

RCN RESEARCH INSTITUTE

DIRECTOR:

Prof Kate Seers

OUR RESEARCH THEMES:

Patient & Public Involvement

Experience of Health Care

Person Reported Outcomes

Translating Knowledge into Practice

This newsletter presents selected highlights of our research. For details of the full programme please see our website.

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Website address:

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

RCN Research Institute



Newsletter

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New NICE Guidance

New NICE Guidance for Patient Experience

Sophie Staniszewska recently chaired the NICE Guideline Development Group on Patient Experience, published in February this year. This Guidance represents the first of its type and is important in acknowledging the importance of patient experience in providing acceptable, appropriate and effective care.

The Guidance was informed by a range of activities one of which was a scoping study led by Sophie Staniszewska which reviewed patient experience in the clinical area and developed the Warwick Patient Experience Framework.

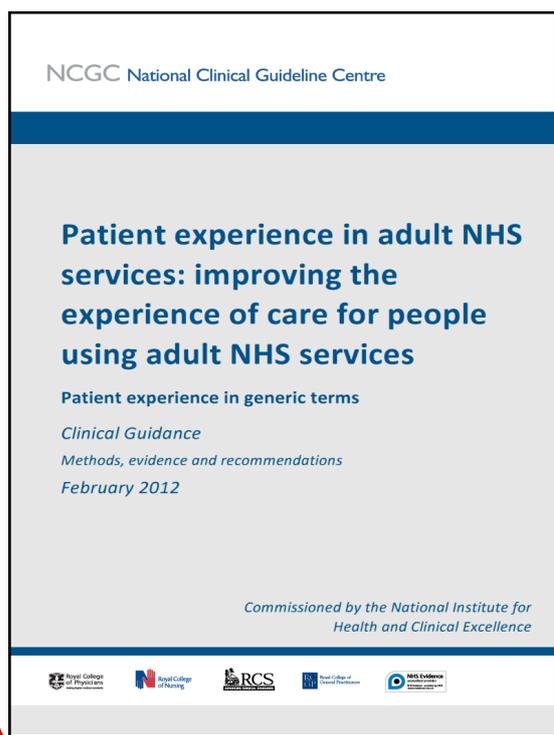
The Guidance, a direct referral from the Department of Health, focuses on generic patient experience and is relevant for all people who use adult NHS services in England and Wales.

The aim of the Guidance is to provide the NHS with clear guidance on the components of a good patient experience. This guidance provides the evidence and the direction for creating sustainable change that will result in an 'NHS cultural shift' towards a truly patient-centred service.

A NICE quality standard for patient experience in adult NHS services was developed alongside this guidance. NICE quality standards are a set of specific, concise statements and associated measures. They set out aspirational, but achievable, markers of high-quality, cost-effective care.

<http://pathways.nice.org.uk/pathways/patient-experience-in-adult-nhs-services>

Please contact **Sophie Staniszewska** if you would like more information on the Warwick Patient Experience Framework.



The work of the RCNRI aims to:

- ▶ Produce high quality research that improves patient care and impacts on policy
- ▶ Increase research capacity within nursing by providing high quality research training
- ▶ Contribute towards the RCN delivering on its strategic objectives

Contact: Kate Seers

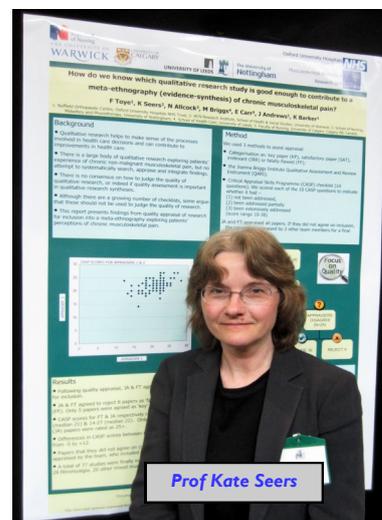
British Pain Society

Poster wins a “Top 5 Best Presented Poster” slot at the British Pain Society Annual Scientific Meeting. Kate Seers and Fran Toye (from the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre in Oxford) and colleagues presented a poster at The British Pain Society on “How do we know which qualitative research study is good enough to contribute to a meta-ethnography (evidence-synthesis) of chronic musculoskeletal pain?”

They showed that checklists do not produce consistent judgements

when assessing qualitative research, but they are testing whether higher scoring papers will make a more meaningful contribution to the meta-ethnography.

This poster is based on a National Institute of Health funded meta-ethnography (systematic review of qualitative research evidence) on chronic musculoskeletal pain. This study will be completed in November this year, and will feature in a future newsletter.



Fatigue and Ankylosing Spondylitis

Fatigue and Ankylosing Spondylitis (AS): the importance of assessing frequency and severity.

Reference: Haywood KL, Packham JC, Jordan KP. (2012) Assessing Fatigue in Ankylosing Spondylitis (AS): the importance of frequency and severity. British Society of Rheumatology, Spring Conference, Abstract 101.

A successful collaboration between the RCNRI, the Arthritis Research UK Primary Care Centre at Keele University, and the Staffordshire Rheumatology Centre, led by Kirstie Haywood, Senior Research Fellow at the RCNRI has provided guidance to improve fatigue assessment in patients with Ankylosing Spondylitis (AS).

Dr Haywood presented the results of a study exploring the value of assessing fatigue frequency, and its relationship with fatigue severity at the British Society of Rheumatology’s Spring Conference held in Glasgow at the beginning of May 2012.

Participants in a UK-wide survey completed a questionnaire containing AS-specific and generic measures at baseline and 6 months [2]. Single-items taken from the EASi-QoL [2] and the BASDAI [1] were used to measure fatigue frequency and severity, respectively.

Respondents were grouped according to score cut-off points to reflect: no fatigue, frequent not severe, severe not frequent, or frequent and severe fatigue. Up to 74% of baseline responders experienced fatigue (n=451/611). Of these, 75% reported frequent and severe, 15% frequent not severe, and 10% severe not frequent fatigue. There was no difference between groups on gender, age, or years with AS.

As hypothesised, patients reporting frequent and severe fatigue had worse scores than other groups across all AS-specific and generic PROMs. However, patients reporting only frequent fatigue had similar scores to those reporting only severe fatigue but

worse than those without fatigue.

At the 6-month follow-up, the majority (81%) of non-fatigued patients and those with frequent and severe fatigue (79%) at baseline did not change their fatigue level. However, the majority of patients with frequent or severe fatigue at baseline changed (80%), mainly to no fatigue (43%) or to both frequent and severe fatigue (30%).

The results of this study suggest that routinely assessing both frequency and severity of fatigue are important in understanding the impact of fatigue and its change over time. Not assessing frequency could result in the failure to identify patients with significant fatigue. However, the multi-dimensional nature of fatigue should be further explored in AS to identify the most appropriate and acceptable method of assessment.

Contact: Kirstie Haywood

Cochrane Methods

In March, Jackie Chandler visited the RCNRI to present a seminar on her work as Methods

Co-ordinator at the Cochrane Collaboration.



Left to right: Kirstie Haywood, Carole Mockford, Sophie Staniszewska, Jackie Chandler, Kate Seers, Jo Brett, Liz Tutton

The RCN Research Institute, within the School of Health and Social Studies, at the University of Warwick, provides a vibrant student research community.

If you are interested in undertaking a PhD, part time or full time, please contact:

Prof Kate Seers.

Principles of Nursing Practice

RCN West Midlands Event “Principles of Nursing Practice”

Sophie Staniszewska presented the NICE Guidance on Patient Experience at an RCN West Midlands Regional event which focused on the RCN Principles of Nursing Practice. Sophie presented the NICE Patient Experience Guidance and mapped it across to the key themes within the RCN Principles of Nursing Practice.

Key areas of overlap were identified and participants considered how the RCN Principles of Nursing Practice and the NICE Guidance can inform their own practice.

The RCN President, Andrea Spyropoulos, attended the event and the participants generated a wide range of discussions about high quality care.

Contact: Sophie Staniszewska



Left to right: Yvonne Sawbridge, Linda Watterson, Andrea Spyropoulos, Jenny Gordon, Alison Warren, Paul Vaughan, Sophie Staniszewska

RCN Research Conference 2012

The RCN 2012 International Research conference was held in London this year. Seven staff from the RCN Research Unit attended and presented papers on their on-going research. The papers were: How well are we measuring patient-centred outcomes following traumatic hip fracture? A systematic review of patient-reported outcome measures (PROMS) by Kirstie Haywood; The HipEx study- Patient experiences of hip fracture: a

systematic review of qualitative evidence by Jo Brett; The role of family members in diabetes self-care and diabetic crises by Lee Gunn; The GRIPP 2 checklist: enhancing the quality and transparency of patient and public involvement reporting by Sophie Staniszewska; Methodological issues of research with frail older people by Liz Tutton.

Contact: Liz Tutton



Left to right: Dr Liz Tutton, Dr Sophie Staniszewska

Barbers' Company Scholarship 2012

The 2012 awards for the Barbers' Company Clinical Nursing Scholarship were made on 2nd May. Six out of 83 applicants were awarded funding for the next academic year to cover their fees and subsistence whilst undertaking their studies or research. The scholarship is specifically intended for nurses in, or planning to return to,

clinical practice. The Scholarship funding of £7,500 is awarded annually by the Worshipful Company of Barbers, one of the City of London's ancient livery companies.

Contact: Paul Kent



Left to right:
Dr Jeremy Bolton, Prof Kate Seers, Prof Claire Hale

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