

### OUR RESEARCH THEMES:

Patient Experiences and  
Involvement

Patient Reported  
Outcomes

Translating Knowledge  
into Practice

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Website address:

<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/shss/rcn>

## Recent highlights from our research:

### The FIRE Study (Facilitating Implementation of Research Evidence)

A major success for the RCN Research Institute is a grant of 3 million euros from the European Commission EU FP7 to examine the use of facilitation as a way of improving the use of evidence in practice.

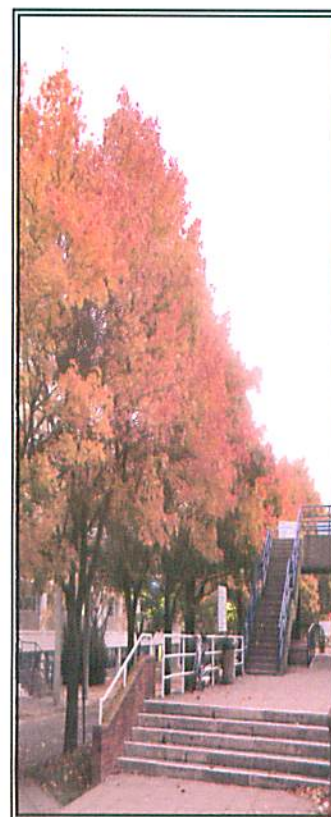
This is a joint study co-ordinated by Professor Kate Seers, with Dr Gill Harvey, Manchester Business School; Professor Jo Rycroft-Malone, Bangor University; Professor Brendan McCormack, University of Ulster; Dr Lars Wallin, Karolinska Institute, Sweden; Dr Geraldine McCarthy, University College Cork, Ireland; Prof Carole Estabrooks, University of Alberta, Canada; Dr Angie Titchen

and Dr Karen Cox, Fontys University, Netherlands.

The study will explore different styles of facilitation using a randomised controlled trial alongside qualitative data to implement continence guidelines.

The study is based on the PARIHS framework, (Promoting Action on Research Implementation in Health Services) and the study starts in January 2009.

**This is a great opportunity for us to work collaboratively at an international level.**



## Urgent and Emergency Care in Diabetes

Kate Seers and Natasha Posner, with colleagues in London and the University of Ulster, have been successful in gaining funding for a study of the perspectives and pathways to urgent care of people with diabetes (Types 1 and 2). The 26 month project has a grant of £224,781 from the NIHR Research for Patient Benefit programme, and is being conducted in

association with Barts and the London Hospital Trust on two sites: The Royal London Hospital in East London, and Altnagelvin Hospital in Derry, Northern Ireland. The research will use semi-structured interviews and an explanatory models framework to investigate accounts of urgent/emergency care from the viewpoints of diabetic

patients and health care practitioners, as well as using focus groups with people concerned with diabetes care to map existing resources for urgent care needs and possible barriers to access. A working group including local stakeholders will examine the evidence collected to plan further developments.



“Even straight forward guideline recommendations are a challenge in complex organisations”

“Hope is both the fuel and catalyst for recovery” staff participant



Eynsham Hall, Oxford

## POISE: Perioperative fasting guideline

POISE (Peri-operative fasting guideline implementation study evaluation project) is coming to the end of its final data collection phase.

The aim of this study is to evaluate the effectiveness of three different implementation strategies using the RCN peri-operative fasting guideline. The 3 different strategies are: standard dissemination, opinion leader with web based

education tool and a quality improvement cycle (Plan Do Study Act).

The study is based on the PARIHS framework and funded by the Health Foundation. Nineteen Trusts across the four countries have been involved from the outset. Data has been gathered on fasting times, patients' experiences using surveys and interviews, change agents experiences and surveys of the

organisation.

The educational web tool devised by the RCN on peri-operative fasting is now available on the RCN web site at [www.rcn.org.uk/development/practices/per-operative\\_fasting](http://www.rcn.org.uk/development/practices/per-operative_fasting).

## Hope: patient and staff views

This study is a collaboration between Debbie Langstaff, Trauma Unit, John Radcliffe Hospital, Liz Tutton who works across both the Trauma unit and RCNRI and Kate Seers. The study explores patient and staff experiences of hope on two different units, a trauma unit and a stroke unit.

Data collection for this study is now complete and analysis is underway. The study used a qualitative approach using interviews and observation with both staff and patients.

Hope is an important concept as it focuses on how people move forward in life in spite of injury and illness.

Understanding what it means to patients and staff can help to understand the process of recovery and the potential for therapeutic interactions with staff.

An interesting dialogue is emerging about 'realistic hopefulness' and how this is used by staff as an emotional and practical tool to guide practice.

## Involvement in research

The RCN Research Institute enjoyed a research away day in the lovely surroundings of Eynsham Hall (*photo left*).

The day focused on developing a strategy for getting the right people involved in research.

Drawing on experiences the team examined the nature of involvement in research around topics such as stakeholders, degree of involvement, ways of working together, facilitators, inhibitors of involvement and ways forward.

At the end of the day we had a clearer understanding of how we are going to move forward in this area.



## PhD Students

The RCN Research Institute has 7 PhD students at the University of Warwick and 4 who remained with the University of Manchester.

The students are all at varying stages of the PhD process with several nearing completion.

The topics they are researching are all related to health and many focus specifically on nursing practice.

Topics include disclosure in long term conditions, an

ethnography of a diabetes clinic, a review of the qualitative literature on falls, patients and staff experiences of technology in critical care settings, patients' perspectives of safety, infection control, pain, inter-professional communication regarding critical events in acute care, systems for emergency planning.

In joining with the School of Health and Social Studies we are now part of a vibrant student research community

which has many opportunities for learning.

If you are interested in undertaking a PhD with the RCN Research Institute, please contact: Kate Seers, [kate.seers@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:kate.seers@warwick.ac.uk)

*"A better understanding of patient important outcomes will help patients clinicians and researchers"*

## Outcomes in clinical research - whose responsibility?

Challenges to including the patient's voice in healthcare assessment include identifying patient important outcomes and the most credible methods of assessment.

The James Lind Alliance, Royal College of Nursing Research Institute and the Social Sciences Research Unit are hosting a joint conference to promote debate about the role of patients, clinicians and researchers in determining clinical research outcomes.

The conference will seek ways of how best to progress patient and public engagement in influencing clinical research outcomes and promote a network of researchers, patient groups, clinicians, charities and other health research groups.

Dr Kirstie Haywood, Senior Research Fellow (Patient Reported Outcomes) will deliver the plenary session entitled "Responding to the Patient's Voice: the

importance of Patient Reported Outcomes". During the afternoon several workshops will be convened to further explore issues pertinent to patient reported outcomes (PRO) and patient involvement in PRO-related research: colleagues from the RCNRI (Dr Sophie Staniszewska and Dr Liz Tutton) and the RCNI (Anne Benson and Ann Jackson) will act as facilitators in workshops.

## The Mirror Game

The Mirror Game: changing practice through reflection was a joint conference between IKON Research Unit of Warwick Business School and the RCN Research Institute.

The day brought together researchers and practitioners who were interested in exploring different ways of

facilitating change in organisations.

Kate Seers and Davide Nicolini chaired a day full of international papers covering a range of interventions such as clinics of activity, change laboratories, plus practical examples of change in a variety of organisations.



University of Warwick



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## Selected Recent Publications

**Chandler-Oatts J, Nelstrop L.** (2008) Listening to the voices of African Caribbean mental health service users to develop guideline recommendations on managing violent behaviour. *Diversity in Health and Social Care.* 5(1),31-41

**Haywood, KL Garratt AM Lall R Smith JF Lamb SE** (2008) EuroQol EQ-5D and condition-specific measures of health outcome in women with urinary incontinence: reliability, validity and responsiveness. *Quality of Life Research* 17, 475-483

**Kitson AL, Rycroft-Malone J Harvey G McCormack B Seers K Titchen A** (2008) Evaluating the successful implementation of evidence into practice using the PARiHS framework: theoretical and practical challenges. *Implementation Science* 7 3:1doi:10.1186/1748-5908-3-1

**Seers K, Crichton N, Martin J, Coulson K, Carroll D.** (2008) A randomized controlled trial to assess the effectiveness of a single session of nurse administered massage for short term relief of chronic non-malignant pain. *BMC Nursing.* 7:10doi:10.1186/1472-6955-7-10

**Seers K, Crichton NJ, Tutton, L, Smith L, Saunders T.** (2008) Effectiveness of relaxation for postoperative pain and anxiety: randomised controlled trial. *Journal of Advanced Nursing.* 62 (6),681-688

**Tutton E Seers K & Langstaff D** (2008) Professional nursing culture on a trauma unit: experiences of patients and staff. *Journal of Advanced Nursing.* 61 (2), 145-153