in touch:

If you want to add a training session or resource to the booklet, or have any feedback, please get in touch via spcr@keele.ac.uk

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Introduction

Patient and public involvement means that researchers work together with patients, carers, and members of the public as equal partners when doing research. There are many different words used to describe people who take part in research in this way. In this booklet, we use the term ‘public collaborator’ because it is the term preferred by the APEx Public Collaborator Group who helped create this booklet.

The aim of this Public Collaborator Training Booklet is to give you one place where you can find support and learning activities. These will help you build your skills and confidence to take part in patient and public involvement in research.

The booklet will be updated every year so new training can be added.

This training package has three main topics:

- Research methods
- Interpersonal skills
- Public Collaborator roles

Each topic includes three types of learning options: Explore, Grow, and Support.



Explore training gives you basic, easy-to-understand information. It is helpful for public collaborators who are new to patient and public involvement and want to learn a bit more about what it means.



Grow training includes materials that help public collaborators who already have some experience. It supports them to develop new skills that will be useful for future involvement and engagement work.



Support training gives public collaborators with experience a chance to come together, talk about their past work, learn from each other, and take away new ideas they can use in the future.

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Research Methods and Approaches

As a public collaborator, you may work on many different research projects, and each project might use different ways to study a topic. Training in this area will help you learn about the different research methods used in health and social care. It will help you build new research skills so you can take part in patient and public involvement in many types of projects. It will also give you chances to support each other and to practise the new skills you have learned

Explore

Improving Healthcare Through Clinical Research

Learn how medical treatments are found, tested, and checked to make healthcare better for everyone.



Format: Online course ([click here](#))

Provided by: University of Leeds and National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR)

Public Involvement in Research

In this course, you will think about why patients and the public are involved in research, and you will learn about different ways they can work with researchers.

Format: Online course ([click here](#))

Provided by: Imperial College London

Patient and Public Involvement in Research and Co-production

This webinar gives an introduction to PPIE and co-production. It explains who is involved, what it is, why it matters, and how it can be done well. Public collaborators also share their own experiences, so you can see what this work looks like in real life.

Format: Recorded webinar ([click here](#))

Provided by: NIHR Applied Research Collaboration (ARC) North Thames.

Approaches to Patient and Public Involvement (PPI)

This webinar explains how the NIHR defines public involvement. It also looks at the NIHR's main promises about working with the public, what is expected from PPI, and the different ways people can be involved.

Format: Recorded webinar ([click here](#))

Provided by: NIHR

National Standards for Public Involvement

This session explores the UK Standards for Public Involvement in Research and the next steps in their development.

Format: Recorded webinar ([click here](#))

Provided by: NIHR

Patient and Public Involvement Training Focusing on Involvement in Health Data Research

This course focuses on supporting people to increase their knowledge, skills and confidence as a patient and public involvement representative in Health Data Research.

Format: Online course ([click here](#))

Provided by: Crohn's and Colitis UK

Why Experience Matters: Qualitative Research

Explore the methods and tools qualitative researchers use to understand human behaviour and solve social problems.

Format: Online course ([click here](#))

Provided by: Griffith University and Deakin University

Introduction to Research Ethics: Working with People

This session explores conducting ethical research when working with people.

Format: Online course ([click here](#))

Provided by: University of Leeds

Evidence-based Medicine

This course explores what evidence-based medicine is, why it matters and how the evidence and practice are being championed and improved.

Format: Online course ([click here](#))

Provided by: Cochrane Training

Introduction to Systematic Reviews

This course will introduce you to what systematic reviews are. You will learn about the different types of systematic reviews and what their strengths and weaknesses are. The course also explains how systematic reviews are carried out and what each part of a review includes.

Format: Online course ([click here](#))

Provided by: Cochrane Training

An Introduction to Co-Production

This webinar takes you through the principles of coproduction in research, including the terminology and different approaches.

Format: Recorded webinar ([click here](#))

Provided by: NIHR RSS Specialist Centre for Public Health

Grow



People with Lived Experience in Peer Review

Public collaborators play an important part in reviewing research. This course helps people build their skills and confidence so they can look at new research studies and give helpful feedback.

Format: Online course ([click here](#))

Provided by: Can-SOLVE Chronic Kidney Disease Network

Understanding and using Systematic Reviews

This course will help you learn how to find useful systematic reviews and understand what the results mean.

Format: Online course ([click here](#))

Provided by: Cochrane Training

Critical Appraisal of Rapid Reviews

This course will help you learn how to review rapid reviews, so you can understand what they do well and where they might have weaknesses.

Format: Online course ([click here](#))

Provided by: Cochrane Training

Navigating Digital Health: A Guide to Data and Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare

This guide will help you to understand more about the use of data, using data in research, the problems and benefits of using data and provide an introduction to artificial intelligence.

Format: Online resource ([click here](#))

Provided by: Imperial College London

Evaluating Impact in PPIE

What are the different approaches that can be used when evaluating public involvement? What resources can we use when planning and evaluating involvement?

This two-hour workshop looks at the issues to consider, defines impact, and how impact can be captured through different tools. We will be looking at four specific tools: [PiiAE](#), [PIRIT](#), the [Public Impact Log](#) and the [Cube Evaluation Framework](#).

Format: Recorded webinar ([click here](#))

Provided 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

Randomised Controlled Trials

This course will help you learn how clinical trials are made random and controlled, and what needs to happen to make sure these trials are run properly.

Format: Online course ([click here](#))

Provided by: Cochrane Training

Interpersonal Skills (Coming Soon)

As a public collaborator, you will work with many different people. Training in this area will help you learn about different ways people behave and different strategies you can use to communicate well. It will help you build your skills so you can work effectively with a wide range of people. It will also support you to think about, practise, and improve the approaches you use.

Please feel free to reach out to spcr@keele.ac.uk if you have any existing training or resources to be included in this section.

Public Collaborator Roles (Coming Soon)

As a public collaborator, you might get the chance to be involved in research in different ways. This could include, for example, as a reviewer of funding applications, a public co-applicant, a peer or co-researcher, a steering or advisory group member, or a Board member. Training in this area will help you learn more about the different roles you might take on. It will also help you build your confidence and skills so you can do these roles well. The training will support you to think about your experiences and improve how you contribute to research in different ways.

Please feel free to reach out to spcr@keele.ac.uk if you have any existing training or resources to be included in this section.