



Wales Equality and Diversity in Health and Social  
Care Research and Support Service

Gwasanaeth Cydraddoldeb ac Amrywioldeb Cymru mewn  
Cefnogi Iechyd ac Ymchwil Gofal Cymdeithasol

## Research Bulletin 6 September 2008

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### RESEARCH NEWS & INFORMATION

#### **New resources launched by the Language Awareness Infrastructure Support Service (LLAIS)**

The overall mission of LLAIS is to ensure that health and social care research in Wales takes full account of the bilingual nature of Wales and its speakers; and to enhance the delivery of health and social care services to Welsh speakers in Wales. The resources: A series of six leaflets aimed at the research community that demonstrates the importance of language choice when planning health and social care research. This resource may be useful to those working in other languages. For more information about LLAIS see [www.llais.org](http://www.llais.org) or contact [llais@bangor.ac.uk](mailto:llais@bangor.ac.uk).

#### **Spotlight on Sickle cell disorder - *A foundation for future action***

This item has been taken from the Ethnicity and Health Specialist Library, a site that is making accessible all the best currently available electronic evidence relating to health care for minority ethnic groups in Britain. Karl Atkin, Chair of Public Outreach Committee, National Screening Programme for Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia Disorders, is the author. To access the references, visit the SLEH webpage: <http://www.library.nhs.uk/ethnicity/viewResource.aspx?resid=289324&code=5de9fb73f74eddee18f8467b7b6c4fda> .

July is **Sickle Cell Awareness Month** and offers an excellent opportunity to reflect on the growing evidence base that now exists, on which to base service support. Little more than 20 years ago, sickle cell disorder could be dismissed as an exotic condition, of little interest to the National Health Service. It is now recognised as one of the most common genetic disorders in the UK, irrespective of ethnic origin, with at least 12,000 people affected by the condition.

### **Strands of literature**

Three distinct bodies of literature have emerged. First, there is interest in screening issues and identifying those at risk of sickle cell disorder [**refs 1, 2**]. This has assumed considerable significance in the UK, with the implementation of an antenatal and neonatal sickle cell screening programme [**refs 3, 4**]. Second, there is a long-standing collection of literature on the clinical outcomes of sickle cell disorder [**refs 5, 6**], supplemented by an increasing interest in the social consequences of living with the condition and a commitment to improving sufferers' quality of life [**ref 7**]. Third, there is a growing concern with how health care professionals and NHS organizations can best provide accessible and appropriate services [**refs 8, 9**], while also recognising the important role of social care agencies, education, benefit advice and employment support in helping those with the condition and their families [**ref 10**].

This third strand of literature is perhaps what should interest us most, and although the NHS has been slow in responding to the needs of those with sickle cell disorder, and service support remains patchy, there are many examples of innovative, sensitive and empowering provision, which could help inform service delivery more generally. This is the next challenge facing those responsible for managing and delivering service support to those who suffer from sickle cell disorder. Nonetheless, the achievements (and struggles) of the past, provide an excellent foundation for future action.

## **NEWS FROM SCOTLAND**

### **The Equalities & Planning Directorate (EPD)**

The former National Resource Centre for Ethnic Minority Health was absorbed into a new Equalities & Planning Directorate on 1 April 2008. Their resources and guidance are currently available through interim web pages at

<http://www.healthscotland.com/about/equalities/index.aspx>

### **Research Report - Scoping exercise with Black and minority ethnic groups on perceptions of mental wellbeing in Scotland**

NHS Health Scotland commissioned the University of Central Lancashire to undertake a brief scoping exercise looking at conceptualisations of mental wellbeing with Scottish Pakistani and Chinese communities in early 2008. The full report contains the results of a brief literature review and interviews with around 40 key informants from these communities. Conceptualisations of mental wellbeing is a complex area and this scoping exercise is intended only to provide an overview of research in this area and an analysis of the perspectives of a sample of key informants working with and in these two communities. It represents a first stage in developing our understanding of this area and should be read with this in mind. Nonetheless, we hope that you find it informative and interesting. You will find the full report at:

<http://www.healthscotland.com/documents/2803.aspx>

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## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### JOSEPH ROWNTREE FOUNDATION: NEW INSIGHTS AND INNOVATION

Closing date: 5pm on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2008 (for outline proposals).

Budget: £100k

The Foundation is inviting ideas for proposals addressing areas within the broad remit of the Foundation. We are seeking projects with a clear element of originality, not routine research nor repetition of existing research.

Proposals must have relevance to our mission to 'search, demonstrate and influence, providing evidence, solutions and ideas that will help to overcome the causes of poverty, disadvantage and social evil' and be within one or more of our overarching aims:

- Poverty: to examine the root causes of poverty and disadvantage and identify solutions
- Empowerment: to identify ways of enabling people and communities to have control of their own lives
- Place: to contribute to the building and development of strong, cohesive and sustainable communities

JRF's remit is UK wide and we are interested in all four countries of the UK and their different approaches to policy and practice.

Full URL: <http://www.jrf.org.uk/research-funding/calls/responsive-mode-funding.asp>

### ESRC LARGE GRANTS SCHEME

Closing date: 14<sup>th</sup> October 2008.

The Council's Research Grants Board is pleased to invite applications under the fourth round of The Large Grant Scheme. The Scheme is designed to provide for experienced researchers requiring longer term or extended support for research groups, inter-institutional research networks, linked-project programmes, medium-to-large surveys, other infrastructure or methodological developments, or any related larger scale projects where funding above the standard research grant of £1.5 million, and up to £5 million at 100% in full economic costs is required.

The scheme is open to all academic staff of Research Organisations. The Principal and primary Co-Investigators for such grants are likely to be experienced researchers with already established national and international publications and recognition in their field of study. Applications may be up to five years in length, above £1,500,000, and up to £5,000,000 in cost at 100% of full economic costs. These limits are set in terms of the full economic cost (FEC) of the grant as estimated using the new FEC procedures. ESRC will, with agreed exceptions, only fund 80% of this cost, and the balance must be guaranteed by the Research Organisation.

Further information:

[http://www.esrc.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/opportunities/current\\_funding\\_opportunities/largegrants2007.aspx?ComponentId=20903&SourcePageId=5964#0](http://www.esrc.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/opportunities/current_funding_opportunities/largegrants2007.aspx?ComponentId=20903&SourcePageId=5964#0)

## **THE WEDHS Joint Initiative Funding Scheme**

Closing date: 20<sup>th</sup> October 2008

The Wales Equality and Diversity in Health and Social Care Research and Support Service (WEDHS) offers a way to improve the health and wellbeing of black and minority ethnic (BME) people in Wales through an innovative programme of research and development. WEDHS has established the Joint Initiative Funding Scheme (JIFS) to strengthen the ability of voluntary and community groups to carry out activities that enhance the health and well-being of BME people in Wales. The Scheme will also allow for regional research and support priorities to be addressed in collaboration with the WEDHS Regional Hubs. These funds are available for health-related activities that focus specifically on BME patients, service users and community groups. We can only fund health-related events and activities undertaken by members of a community group or voluntary organisation which has a health or social care/welfare remit. To be eligible for funding, the activity must meet the following criteria:

- ❑ Involve BME people at every stage
- ❑ Not be intended to make a profit
- ❑ Be undertaken as a group (individuals can submit an application on behalf of the group)
- ❑ Be based inside Wales

- Be at the planning stage i.e. you will need to apply for funding before spending or committing any money to the project.

Detailed information on the scheme and application forms can be downloaded from our website

<http://www.wedhs.org.uk/how%20we%20work/joint.php>

**The Physical Activity Fund (a Sports Council for Wales and Communities First, Ethnic Minority Communities Local Partnership Group initiative)**

Closing date: 30<sup>th</sup> September 2008

This small grant scheme aims to help break down barriers to participation in healthy activities. We are particularly seeking to support applications from individuals and small groups/organisations delivering activities with intergenerational and/or older groups from ethnic minority communities.

Imaginative proposals will also be supported. Applications will only be considered for activities delivered for the benefit of minority ethnic people and communities living in Cardiff.

If you wish to apply or want more information, please contact Tony Hendrickson by telephone on 029 2087 3560 or by email [emc-communitiesfirst@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:emc-communitiesfirst@cardiff.gov.uk).

**British Academy Research Development Awards**

Closing date: 1st December 2008

The British Academy has issued a new call for applications for the British Academy Research Development Awards (BARDA) scheme. The purpose of these awards is to enable established scholars to develop a significant research project. Applications are particularly encouraged from scholars who can demonstrate that they are developing an innovative line of research, with the potential to make a significant difference to their field and to their career profile. Awards are tenable for up to three years. Scheme link: British Academy Research Development Awards

<http://fundingmatters.weblog.glam.ac.uk/2008/8/20/british-academy-research-development-awards-2>

## EVENTS

### **Living and Working with Sickle Cell or Thalassaemia Workshop Tuesday, 23rd September 2008 at the Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff Bay (1:00 pm - 5 pm)**

This half- day workshop is for service users and their carers, health care/clinical scientists, health visitors, midwives, nurses, academics and community health workers. The objectives of the workshop are to provide:

To provide:

- An opportunity to listen to the views, and learn from the experiences, of people affected by these disorders;
- A *forum* in which to provide information, research findings and best practice guidance to those working or living with sickle cell or thalassaemia in Wales;
- A *network opportunity* for people to meet and discuss how to improve the quality of genetic services in Wales and beyond.

Please note that there will be a limited number of places available so please register as soon as possible. The leaflet and booking can be downloaded from here:.

Contact Dr Roiyah Saltus if you have any questions by email, [rsaltus@glam.ac.uk](mailto:rsaltus@glam.ac.uk), or by telephone on 01443 483194. Full details and the booking form can be found on the WEDHS website: [www.wedhs.org.uk](http://www.wedhs.org.uk).

Closing date for registration: **19 September 2008**

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Lecturer (Level 8 or 9 Salary £29,138 to £41,545 per annum)  
Social Work and Social Care, School of Human Sciences, Swansea  
University

We seek to appoint a Lecturer who can contribute to all aspects of teaching and mentoring students on the social work programme and

further strengthen the School's Research port folio. This post offers an exciting opportunity to join a multidisciplinary School with a strong interest in undergraduate and post graduate teaching and research in social work, gerontology, childhood studies, criminology, psychology and sports sciences. The social work programme works closely with its five local authority partners and is committed to the development of social work practitioners able to respond to the developments in and demands of contemporary social work in Wales.

Informal enquiries are welcome and may be made to Prof Peter Huxley (P.J.Huxley@swansea.ac.uk) or Dr. Reima Ana Maglajlic Holicek (R.A.Maglajlic-Holicek@swansea.ac.uk tel. +44 (0)1792 602 732. For further information visit the Job.ac.uk website: <http://www.jobs.ac.uk/jobs/BM785/Lecturer>.

### **Acknowledgements**

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To find out more about WEDHS, visit our website at [www.wedhs.org.uk](http://www.wedhs.org.uk). Please contact Dr Susanah Kimani ([skimani@glam.ac.uk](mailto:skimani@glam.ac.uk)) if you wish to include an item in the next Bulletin.

