



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 8 November 2008

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WEDHS News

WEDHS is delighted to be part of two recently funded research projects looking at BME Health & Well-being as follows:

1) Migration, Nutrition, and Ageing in Bangladeshi Families

The West Wales hub of WEDHS is collaborating in an exciting new project funded by NDA on "*Migration, Nutrition, and Ageing across the Life course in Bangladeshi Families: A Transnational Perspective (MINA)*". Prof J Thompson, Bristol University is leading the project and Prof J Merrell (WEDHS, Swansea University (Co-applicant)). The study seeks to explore if migration impacts on nutritional status, food practices and health among first generation Bangladeshi women over 50 and if so how does migration affect change over the lifespan of these first generation women; and affect change in successive generations living in the UK.

2) Obesity in children of South Asian ancestry in Wales

WEDHS (Dr Susanah Kimani, central office) will co-supervise Mphil research in collaboration with the Sports & Exercise team, University of Glamorgan on "*obesity and associated health indicators in 11 to 16-year children of South Asian ancestry in Wales*". This study aims to collect preliminary data that will be used for further hypothesis generation and as a background for larger external grant applications. The research will consider the validity of simple measures of obesity (BMI and waist girth) in a young South Asian population with the ultimate aim of establishing more precise cut-off points for overweight and obesity for this population

group. We also hope to establish the prevalence of the paediatric metabolic syndrome in this group and compare the relationship between body fatness, aerobic fitness and cardiovascular risk factors in Caucasian and South Asian children and describe the relationship between arterial stiffness and obesity, metabolic syndrome, demographic and 'lifestyle' factors in South Asian children.

WEDHS-Africa link: strengthening Research Capacity in Africa

Professor George Karani of WEDHS (South East Wales hub, UWIC) travelled to West, East and Southern Africa to explore, establish and strengthen links with universities with the aim of establishing a consortium for "*Strengthening Institutional and Research Capacity in health and Environmental Issues in Africa*". The Capacity Building consortium aims to enhance the capabilities of selected developing and developed institutions in Africa, for research and training in health and environment to promote the development and utilisation of sustainable management strategies. The consortium has agreed to collaborate in the following areas of research; waste management, indoor pollution, environment and health, including climate change, among others. During his tour he presented lectures on; pollution monitoring, pollution and health and environmental health. He also presented seminars on '*Importance of Research and Waste Management* '

Research News & Information

[Visit SLEH Knowledge Week Pages for National Knowledge Weeks - Focus on Ethnicity and Health](#)

National Knowledge Weeks are a National Library for Health information initiative designed to provide the busy health professional with an annual update on the recent evidence in a current health topic. The Specialist Library for Ethnicity and Health (SLEH) presents its National Knowledge Week October 20th - 24th.

Topic updates covered in the week will include **Ethnic Minority Populations** and...

- Commissioning & Ethnic Monitoring Data
- Oral Health/Oral Cancer
- Cardiovascular Disease
- Type 2 Diabetes and Obesity
- Renal Transplantation
- Suicide and Self-harm

- Learning Difficulties

SLEH updates consist of evidence selected using rigorous criteria and organised on the basis of hot topics suggested by acknowledged experts. Each topic update contains links to evidence, guidelines and patient information. This is presented with user-friendly summaries written by experts. The knowledge week can be found in the Specialist Library for Ethnicity and Health (SLEH):

<http://www.library.nhs.uk/ethnicity/>

Research Development Groups (RDG) at PHIRN (Health Improvement Research Network).

RDG develop out of individuals collaborating to develop a research funding proposal. If you are interested in becoming involved in any of the research development groups below or for further information about the RDG please visit the PHIRN website: <http://www.phirn.org.uk>

1. The use of ICT to promote children's physical activity and harness related attitudes and ideas about it.
2. Understanding Individual behaviour - and ecological approach to researching risky behaviours in young people?
3. Evidence-based practice - how is research evidence used to inform policy related decision making related to well-being in young people (interested in both public health and educational policy)?
4. Effectiveness of a school-based counselling service in promoting good mental health and a positive school ethos?
5. What is the impact of leadership quality on school ethos and implementation/ outcome of health promotion?
6. Exploring teaching styles in secondary education and their effect?
7. Whole school approach to promoting health and well-being
8. Resources invested and health outcome, following health promotion interventions i.e. healthy schools.
9. Links between health outcomes and educational attainment, attitudes and behaviour (Healthy Schools)

Funding Opportunities

Wellcome Trust: Engaging Science: People Awards

Applications using Wellcome Trust template to post in hard copy. Up to £30 000, for projects lasting a maximum of three years. Deadline: 9th January 2009

Award outline:

People Awards enable you to explore the impact of biomedical science on society, its historical roots, effects on different cultures, or the ethical questions that it brings, by supporting activities such as events, debates, exhibitions, art projects and drama productions related to biomedical science.

People Awards support projects that aim to achieve at least one of the following:

- * stimulate interest, excitement and debate about biomedical science through various methods
- * support formal and informal learning about biomedical science
- * reach new audiences not normally engaged with biomedical science, as well as continuing to target existing audiences
- * examine the social, cultural, historical and ethical impact of biomedical science
- * encourage new ways of thinking about biomedical science
- * encourage high quality interdisciplinary practice and collaborative partnerships
- * investigate and test new methods of engagement, participation and education.

For full details please follow this link:

<http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/Funding/Public-engagement/Grants/People-Awards/>

Wellcome Trust: Clinical Fellowships in Biomedical Ethics

Deadline and application process:

19 June 2009 for full applications (preliminary applications should be submitted at least 6 weeks before)

Preliminary applications should be made in writing and should include:

- the applicant's name and contact details
- the applicant's CV, including publication list
- the sponsor's name and contact details
- the title and a brief project outline (one page maximum)
- approximate costs
- a letter of support from the head of department.

Preliminary applications are reviewed for eligibility and full application forms are sent if eligibility criteria are met. Funding for up to 3 years. The Fellow's salary is provided, plus appropriate employer's contributions. Essential research expenses, including travel and fieldwork, are available, as is a set amount for travel to conferences, seminars and other meetings of a scholarly nature. For full details please follow this link: <http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/Funding/Medical-humanities/Grants/Biomedical-ethics/Fellowships-and-personal-awards/WTX049029.htm>

Wellcome Trust: Public Engagement Awards in the History of Medicine. Deadline: 19 January 2009.

Preliminary applications must be made in writing and submitted at least 6 weeks before full application deadlines. Amounts over £30,000 will be awarded through this scheme. For full details please follow this link: <http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/Funding/Medical-humanities/Grants/History-of-medicine/Public-engagement/WTD003791.htm>

MRC/ESRC Interdisciplinary Post-doctoral Fellowships

The two Councils intend to jointly fund up to 10 post-doctoral fellowships in 2009. The following priority areas have been identified:

- * global mental health and wellbeing
- * addiction
- * disease prevention and health promotion
- * understanding individual behaviour

The MRC will administer the scheme and further details can be found at: Website: <http://snipurl.com/4ezh3> [www.mrc.ac.uk].

Closing date for applications: 14 November 2008.

Government action to fund gaps in health research

A new 5 million GBP research programme which is intended to lead to an increase in service quality and patient safety through better ways of planning and providing health services was announced on 15 September 2008 by Public Health Minister Dawn Primarolo, during a visit to Southampton. The new Health Services Research (HSR) programme will provide funding across the country for a broader range of health services research than is already

covered by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) programmes. These include the Health Technology Assessment programme (HTA), the Service Delivery & Organisation programme (SDO), the Efficacy & Mechanism Evaluation programme (EME), Programme Grants for Applied Research and the Research for Patient Benefit (RfPB) programme.

These programmes are all specialist sub-sets in the field of health services research, which means that some projects may be difficult to fund because they fall outside of established NIHR funding streams, as well as those covered by the Medical Research Council and the Department of Health. The HSR programme will fund research mainly through a researcher-led workstream, whereby grants are provided for both primary and evidence synthesis on topics proposed directly by researchers, on an ongoing basis. The programme may also advertise calls for research proposals on specific topics. The first call for expressions of interest will be taking place in January 2009. For more details and to register your interest visit: <http://www.hsr.nihr.ac.uk>

FUNDING FOR PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PROJECTS

Deadline: 14th November 2008

The Beacon for Wales is seeking applications for funding for small scale projects that will help to embed public engagement into the work of Universities. The first round of funding will be focussed on 14-19 year olds with a theme of 'Our Place in the Future'.

The projects should develop the skills of Schools or Departments to undertake public engagement activities that develop a dialogue between the University and the wider community. The projects can include academic and non-academic staff and students. An application form and guidance notes can be obtained by contacting the Beacon for Wales, beacon@cardiff.ac.uk 029 2087 6414

The Beacon for Wales is funded by HEFCW, RCUK and the Wellcome Trust in order to develop approaches to change the culture in Welsh Universities so that they value and reward public engagement.

MRC/ESRC ADDICTIONS CALL

Deadline: 4pm, 19th November 2008

As the organisation taking the lead in co-ordinating relevant health research in addiction across the public sector, MRC is consulting Government Departments and other stakeholders, for example, the Economic and Social Health Research Council, so that they have an opportunity

to influence the themes underpinning the addiction strategy. This consultation will consider the national priorities in this area, embracing the wider public, societal, health, and safety issues, and consider relevant issues that have arisen in recent reports on addiction and drug use. The involvement of stakeholders is seen as crucial, not only to establish priorities, but to ensure co-ordination between funders and pull-through into policy and practice. For further information please visit:

<http://www.mrc.ac.uk/ApplyingforaGrant/CallsForProposals/Addiction/Addictionstrategy/index.htm>

The Stroke Association New Research Training Fellowships

Please see details below or visit

http://www.stroke.org.uk/research/apply_for_funding/index.html

Junior Research Training Fellowships

1. Junior Research Training Fellowships of £35,000 per year for up to three years. The Fellowships are intended primarily for nurses and therapists to study towards a post graduate qualification relevant to stroke research. Applications from other health professionals may be considered.

Senior Research Training Fellowships

1. **Nurses and Allied Health Professionals:** Senior Research Training Fellowships of £175,000 for three years will be awarded to outstanding postdoctoral candidates from the Nursing or Allied Health Professions, and are intended to enable the Fellow to embark on an independent career in academic stroke research. The purpose of the proposed research project must be directly related to stroke.
2. **Medical Professionals:** Applications are invited for Clinical Research Fellowships, which will be awarded jointly by The Stroke Association and Medical Research Council. Fellowships offer up to three years support, and are intended to provide an opportunity for clinically trained individuals to undertake training in stroke research. Further details to be confirmed.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Research team on 020 7566 0345 if you have any questions

WELSH ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT - NATIONAL SURVEYS SECONDARY ANALYSIS PROGRAMME

Deadline: 12 noon, 5th December 2008

The Office of the Chief Social Research Officer (OCSRO) is inviting proposals under its National Surveys Secondary Analysis Programme. The programme aims to encourage more effective use of survey data for Wales, in particular via comparative analysis of existing national survey sources. To do this the programme will support a number of small scale research projects. A grant of up to £10,000 can be applied for. For more details please contact Gowan Watkins: Gowan.watkins@wales.gsi.gov.uk

FOOD STANDARDS AGENCY - DIET AND CARDIOVASCULAR HEALTH

Deadline: Applicants must submit an agreed outline proposal to the programme adviser prior to submitting a full application; full proposals 5pm, 19th December 2008. The Food Standards Agency invites applications for research into diet and cardiovascular health.

Specifically, proposals are solicited to:

- study the effects of implementing current UK dietary recommendations on cardiovascular disease risk factors and vascular function - N02R0009;
- study the effects of consumption of different types of fruit or vegetables on cardiovascular disease risk factors and vascular function - N02R0010;
- obtain additional and novel policy relevant information using biological samples from completed and ongoing dietary intervention trials funded by FSA under the diet and cardiovascular health research programme - N02R0011.

[http://www.food.gov.uk/aboutus/how we work/procurement/requirements/no2dch](http://www.food.gov.uk/aboutus/how%20we%20work/procurement/requirements/no2dch)

THE NEVILLE BUTLER MEMORIAL PRIZE

Deadline: 31st December 2008

The Neville Butler Memorial Prize is a new award, aimed at promoting early career researchers whose work comprises longitudinal research that both contributes to knowledge in a significant way, but also has evident social value and public relevance. The main factors for setting up the prize are to promote the understanding and importance of longitudinal research within the public domain. The prize will reward and encourage publicly relevant new work grounded in empirical analysis of longitudinal data. Additionally, an important aim is to enhance early career researcher's capacity to communicate their findings to a wider audience. The prize was set up by the Economic and Social Research Council and Longview in honour of the late. Neville Butler, a distinguished

paediatrician and Professor of child health, who was the outstanding international pioneer of life course studies during the second half of the 20th Century. The prize is open to all longitudinal researchers at the early stage of a career within five years completion of a PhD or an equivalent professional qualification or experience, currently engaged in longitudinal research in the UK. All enquiries about the prize should be sent to admin@childstudies.org for the attention of Colleen Daley

Events

2nd all Wales workshop on standards of care for sickle cell, thalassaemia and other similar disorders

The 2nd all-Wales meeting on standards of care for sickle cell, thalassaemia and other similar disorders will be held in the All Nations Centre, Eastern Avenue (A48 opposite the University Hospital of Wales), Cardiff CF14 3NY on Tuesday, November 4th, 2008.

Speakers include international experts in the field, the main authors of published UK guidelines and reports, lead Welsh paediatricians, haematologists, scientists, nurse counsellors in the field and you if you choose. The aim is to bring together those with professional responsibility for care and diagnosis of patients in Wales with sickle cell or thalassaemia disorders to explore ways of improving quality of care and of ensuring that all will receive high quality treatment irrespective of where they live. For further information please contact Dr Alison May, Department of Haematology, Cardiff University School of Medicine, Heath Park, Cardiff CF14 4XN. Tel (0)2920 743089; FAX: (0)2920 744655; email: may@cardiff.ac.uk

ARC Annual Conference 2008, 18-20 November 2008 at the Royal Court Hotel, Coventry.

The ARC National Conference continues to be a major landmark in the learning disability sector calendar. Each year the conference explores the key issues affecting service providers and provides the opportunity for debate, support and the inspiration to take things forward. The theme this year goes to the heart of services in learning disability. Individualised services are now a reality and people with learning disabilities are looking to providers to help them turn their own ideas for a service designed for them into a reality.

This is not an easy task whilst also keeping current services going!

The cost is only £430 fully residential over three days and two nights inclusive. Contact details: Pam Smith at pam.smith@arcuk.org.uk or book online by visiting our website <http://www.arcuk.org.uk/999989/default/arc+annual+conference+2008+.html> . Full programme available to download from the website.

Mental Health Matters: Issues for Refugees and Asylum Seekers, Conference. Dylan Thomas Centre, Swansea Wednesday 10th December 2008.

The conference aims to:

- Discuss key issues relating to asylum seeker and refugee mental health, especially different models of intervention
- Explore the concept of stigma relating to mental health within refugee communities
- Provide examples of best practice from a Health Provision and Voluntary sector perspective
- Develop action plans for improving asylum seeker and refugee mental health in Wales, and improve collaboration and partnerships

Please contact Emma Shepherd on emma.shepherd@welshrefugeecouncil.org for more information.

'It's all in the mix' 2nd annual conference: Building Evidence for Health Care: Mixing Methods in Trials 4 December 2008 □ Dylan Thomas Centre, Swansea

CALL FOR POSTER ABSTRACTS: Deadline: 5 November 2008 Submission details: www.awardresearch.org.uk

The conference is being hosted by CHIRAL (Centre for Health Information, Research and Evaluation), AWARD (All Wales Alliance for Health and Social Care, Mid and West Wales and QUIC (Qualitative Inquiry Cymru), School of Medicine, Swansea University

Randomised controlled trials (RCTs) produce high quality evidence about the effectiveness of new treatments. Increasingly, quantitative and qualitative methods are used together within RCTs to gather a fuller picture of new interventions and how they work. This conference will

explore issues of compatibility and the practicalities of mixing methods. This conference will be of interest to health and social care professionals, allied health professionals, researchers, clinicians, social scientists, medical scientists, academics, research students and service users. For further information or to register for this conference please contact **Sherry Jenkins** at s.a.jenkins@swansea.ac.uk, or visit the web site www.awardresearch.org.uk

**OBESITY: FIGHTING FLAB (Events at Cardiff University)
7pm - 8.45pm, 20th November 2008.**

Cardiff University Science in Health Public Lecture.
Speaker: Professor Barbara Livingston (Professor of Nutrition, University of Ulster) For further details visit:

<http://events.cardiff.ac.uk/en/index.php?date=2008-11>

SMOKING CESSATION 2ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE

26th - 27th January 2009, BSG Conference Centre, London UK 'Examining strategies for development and implementing new and existing smoking cessation therapies' for more details about this conference visit:

<http://www.visiongain.com/Conference.aspx?cid=140>.

**17th UKPHA ANNUAL PUBLIC HEALTH FORUM - CALL FOR PAPERS
25th & 26th March 2009 - The Brighton Centre.** The

conference organising committee calls for abstracts for oral or poster presentations on the list of key topics below.

- Tackling Health Inequalities
- Housing and Health
- Transport and Health
- Commissioning to reduce Inequalities
- Public Health, Sustainable Development and Climate Change

To submit an abstract or for additional information, please see <http://www.ukphaconference.org.uk/>

The deadline for submission is Friday 24th October

Registration for Brighton 2009 is now also open

<http://www.ukphaconference.org.uk/booking.html>

AWARD POLICY CONFERENCE

The All Wales Alliance for Research and Development in Health and Social Care (AWARD) would like to invite you to attend a one-day conference to be held at Cardiff University on 23rd January, 2009.

This exciting event is being held to mark the first five years of AWARD which is funded by the Welsh Assembly Government. AWARD is collaboration between three Universities in Wales: Cardiff, Swansea and Bangor. Its role is to support health and social care research in Wales and to undertake policy relevant research on behalf of the Assembly.

Confirmed speakers:

- Huw Davies
- Jennie Popay
- Graham Scambler
- David Price
- Martin Kitchener

It is hoped that the conference, which is being held at Cardiff University, will attract policy makers and practitioners in addition to academics with an interest in health policy. We see the event as critically exploring some of the important issues in evidence-based policy-making.

For further information and a booking form please contact Zoë Macdonald at MacdonaldZ@cardiff.ac.uk

Acknowledgements

Articles for this bulletin were received from our sister e-group (minority ethnic health - MINORITY-ETHNIC-HEALTH@JISCMAIL.AC.UK), our OPAN colleagues (<http://www.opanwales.org.uk/>), our PHIRN colleagues (www.phirn.org.uk) Dave O'Carroll of RCN Research and Development Co-ordinating Centre, the Black Voluntary Sector Network Wales (BVSNW) and members of the WEDHS network.

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