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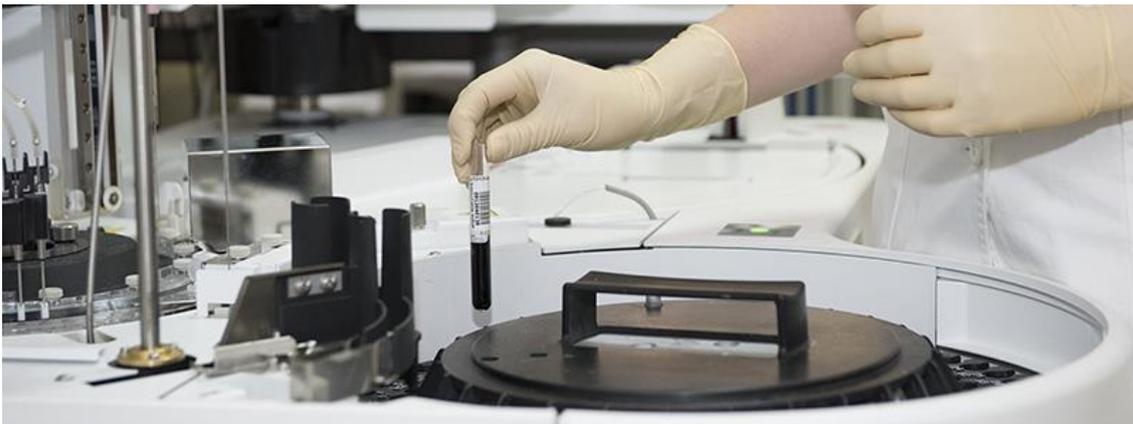
# Research & Innovation Bulletin

**NHS**  
Northern Care Alliance  
NHS Group

**Research news from the Northern Care Alliance**

**16 January 2019**

The Northern Care Alliance NHS Group serves a population of over 1 million people with five local hospitals, 2,000 beds, specialist, acute and community services, and over 17,000 staff from Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust and The Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust. It has a rich history of pioneering health care and is now building one of the most innovative environments in the UK for conducting patient-focused health research and translating it into patient benefit.



## **Long Term Plan highlights research**

The NHS Long Term Plan, released last week, recognises the 'critical importance' of research and innovation to drive future medical advances. The plan is the health service's strategy to make sure it is fit for the future and aims to give everyone the best start in life, deliver world-class care for major health problems such as cancer and mental health, and help people age well.

To read a copy and find out more visit [www.longtermplan.nhs.uk](http://www.longtermplan.nhs.uk)

**News**





## Leading the way on infection trial

Well done to the Infectious Diseases research team leading the way on the ASPIRE-SSI study, a major European study exploring Staphylococcus aureus and surgical site infections.

The Northern Care Alliance is one of six UK sites taking part in this research, with patients being recruited through pre-operative clinics at North Manchester General and the Royal Oldham Hospital.

The initial recruitment, which includes blood samples and swabs, is followed by phone calls during the 90 days after the patient's surgery which makes it a time consuming and challenging study. But the team is leading the way in the UK on recruitment with 186 patients consented since April 2018 and 77 currently enrolled in the study. The team has a close working relationship with the microbiology lab at the Royal Oldham where the very helpful staff have contributed to the success.

The Principal Investigator at the NCA is Dr Andy Ustianowski and the ASPIRE-SSI study is expected to continue until April 2019 with the aim of recruiting 5,000 patients in Europe.



## Successful stroke study reaches target

Congratulations to everyone who has supported the HAST study into hemianopia adaptation after stroke, which has now closed to recruitment. The study is led by Salford Royal's Claire Howard under her NIHR Clinical Doctorate Fellowship and sponsored by the University of Liverpool. Of the 144 recruits, 113 were screened at Salford Royal, with the others coming from patient identification sites.

The study is investigating how patients adapt to loss of visual field after stroke and why some adapt better than others. Patients with a new diagnosis of loss of peripheral vision to one side received a full assessment of vision and were offered treatment with visual search exercises, with the aim of improving the patients' scanning into the affected side. Their adaptation and scanning is then monitored over a period of six months after stroke.



## Meet the team - Natalie Garratt

Natalie Garratt recently took on a new role as our R&I Business Development Manager.

Following roles in public health and third sector research in her native West Yorkshire, Natalie moved to Salford in 2007, where she took up a joint role between Salford R&D and the Diabetes Research Network. She went on to work in various roles for the NIHR Clinical Research Network, including leading the national industry exemplar project, which demonstrated that the NHS can match the best in Europe for the rapid set-up and delivery of high quality commercial clinical trials. She then jumped at the opportunity to return to Salford Royal in 2013, to work more closely with researchers and have a direct impact on the research taking place.

Natalie's new role is focused around increasing the research opportunities and collaborations available across our care organisations, and establishing funding streams to support these. This includes supporting grant development; establishing cost recovery models for ongoing workstreams; building on existing collaborations with academic and industry partners and seeking out new relationships; supporting teams across the NCA to identify and pursue research and innovation opportunities; and supporting innovation and the management of intellectual property.

Natalie lives in Salford with her husband and young daughter. Most of her free time is spent chasing her toddler around and she always has a knitting project on the go.

She is based in the joint office at Salford and can be contacted on [Natalie.garratt@srft.nhs.uk](mailto:Natalie.garratt@srft.nhs.uk).



## New funding for digital initiatives

The Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust will be delivering new digital technology and electronic pathways, thanks to Global Digital Exemplar (GDE) Fast Follower funding from NHS England.

Pennine will be partnering with Salford Royal to become Manchester's first [GDE Fast Follower](#) organisation. This is a national initiative which aims to improve digital maturity across the NHS.

Dr Georges Ng Man Kwong, Consultant Chest Physician and Chief Clinical Information Officer (CCIO), said: “This provides us with a great opportunity to try, implement and, if necessary, modify and improve new technologies to support patient care following ‘blue-print’ principles and processes which have already been tested at Salford.”

The first phase of the programme will be exploring:

- **Digital task management system on wards** – aims to improve patient task workflow and ultimately improve bed management with prompt discharge of patients.
- **Virtual consultation using state-of-the-art mobile robotics** to help discharge patients
- New **digital clinical decision support forms within our Electronic Patient Record** to support delirium and dementia, dietetics, venous thromboembolism, stroke and fractured neck of femur pathways
- **Online appointment management system for patients.**

If you have any queries regarding the Pennine GDE Fast Follower programme, contact [Libby Woodcock](#), Fast Follower Operational Programme Lead.



## Launch of Translation Manchester

Translation Manchester was established in 2018 as part of a Wellcome Trust initiative to help overcome the obstacles to conducting translational research in Greater Manchester, by bringing together a network of support, facilities and expertise to make the pathway to translation quicker and easier.

Its facilitators Drs Laura Ajram and Andrea Short aid investigators with ensuring translatability of ongoing projects, forging new and productive connections between academic researchers and the clinical workforce and leading two translational funding schemes. Translational research or ‘bench to bedside’ can encompass anything from engineering to apps, drug discovery to diagnostics.

Its launch on 12 February, open to academic and clinical researchers within University of Manchester and associated NHS

Trusts, will enable you to find out more about the network of support available and provide an opportunity to form new collaborations. Speakers include Professor Cath O'Neill (Professor of Translational Dermatology at UoM and CEO of SkinBioTx Ltd) and Professor Jacky Smith (Professor of Respiratory Medicine at UoM and Director of the NIHR Manchester Clinical Research Facility). [More here.](#)

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## Eminent renal researcher to visit

Professor Branko Braam, an eminent nephrologist from Edmonton, Canada, is visiting Salford Royal's renal team on Wednesday 20 February. He has a strong research background in renal physiology and basic science research and will give a talk 'To measure fluid volume or not to measure fluid volume in haemodialysis — that is the question.'

Branko is already a 'research friend' of the renal department, having collaborated with Prof Phil Kalra and team in the past, and his visit will also be a chance to discuss research ideas, especially around his interests in mechanisms of hypertension, consequences of derangement of renal function for the systems environment (including heart and kidney interactions) and hypertension. If you'd like to go to his talk, please contact [Margaret Davies.](#)

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## Find out more about Innovation Factor

Listen to Professor Steve Woby, Director of R&I Operations at NCA, share his thoughts on the Innovation Factor®, a new digital innovation service introduced at the Trust in this [short video.](#)

[Innovation Factor®](#) helps staff with innovative ideas that could bring positive change to the Trust by providing expert support, development assistance and funding opportunities. IF is available through the [NCA R&I website.](#)

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## Clinical Research Practitioner directory

The Academy for Healthcare Science and the National Institute for Health Research have teamed up to raise the professional profile of Clinical Research Practitioners. More than 400 practitioners have already joined a directory which will enable them to contribute to an application for accredited registration. [More here.](#)



## Preparing for Brexit

The Department of Health and Social Care has issued guidance on actions health organisations should take to prepare for a 'no deal' Brexit, including advice for researchers. The key pages for research and clinical trials are mentioned in the [EU exit operational readiness guidance](#) on pages 11-14 and again in the Annex A Action card for providers, pages 16-24.



## Access thousands of e-books

The Library and Knowledge Service has access to thousands of e-books, a list of which can be found on the library's [website](#). They include a wide range of specialties, including research.

To access e-books you will need an NHS Athens username and password. To request access please contact the library at [Oldham.library@pat.nhs.uk](mailto:Oldham.library@pat.nhs.uk)

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## Research stars of the month



## Bury & Rochdale

The urgent care centre team at Rochdale Infirmary has really embraced PAT-POPS, an observational study collecting information on routine observations when children and young people visit A&E. Most of the team are new to research but they have been extremely supportive and responsive, with Rochdale recruiting more than 7,000 patients in nine months.



## North Manchester

The Christmas elves of the North Manchester cancer research team are the stars of the month for all their hard work in December to spread the message about the benefits of research to colleagues, patients and visitors. Their thank you cards and gifts for teams that support research were much appreciated and they also raised funds for Macmillan Cancer Support.



## Oldham

Helpful and accommodating Ann Pearson is an advanced biomedical scientist in the cellular pathology department. She has pulled out all the stops on a particularly tricky cancer study, making sure that patients can be enrolled. Apparently she never gets fed up even when pestered repeatedly by the research nurses!

## Salford

Upper gastrointestinal consultant Ram Chaparala is Salford's star of the month. Colleagues say his patient-centred approach is fantastic and he is especially good at explaining research to his patients. He actively seeks opportunities to recruit and tries to help wherever possible to make research happen.

## Send your nominations

Please keep sending your nominations for the research star of the month, with the name of the person or team and a short paragraph explaining why their work should be recognised to [Vikki O'Loughlin](#) and [Jess Zadik](#).

You can also nominate your team or a colleague for these awards:

- [BMJ Awards](#) (closing date 18 January)
- [Pharma Times International Clinical Researcher of the Year](#) (closing date 31 January)
- [RCNi Nurse Awards](#) (closing date 1 February)

- [Patient Safety Awards](#) (closing date 8 February)

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## Congratulations

Congratulations to Senior Research Nurse Marie Greenhalgh who once again organised a fundraising Christmas hamper raffle at Summerfield House - it raised £140 for the Mayor of Greater Manchester's Homelessness Fund. Many thanks to everyone who donated prizes and bought tickets.

## Governance



### Do you handle human samples for research?

Everyone involved in the handling of human samples for research purposes should be aware of the Human Tissue Act which regulates activities involving the removal, storage, use and disposal of tissue. For further information, and to ensure compliance with the Act please visit the Research and Innovation [website](#), which has links to the Human Tissue Authority website with clear and helpful guidance for staff, donors and the wider public.

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## Engagement



### Creating inclusive research

Are you a researcher, health or social care professional, post-graduate student or public contributor in health and social care? Are you interested in developing your understanding of how considering health inequalities and diversity and inclusion in public involvement, can help in your work?

An NIHR North West workshop on 14 March in Warrington will highlight case studies across the North West where diverse and inclusive approaches to patient and public involvement have been employed. You will also consider how to take health inequalities into account when involving patients and the public. The event is being organised collaboratively by NIHR RDS NW, NIHR INVOLVE and the Public Programmes Team at Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and NIHR CLAHRC NW Coast. [More here](#).

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## Helping patients to find suitable studies

Recruiting patients to trials can be a problem, with researchers often finding it hard to recruit

enough people as quickly as they're needed.

But specialist help is available locally through [Research for the Future](#), which aims to help researchers recruit to time and target by informing its database of volunteers about research studies they are eligible to take part in. The conditions it covers are diabetes, respiratory conditions, kidney disease and heart disease.

For more information or advice contact Katherine Grady, the Research for the Future programme manager: [research.future@srft.nhs.uk](mailto:research.future@srft.nhs.uk).

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## Funding



### Refining your Research for Patient Benefit application

The NIHR has recently announced the next call for [RfPB applications](#), including themed calls on the management of chronic pain and improving the outcomes of health and social care for frail people and their carers. MAHSC will be reviewing applications for the 20 March deadline.

The aim of the internal peer review is to enhance the competitiveness of applications from MAHSC members, including Salford Royal, improving quality by providing critical evaluations of applications in final draft stage.

Principal Investigators should work with the Research & Innovation Department to prepare an application. All paperwork, including a completed draft grant application form, should then be submitted electronically to [Adam Reekie](#) no later than 6 February. Anonymised feedback will be sent to the PI no later than 27 February so they can revise the proposal in light of the reviewers' comments.

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## NIHR calls

Current NIHR opportunities include:

- [Researcher-led Public Health research](#), including complex health and care needs in older people, and brain tumours (deadline 12 March)
- [Combination treatment for dementia with Lewy bodies and Parkinson's disease dementia](#) (deadline 3 April)
- [Relapsing polymyalgia rheumatica](#) (deadline 3 April)
- [Blood pressure management in critically ill children](#) (deadline 3 April).

Visit the [NIHR website](#) for details of all current funding and support calls.

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## Thinking of applying for a basic science fellowship?

This workshop from The University of Manchester's Fellowship Academy will see PIs, current award holders and funder representatives giving advice on specific calls and applications:

- MRC - Career Development Award (April and September deadlines)
- Wellcome - Sir Henry Wellcome ((May & October preliminary deadlines); Sir Henry Dale (April, August and November preliminary deadlines)
- BBSRC - Future Leaders, David Phillips (May deadlines)

It's on 13 February at the Core Technology Facility, Grafton Street. [More here.](#)

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## BMA Foundation Grants

The application process for the BMA Foundation Grants is now open, with a deadline of 1 March. This funding can be held concurrently with other grants. [More here.](#)

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## Training



### New GCP dates for 2019

The dates for Good Clinical Practice (GCP) and GCP refresher courses for 2019 are now available on [our website](#). If your certification is due to expire, please use [this link](#) to confirm your place.

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### Public reviewing

This interactive course for new and experienced reviewers of health and social care research has been produced by a team of public reviewers and patient and public involvement professionals with the NIHR.

It covers reviewing in all contexts for NIHR research funding programmes, plus skills and activities required at different levels and stages of research. It is designed for public contributors who are committee members as well as public reviewers. Researchers may also find it useful when writing research funding applications. [More here.](#)

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## Consent in surgical trials

The NIHR has launched a new course designed to equip researchers with the practical skills to recruit patients into randomised surgical trials. It focuses on the concept of equipoise and trains participants in how to communicate this uncertainty to patients and the need to assess it within a trial. This means patients will be more likely to understand clinical research and to consent to take part in surgical trials. [More here.](#)

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## Twitter and opinion writing

This is the first in a series of NIHR Manchester BRC digital communication workshops, which will focus on how utilising digital communication tools and channels can improve research dissemination and impact.

This workshop on 15 February at the Nowgen Centre, Manchester, is aimed at those wanting to find out more about how they can use Twitter and online opinion writing platforms, to share their research with a wider audience and facilitate discussion and debate. [More here.](#)

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## Events



[Living Beyond Cancer.](#) This RCPE Manchester symposium will look at optimising the quality of life of patients treated for cancer and explore opportunities for future research. It's on 5 February at The University of Manchester.

[Delivering best practice in stroke management.](#) Salford Royal's 3rd stroke study day takes place on 7 February, 9am-4.30pm. Topics include MR brain imaging for beginners, mechanical thrombectomy, dissection and stroke, and intracranial arterial disease.

[World Healthcare Congress Europe 2019.](#) This inaugural conference will showcase new models of global collaboration centred around three themes demonstrating Manchester's leading role in pioneering new approaches to healthcare - personalised healthcare, arts for health and wellbeing, and innovative health and social care ecosystems. It runs from 5-7 March at Manchester Central.

[Phase 1: Where science becomes medicine.](#) The Manchester Cancer Research Centre and the Experimental Cancer Medicine Centres network will host this three-day conference in Manchester city centre from 14-16 July. Keynote speakers include Lillian Siu (Princess Margaret Hospital, Toronto) and Skip Burris (Sarah Cannon Research Institute, Nashville).

[International Congress on Radiation Research.](#) This 16th international conference will facilitate the development of multidisciplinary collaboration and interaction. It runs from 25-29 August at Manchester Central.

## Vacancies



- [Senior Clinical Fellow – Manchester Spinal Fellowship](#), based Salford (closes 18 January)
- [Junior registrar - orthopaedic surgery](#), based North Manchester (closes 23 January)
- [Senior clinical fellow - upper GI and bariatric surgery](#), based Salford (closes 28 January)
- [Diabetes and endocrinology consultant](#), based North Manchester (closes 3 February)
- [Senior clinical fellow - urology](#), based Salford (closes 5 February)
- [Consultant in gastroenterology \(hepatology\)](#), based Salford (closes 10 February)
- [Senior clinical fellow - skull base neurosurgery](#), based Salford (closes 11 February)
- [Senior clinical fellow - advanced training programme in clinical nutrition and intestinal failure](#), based Salford (closes 14 February)

Please visit the [NHS Jobs](#) website for all internal or external vacancies.

## Publications



- Fowz Azhar, James Dyer, Laurence Clarke: [Is it necessary to use forced air warming in core endourological procedures where warmed intravenous and irrigation fluids are routinely used?](#) (Journal of Clinical Urology).
- Adam Daunton, Matthew Harries: [Efficacy of topical dithranol \(Dithrocream®\) in the treatment of alopecia areata: A retrospective case series](#) (British Journal of Dermatology).
- Matthew Parry, Arunan Sujenthiran, Thomas Cowling, Julie Nossiter, Paul Cathcart, Ajay Aggarwal, Noel Clarke, Heather Payne, Jan van der Meulen: [Impact of cancer service centralisation on the radical treatment of men with high-risk and locally advanced prostate cancer: A national cross-sectional analysis in England](#) (International Journal of Cancer).
- Sonali Wijetilleka, David Jayne, Chetan Mukhtyar, Aftab Ala, Philip Bright, Hector Chinoy, Louise Oni, Fiona Price-Kuehne, Alan Salama, Sarita Workman, David Wrench, Mohammed Karim, et al: [Recommendations for the management of secondary hypogammaglobulinaemia due to B cell targeted therapies in autoimmune rheumatic diseases](#) (Rheumatology).
- Daniel Horner, Abdullah Pandor, Steve Goodacre, Mark Clowes, Beverley Hunt: [Individual risk factors predictive of venous thromboembolism with temporary lower limb immobilisation due to injury: A systematic review](#) (Journal of Thrombosis and Haemostasis).
- Emir Battaloglu, Marisol Iniguez, Fiona Lecky, Keith Porter: [Incidence of combined burns and major trauma in England and Wales](#) (Trauma).
- John Hughes, Darren Green, Diana Chiu, Nik Abidin, Philip Kalra: [The association of echocardiographic peak systolic strain rate with cardiovascular outcomes in haemodialysis patients](#) (Kidney & Blood Pressure Research).
- Christopher Battersby, Nick Battersby, Dominic Slade, Mattias Soop, Ciaran Walsh:

- [Preoperative mechanical and oral antibiotic bowel preparation to reduce infectious complications of colorectal surgery – the need for updated guidelines](#) (Journal of Hospital Infection).
- Nicholas Cross, Yvette Hoade, William Tapper, Gonzalo Carreno-Tarragona, Tiziana Fanelli, Catherine Cargo, Paul Evans, Kavita Patel, Rowena Thomas-Dewing, Simon Watt, Andrew Chase, et al: [Recurrent activating STAT5B N642H mutation in myeloid neoplasms with eosinophilia](#) (Leukemia).
  - Bruce Strober, Joelle van der Walt, April Armstrong, Marc Bourcier, Anrde Carvalho, Edgarda Chouela, Elise Kleyn, Helen Young, Alexa Kimball, et al: [Clinical goals and barriers to effective psoriasis care](#) (Dermatology and Therapy).
  - Joel Handley, Hedley Emsley: [Validation of ICD-10 codes shows intracranial venous thrombosis incidence to be higher than previously reported](#) (Health Information Management Journal).
  - Emil Salmo, Najib Haboubi: [Adenoma and malignant colorectal polyp: Pathological considerations and clinical applications](#) (EMJ Gastroenterology).
  - George Markose, Richard Graham, Robert Woodward, Hany Nasry, Ewen Thomson: [Modified tie-over technique for lingual sulcoplasty \(vestibuloplasty\)](#) (British Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery).
  - Philip McHale, Daniel Hungerford, David Taylor-Robinson, Thomas Lawrence, Timothy Astles, Ben Morton: [Socioeconomic status and 30-day mortality after minor and major trauma: A retrospective analysis of the Trauma Audit and Research Network \(TARN\) dataset for England](#) (PLOS One).
  - Andrea Gingerich, Edward Schokking, Peter Yeates: [Comparatively salient: Examining the influence of preceding performances on assessors' focus and interpretations in written assessment comments](#) (Advances in Health Sciences Education).
  - Marco Lenti, Scott Levison, Elena Eliadou, Robert Willert, Karen Kemp, Anna Carter, Catherine Stansfield, Arash Assadsangabi, Salil Singh, Ben Crooks, Suzanne Tattersall, Francesca Fairhurst, Catherine Kenneth, Sreedhar Subramanian, Chris Probert, Danielle Storey, Belle Gregg, Paul Smith, Eleanor Liu, Jimmy Limdi, Alex Johnston, Peter Hamlin, Christian Selinger: [A real-world, long-term experience on effectiveness and safety of vedolizumab in adult patients with inflammatory bowel disease: The Cross Pennine study](#) (Digestive and Liver Disease).
  - Sarah Kitson, Zoe Maskell, Vanitha Sivalingam, Jennifer Allen, Saad Ali, Sean Burns, Kyle Gilmour, Rahamatulla Latheef, Richard Slade, Phil Pemberton, Joe Shaw, David Ryder, Henry Kitchener, Emma Crosbie: [PRE-surgical Metformin In Uterine Malignancy \(PREMIUM\): A multi-center, randomized double-blind, placebo-controlled phase 3 trial](#) (Clinical Cancer Research).
  - Hazel Roddam, David Rog, Jessie Janssen, Neil Wilson, Lucy Cross, Olufemi Olajide, Paola Dey: [Inequalities in access to health and social care among adults with multiple sclerosis: A scoping review of the literature](#) (Multiple Sclerosis and Related Disorders).
  - British Inherited Metabolic Diseases Group Dietitians Group, Sharon Evans, Suzanne Ford, Diane Green, Emma Simpson, Karen van Wyk, Fiona White, Anita MacDonald, et al: [Development of national consensus statements on food labelling interpretation and protein allocation in a low phenylalanine diet for PKU](#) (Orphanet Journal of Rare Diseases).
  - Emma Patchwood, Katy Rothwell, Sarah Rhodes, Evridiki Batistatou, Kate Woodward-Nutt, Yiu-Shing Lau, Gunn Grande, Gail Ewing, Audrey Bowen: [Organising Support for](#)

- [Carers of Stroke Survivors \(OSCARSS\): Study protocol for a cluster randomised controlled trial, including health economic analysis](#) (BMC Trials).
- Andrew Currie, Mattias Soop, Nicolas Demartines, Kenneth Fearon, Robin Kennedy, Olle Ljungqvist: [Enhanced recovery after surgery interactive audit system: 10 years' experience with an international web-based clinical and research perioperative care database](#) (Clinics in Colon and Rectal Surgery).
  - Emil Salmo, Najib Haboubi: [Lymph node status in colorectal cancer: Is there a case for auditing the pathologist and the surgeon?](#) (Annals of Colorectal Research).
  - Gillian Rawlinson: [Health promotion in physiotherapy services using NHS health and diabetes checks](#) (British Journal of Healthcare Management).

Journal articles are available through the [Library Service](#), details and links to e-journals are available through the [online library catalogue](#).

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## How to submit an article

The Research and Innovation bulletin is published on the third Wednesday of each month.

Please submit articles to [Claire Mooney](#) by noon on the preceding Monday.

An archive of previous editions is available online at [www.NCAresearch.org.uk](http://www.NCAresearch.org.uk)

Research and Innovation is part of the [Northern Care Alliance NHS Group](#), comprising [Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust](#) and [The Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust](#).



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Information for R&I staff

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