



Research in the Trust

Report for Quality Academy

March 2023

This report provides an update on research in the Trust, highlighting some of the activities of our research teams and provides information on some of the developments that are happening.

Research Activity and Performance

At Q3 the Trust currently has 519 active research projects with 9,219 participants recruited into research studies this financial year so far.

In order to improve research experience and as a requirement of the NIHR, we take part in the PRES- Patient Research Experience Survey. The Trust's target this year, as set by the NIHR Y&H Clinical Research Network, is 578; at end of February 572 surveys have been completed representing 99% of our target. Feedback from this survey will be analysed after the end of the financial year.

New Trust Research Strategy

A new Trust Research Strategy has been produced and published - '**A Research Strategy for Health and Wellbeing – Delivering research excellence together**'. The key to our Trust's research success to date is that we have excellent research teams and enthusiastic participants, excellent infrastructure both in terms of facilities and support departments, and excellent partnerships and collaborations and we will continue to build on these in the new strategy. Research also needs to be fundamental to everything we do within the Trust and be part of core everyday business. Therefore the strategy sits alongside and compliments the Trust's Clinical Services strategy of which research is a key component and similarly focuses on people, partnerships and place. A full version of the strategy will shortly be available on the Trust website and is summarised below.

OUR VISION: To continue to be a leader in the delivery and translation of high quality, relevant health research and improve the health and wellbeing of our local population, nationally and beyond.



PEOPLE

- Develop, support and nurture a sustainable research workforce that is valued
- Ensure all staff are well informed about the importance and benefit of research
- Promote a research positive culture across the organisation
- Increase opportunities for patients and community to take part in research
- Encourage our patients and community to influence, shape and conduct research

PARTNERSHIPS

- Strengthen and promote an outward facing and connected approach to research
- Encourage partnership and collaboration to support our research ambitions
- Develop and strengthen commercial research partnerships

PLACE

- Strengthen the integration and reach of research across all our departments
- Embed research as core business for the Trust
- Ensure research activity meets relevant performance targets and high standards of quality and research governance are maintained.

APPLIED HEALTH RESEARCH

Yorkshire Quality and Safety Research Team

In this report we have chosen to focus on three projects that we are currently undertaking in collaboration with BTHFT to improve patient safety. We work with the Trust in a range of different ways as these three cases demonstrate. Sometimes, we involve teams in BTHFT as partners in generating new evidence (example 1), in others we support ongoing work in the Trust by aligning research work with priority areas (example 2) and finally, we can provide interventions or guidance that might help the Trust to be competitive in applications for external funding (example 3). In all cases, the relationships are mutually beneficial.

1. The Learn Together project started in October 2019 and aimed to develop and test guidance to support more meaningful involvement of patients and families in healthcare incident investigations. It was funded by NIHR Health Service and Delivery Research scheme. We spoke to over 50 patients, family members, staff members and investigators to explore experiences of investigations, then worked with a co-design community of over 60 people to develop new guidance material. Throughout the project, we worked closely with the Quality Governance team at BTHFT as one of our four partner sites, who were involved in supporting the development of the guidance. We are currently working with the BTHFT team to test the guidance in real time investigations. The guidance materials that the team at BTHFT have helped us to develop have since fed into the new national policy development as part of the engagement guidance sitting alongside the Patient Safety Incident Response Framework. Because of this national impact, Professor Jane O'Hara (Chief Investigator), Dr Siobhan McHugh (Senior Researcher) and the Quality Governance team at BTHFT won the 2022 Health Business Awards Patient Safety Award.



Photo description: *Professor Jane O'Hara and Dr Siobhan McHugh accepting the UK Health Business Awards 2022 Patient Safety Award from Mel Pickup, alongside the BTHFT Quality Governance Team.*

2. Despite substantial evidence of inequities experienced by hospital workers from racial and ethnic minorities, there is a knowledge gap concerning their experiences of incivility and the resulting consequences for themselves, their workgroups, and patient safety. To address this gap, Olivia Joseph has taken up this challenge in her PhD study as part of the Yorkshire Quality and Safety Research team based in the Trust. Olivia meets regularly with the Head of OD at BTHFT to ensure continued involvement of staff as critical voices in the development and delivery of the plans to improve civility in the Trust. She attends the monthly BTHFT Civility Project Board, where she contributes to the civility implementation plan. Also, she leads the associated Civility and Respect Staff Advisory Group, consisting of 12 members who provide valuable feedback on the boards ideas, share suggestions and refine civility training and awareness materials based on their experiences. Through engaging in both board-level decision-making and staff's lived experiences, Olivia gains a deeper understanding of the dynamic nature of incivility and management strategies to address it while at the same time ensuring that the evidence she generates from her research feeds into these decisions. Olivia has been turning her research findings into comic books so that they are accessible to her audience.



3. It is increasingly recognised that patients can make important contributions towards their safety whilst in hospital and one area of patient safety that might benefit from the involvement of patients is improving the early detection of clinical deterioration in hospital. As such, we explored how patients could be effectively involved, and developed the Patient Wellness Assessment in collaboration with healthcare staff at BTHFT. This short assessment can be used by nursing staff during routine clinical observations to record patient-reported changes in wellness and preliminary evidence suggests the assessment may support staff to identify early clinical deterioration. BTHFT are a pilot site within the NHS England-funded Worry and Concern Programme, which aims to explore approaches to involving patients in the recognition of, and response to, clinical deterioration. Our research has been identified by the Worry and Concern

Programme as pioneering work in the area, and BTHFT are piloting the Patient Wellness Assessment in practice using Plan Do Study Act cycles. Dr Abigail Albutt has an advisory role within this quality improvement work led by the trust that will test for change in early identification of deteriorating patients.

The graphic is titled 'Patient Wellness Assessment' in a dark blue header. Below the header, it says 'Two simple, holistic questions and patient responses'. There are two blue speech bubbles. The first bubble contains the question 'How are you feeling?' followed by a 5-point scale: 1 (Very poor), 2 (Poor), 3 (Fair), 4 (Good), and 5 (Very good). The second bubble contains the question 'How are you feeling compared to the last time we asked you?' followed by a 5-point scale: 1 (Much worse), 2 (Worse), 3 (No change), 4 (Better), and 5 (Much better). To the left of the speech bubbles is a black silhouette of a person wearing a nurse's cap with a white cross on it.



We are delighted to confirm that we have been awarded a further £2.7m funding to extend the period of our ARC, taking the current contracting period to March 2026. This provides the opportunity to continue our work in translating our most promising research findings into practice to improve health and care outcomes for people in Yorkshire and Humber and beyond. We are working hard to ensure that our business plan for the extension period focuses on the most relevant areas of priority for our partners and communities.

Each of the 15 ARCs in England have a designated national leadership role. In Yorkshire and Humber, ours is urgent and emergency care research, and is led by Professor Suzanne Mason at University of Sheffield. As part of this national leadership role, we are currently gathering all of the relevant research from across the ARCs to stimulate cross regional work and focus efforts on the most promising interventions to improve outcomes in this critical area.

Highlights since our last report include:

New impact case studies have been uploaded to our website, highlighting how our work across the ARC has made a difference in a wide range of areas including air pollution, children's physical activity, digital inequalities and mental health, NHS 111 call handling, and care home use of emergency care. You can see all of our latest impacts on our website <https://www.arc-yh.nihr.ac.uk/making-a-difference>



The [BaBi network](#), an innovative birth cohort study with sites across the region made a big impact at the NIHR CRN Reproductive Health and Childbirth national conference. Originating in Bradford, this study aims to link together existing routine data to create a clearer picture of families' lives over time. The network now has 6 study sites, all adopting a local model for collaborative research. The conference generated huge interest and many more sites are keen to join the study.

We continue to provide **capacity building opportunities** across our themes of work. We have uploaded two new Improvement Science Snapshots, on deimplementation of low value care, and the use of logic models. All snapshot videos are uploaded to our **YHARC YouTube channel** (<https://bit.ly/30kOip9>) as they become available.



ACTEARLY

ActEarly is a UKPRP funded collaboration between Bradford and Tower Hamlets in London. The ActEarly vision is to create City Collaboratories in areas of high child poverty that provide research ready, people-powered and data-linked test beds to co-produce, implement and evaluate multiple early life interventions to prevent disease and reduce inequalities. Highlights since our last updates include further external (NIHR) funding to support ActEarly data infrastructure and a culture of research within local authorities; a new Healthy Learning short film [ActEarly - Healthy Learning - YouTube](#); positive feedback from our funder including special commendation for our website [Home - Act Early](#); and evidence briefing support for local authorities around the cost of living crisis <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M4Rn8738A8c&t=42s>.



Improvement Academy

The Improvement Academy is based within Bradford Institute for Health Research and undertakes implementation and improvement projects across Yorkshire and Humber, with some work undertaken at a national level. Below details some of the work in which we are currently involved.

Yorkshire and Humber Secure Data Environment

[Secure Data Environments](#) are data storage and access platforms which allow approved users to access and analyse data to support the delivery of more rapid and efficient innovations by making health data more accessible and linkable; this forms part of the [Data Save Lives strategy](#). The team at Bradford, as part of a competitive process last year, was successful in its



Expression of Interest for the development a secure data environment for Yorkshire and Humber. Colleagues are currently working with NHS and academic collaborators across Yorkshire and Humber to write a business case for submission to NHS England at the end of March. If successful, the secure data environment will build upon the amazing digital infrastructure already in place via Connected Bradford to develop a powerful force for data driven improvement projects and research across the region to better the health and wellbeing of the population.

Real-World use of Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare

Funding from The MPS Foundation has been awarded to a new collaboration between the Improvement Academy and the Assuring Autonomy International Programme (AAIP) at the University of York.

Shared CAIRE (Shared Care AI Role Evaluation) will research how artificial intelligence (AI) might work with clinicians and patients in the real world. Different human-machine interaction models for shared decision-making in healthcare will be tested and their ethical and legal implications considered. Professor Tom Lawton, Consultant Critical Care & Anaesthesia and Head of Clinical AI at BTHFT and a Programme Fellow at AAIP, said:

“We are particularly keen to use this project to look at how we can prevent clinicians and patients from feeling ignored when AI doesn’t, or can’t, take their ideas, concerns, and expectations into account. By testing simulated scenarios we hope to establish best practices for the use of AI, and investigate aspects of liability for decision-making when it is shared between a clinician and AI.”

Community Health Checks



Bradford has some of the highest levels of deprivation and ethnic diversity in England, as well as high levels of morbidity and mortality across the lifespan compared to England averages. Anecdotal and clinical data indicated that a high proportion of socio-economically deprived and ethnic minority population were experiencing negative health outcomes related to cardiovascular disease. In a project requested and co-produced with the community, in collaboration with the Bradford4Better team, the local Primary Care Network, and pharmacy students from the University of Bradford, the Improvement Academy ran its first community health check session at a local community centre. Participants were offered a health check focused on cardiovascular disease, including blood pressure, BMI,

cholesterol, and diabetes, alongside social prescribing, and resources to support them to address the wider determinants of health. Data from the session is currently being analysed, however preliminary analysis of the 100 people who received a health check indicated that over 60% were recorded as having an abnormal blood pressure reading. By engaging TPP (the developers of the GP EPR SystmOne) and working with a local GP practice we were able to flag everyone who underwent a health check with a code. We will be able to anonymously track participant outcomes through the Connected Bradford dataset, as well as gaining insights into the health needs of an underserved population.

Development and First Use of a Frugal CPAP Device

During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic global demand for Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) devices outstripped supply; this particularly impacted low- and middle-income countries. Therefore to support treatment of COVID-19 the LeVe CPAP device was developed through collaboration with the Mengo Hospital, Uganda and



The University of Leeds. Due to the increased demand for advanced respiratory devices – which had become a critical resource in providing respiratory support for the most severe patients - the hospital approved the use of the LeVe devices prior to the completion of the planned crossover trial. Thus a retrospective analysis (currently awaiting publication) was conducted, which indicated the devices are safe and well tolerated. The device is now being trialled in children; this is something that has not been previously available to children in Uganda.

Projects with BTHFT Teams

The Improvement Academy is also working closely with teams across BTHFT; for instance we are currently conducting culture surveys with the Pharmacy and Theatre teams, and are supporting in the evaluation of the Outstanding Maternity Service programme. Further projects are also planned with teams to support and improve the provision of care to the population of Bradford.

Born in Bradford

Born in Bradford (BiB) aims to understand why some families fall ill and why others stay healthy. We are a people powered research project, and together with our communities and stakeholders aim to make positive changes to improve the lives of families living in our city and beyond. We host three birth cohort studies (the Born in Bradford Family Cohort, Born in Bradford's Better Start and BiB4All) encompassing over 60,000 Bradford residents in addition to a range of other initiatives including the Better Start Bradford Innovation Hub, Bradford Inequalities Research, the Healthy Childhood theme of the Yorkshire and Humber Applied Research Collaboration, Connected Bradford, Join Us: Move Play, the LEAP, the Centre for Applied Education Research and various other externally funded applied health research studies. We have over 100 members of staff all working to make Bradford communities healthier and happier. You can find out more about our research programme here: www.borninbradford.nhs.uk.

Age of Wonder: Exploring the journey for adolescence into young adulthood

Funded by the Wellcome Trust, Age of Wonder is our new flagship seven-year project capturing the journeys of up to 30,000 Bradford teenagers through adolescence into adulthood. We have currently recruited over 4000 teenagers from 17 secondary schools, who are completing questionnaires on issues such as mental health and wellbeing, digital and social media, and the environment. We have also collected physical health data on over 1000 teenagers in year 9 (such as BMI, blood pressure) and collected a blood sample on over 100 teenagers. We hope to work with all secondary schools in the district, and in addition to our research activities offer a range of development opportunities to inspire young people in the science, research and the arts.



Alongside the quantitative data collection, we have recruited over 30 young people to a qualitative longitudinal research project. They are sharing detailed stories about their growing up experiences as teenagers in Bradford through a range of methods including interviews, videos, songs, written expressions, paintings, drawings, and memes. Our artist in residence, Carolyn Mendelson has completed 17 portraits of young people.

Jahzara aged 13 "I like reading and sometimes I play a piano as well. It just kind of relaxes you, and you get to transport to another world and see , it's not real people but other people and stories that you can maybe use in your own world. I think it is good to give the next generation voices because we're going to be the leaders and politicians in the future, so I think by letting us speak now it kind of gives people the courage and helps spread young people's ideas so that they can expand and change our world one day."

Our Age of Wonder project was recently featured on BBC radio 4: [Born in Bradford - The Age of Wonder - BBC Sounds](#)

JOIN US: MOVE PLAY (JU:MP)

Hosted by Born in Bradford, JU:MP is a whole system physical activity intervention which aims to increase physical activity for children and young people aged five to 14 who are living in some of the most deprived areas of the UK. JUMP works across 15 workstreams to affect change at personal, interpersonal, organisational,



community, environment and policy system levels. In one workstream (JUMP digital: personal and interpersonal change) we have developed and are testing a gamified App to support older children and young people to be active, and in another (Active Faith Settings: organisational change) we are supporting Faith Settings to modify the way they operate to incorporate physical activity into their daily routines. There is much to share and celebrate about the ongoing work and there will be an in-depth annual report published in April 23.



One of our work streams that shows promise of having significant impact is the development/regeneration of local green spaces (environmental change). JUMP is working in eight neighbourhoods across Bradford, and each neighbourhood will have a new/regenerated co-designed greenspace. Two are already built and in operation (Peel Park and Kashmir Park), four are in the build process and will be complete by Summer 2023 and two further spaces by Autumn 2023.

Healthy Places: Understanding and reducing exposures to indoor and outdoor pollution and evaluating the Bradford Clean Air Zone

The Bradford Clean Air Zone (CAZ) went live on September 26, 2022 and the BiB Breathes team continues to work closely with Bradford Council to evaluate the impact of the CAZ. The BiB team will be tracking the impact of the CAZ on lung and heart health and birth outcomes for up to three years after it has been implemented. Supported by Bradford Teaching Hospitals charitable trust, we have been working closely with Bradford Council and IVE to deliver creativity labs across 12 primary schools to stimulate young minds to invent new ways of improving air quality. The work will culminate in a celebration event on Clean Air Day, 15th June 2023.

The EU Horizon 2020 project, ATHLETE, co-produced, implemented, and evaluated interventions to reduce exposures to air pollution during the school journey with schools in Bradford and Barcelona. Over 100 pupils took part in monitoring their exposure and designing feasible interventions to implement, including identifying alternate routes of travel, implementing walking buses, and campaigning such as anti-idling signs outside the school.

The newest project to the Healthy Places work, INGENIOUS (Understanding the sources, transformations, and fates of indoor air pollutants) has received ethical approval and will provide a comprehensive understanding of indoor air pollution in 300 BiB family homes. This

study will examine the key sources of indoor air pollutants, how concentrations and types of air pollutants differ between different types of homes (e.g. rented vs owned/mortgaged), the mixing and transformations of air pollutants over time and between the indoors and outdoors, and how occupant behaviours (e.g. cooking, cleaning, and ventilation) affect levels of air pollutants. You can find out more about this project here:

<https://youtu.be/d1uaQtLt7E>

In March 2022 we were visited by England's Chief Medical Officer, Professor Sir Chris Whitty who was keen to learn about our work in this area, and have been subsequently featured in the Chief Medical Officer Annual Report 2022 on Air Quality. ([Chief Medical Officer's annual report 2022: air pollution - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#))

Better Start Bradford Innovation Hub (BSBIH)

BSBIH is a partnership between Better Start Bradford and Born in Bradford which provides a centre for evaluation for the Better Start Bradford programme funded by the National Lottery Community Fund. Central to this work is the Born in Bradford's Better Start (BiBBS) birth cohort, recruited on site by our BiBBS Community Research team. The team have now recruited over **4,600 pregnancies**, and we have published an interim profile paper which shows the vulnerabilities of this community. To address these inequalities, we have a number of causal evaluations underway using BiBBS including: A randomised controlled trial to see if the midwifery continuity of care model improves birth outcomes and perinatal mental health in vulnerable women (in collaboration with BIRU); Quasi-experimental studies of an antenatal parenting programme (Babysteps), a toddler parenting programme (Incredible Years) and a healthy eating parenting course (HENRY); and qualitative studies to explore the impact of other interventions including breastfeeding peer support and an infant mental health service. BSBIH have been working closely with the local authority to ensure the delivery of the national **Start for Life** programme in Bradford uses the evidence we have developed, and will work to ensure that Start for Life continues to complete robust evaluations of its' delivery locally. BSBIH have also created a core 0-19 universal outcomes framework which has now been adopted within the Children and Young Peoples strategy for the District, and is the basis for developing a **single child record** across organisations in the District.

Bradford Inequalities Research Unit (BIRU)

BIRU is working with Bradford District & Craven CCG and West Yorkshire integrated care board to reduce health inequalities in central Bradford and across West Yorkshire. This will be a busy final year for the BIRU, with complex evaluations due to be delivered on a number of interventions that have been designed to reduce health inequalities in the city, including: The physical and mental health benefits of welfare benefits advice service; A randomised

controlled trial to see if the midwifery continuity of care model improves birth outcomes and perinatal mental health in vulnerable women; Quasi-experimental studies using **Connected Bradford** data to evaluate the impact of a community connector (CLICS) and a community multidisciplinary team (PaCT) to reduce unplanned hospital admissions at BTHFT. Results will be shared by March 2024.



BiB Youth resilience programme



Our new BiB Youth Resilience Programme aims at understanding the drivers of youth violence in a deprived neighbourhood, Barkerend. Working with over 160 young people and 26 community groups we have been co-producing solutions to prevent youth violence, addressing key issues for young people including availability of safe spaces to spend free time; provision of sports and physical activity; engagement with art and culture for creative expressions; cleaner environments and greenspaces; awareness and education on vulnerabilities and risks of exploitation; connecting with mental health support; promotion of positive role models; mentorships; introduction to locally and nationally available career pathways; parental training; and capacity building of community groups.

BiB will be working with partners to implement these solutions and evaluate their impact over the next five years.

Centre for Applied Education Research

CAER researchers have led on a number of impactful projects this year, including:

- **Class Air Cleaning Technologies (Class-ACT):** The Class-ACT project is a UKHSA funded trial of air-cleaning devices in primary schools across Bradford. The project investigated the potential of these to reduce school absences due to airborne illness and the implementation issues that may arise in school environments. The study has demonstrated that ACT can reduce school absences and resulted in changes in government policy concerning air quality in schools, including the allocation of £26M funding by the Department for Education to support the roll out of these devices in schools across the UK.
- **Electronic Neurodiversity Profiling Tool (ENPT):** There are a number of challenges surrounding neurodiversity and autism in the Bradford systems that serve children and young people, including delayed diagnosis. The ENPT, a psychometric tool co-produced by CAER researchers, teachers, educational psychologists, and policy makers, will allow for earlier identification and support of neurodiverse children. Teachers can use the tool to recognise children with neurodiverse traits, after which discussions can be had with guardians and adjustments made to better support children within and outside of the classroom. It is now being trialled in schools across Bradford, colleagues at UCL have explored opportunities to trial it in London, and the DfE has indicated interest in expanding the ENPT across the UK if the trial is successful.

Healthy families theme of the Yorkshire and Humber ARC

The [Early Life and Prevention theme](#) is currently supporting nearly 60 active research projects across the Yorkshire and Humber region. In Bradford research focussed on local places and inequalities continues to develop, including exploring green spaces from the perspectives of teenage girls and research around ‘designing-in’ play within urban regeneration and its potential to support urban forest schools. Oral health research funded as part of the NIHR national priorities programme is due to report later this year and will be highly relevant to the recently published [NHS Core20 plus 5 reducing healthcare inequalities framework for Children and Young People](#). The Northern Health Science Alliance collaborated with northern ARCs (including Yorkshire and Humber), ActEarly, and Medical Research Council to produce “The All Party Parliamentary Group for The Child of the North” report “[Child Poverty and the Cost of Living Crisis](#)”, drawing on research from across the theme to make evidence based recommendations to policy makers. As part of wider efforts to accelerate the active dissemination and translation of research findings into practice, a Senior Policy Fellow is now working with research projects in the theme, Bradford Council and key stakeholders across the region.

The Leap

Born in Bradford is a consortium partner for [The Leap](#), an Arts Council England funded project which aims to increase leadership and participation in arts and culture in areas of Bradford District where this is historically low. To date this has included supporting 136 people from local communities to lead cultural projects, delivered 119 training sessions to support people and their projects, given work to 115 artists and creative professionals, supported over half a millions pounds of community-led arts and culture project, actively involved over 29,000 participants and reached over 87,000 audience members. The Leap continues to make awards for activities in the coming year with many programmes over subscribed including as part of a wider contribution to Bradford, UK City of Culture 2025.

Connected Bradford

The Connected Bradford programme links healthcare data from GP sites, trusts, and emergency care with wider data from local authorities, police, and the Department for Education, including environmental, housing, and crime data. The team is transforming raw data into research-ready data, developing user access processes and anonymising data. The anonymised data is being used in various studies to reduce health inequalities, identify vulnerable adults and children, improve mental health services, and prevent vulnerabilities.

Specifically, Connected Bradford has undertaken several projects, including the Classroom Air Cleaning Technology (CLASS-ACT) study, which analysed the portable high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters in primary schools in Bradford. Additionally, the program analysed school exclusion data and pending diagnoses of autism spectrum disorder (ASD), and utilised Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) profile data as an indicator of ASD diagnosis and special education needs.

The de-identified Bradford autism patient tracking data provided to Connected Bradford has prompted changes to the way mental health services record patient data, leading to an increased need for collaboration. As a result, a new streamlined clinical SystmOne module has been developed to support these improvements.

Bradford Genes & Health

The Bradford Genes&Health study aims to learn how genes vary in adult Bangladeshi & Pakistani communities. The study is also recruiting in East London and Manchester with the view to including 100,000 people from these communities in the research study. In order to better understand why heart disease, diabetes and stroke occur in higher levels in these groups, it is important to know what is normal when searching for genes that may cause inherited diseases. Participants are asked to complete a short questionnaire, consent form and provide a saliva sample. One in four participants will be asked to attend stage two clinic visits where further consent is obtained, blood samples and a second short questionnaire is

completed. Since the study started in April 2019 we have recruited 4237 participants. Since October 2022 we have extended our recruitment activities to Kirklees and Calderdale, engaging with GP practices, and community settings including Mosques.



2022/23 in numbers:



£28m

Active grants



15

Publications



740+

New research participants



Number of Staff

24 Bradford Teaching Hospitals

10 University of Leeds



Number of Students

4 PhDs

2 MBBS

Showcasing our stroke rehabilitation research

Our ASR team members disseminated our research findings at the well-attended annual UK Stroke Forum. As a leading research centre for stroke, the team was excited to share our knowledge and key research outputs across the stroke network. Professor Anne Forster (Head of ASR) along with ASR researchers Dr Jessica Johansson and Louisa Burton presented on a range areas of importance, including reducing sedentary behaviour after stroke, aspiring for better communication rehabilitation experiences and outcomes, and measuring fidelity in complex stroke interventions.



Continued success of the Electronic Frailty Index (eFI)



The Electronic Frailty Index (eFI) uses existing patient data in primary care to identify populations of people aged 65 and over who are frail. This early identification of people who are frail creates opportunity to predict those who may be at greatest risk of adverse outcomes as a result of the vulnerability, and to allow the introduction of new preventative and proactive care models for frailty.

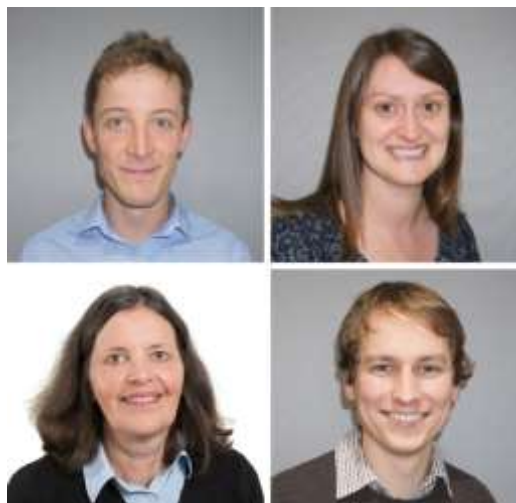
It has been few years since colleagues in the ASR successfully developed and implemented nationally the multi-award winning eFI. This innovation which is also NICE recommended is continuing to generate impact and recognition. Below is an updated summary of some key achievements:

- supported the assessment of frailty in over 1M older people in the UK
- underpinned NHS England national frailty policy (a global first)
- been included in the NHS Long Term Plan
- supported the NHS England Ageing Well Programme through the Anticipatory Care Framework
- been included as a recommended tool in the Royal College of Anaesthetists and British Geriatrics Society 2021 perioperative care guidelines
- supported national medicines optimisation policy through inclusion in the Primary Care Network Structured Medications Review contract
- been selected as a national impact case study by the UK Medical Schools Council

New grant award

Building on our stroke research portfolio, we are delighted to announce that the team has won a new research project grant (total value £90,333) funded by the Leeds Hospitals Charity, the official charity partner of Leeds Teaching Hospitals.

In this research, we aim to develop an intervention which will improve the quality, consistency and delivery of information about recovery that is provided to patients and their families on stroke units. We believe that the best way to do this is to involve people who have experienced stroke care and those who provide rehabilitation, using a research method called co-production.



The project team consist of Dr Oliver Todd, Louisa Burton, Professor Anne Forster and Dr Tom Crocker.

Clinical Research

Research engagement and CQC

We continue to embed research as part of routine clinical care throughout the Trust:

- Information on research and how to take part is now being included on all O/P and I/P letters including electronic letters
- An EPR reminder card on research has now been provided for clinical staff
- Photographs taken of all research teams for our ward research boards and research promotional artwork/information
- Developing new research leaflets and posters for patients to highlight research and the City of Research – Research as One Register



Research training and induction

- Trust Research Induction package in the pilot phase
- Research Informed consent training launched – Research matron and Education team have created a bespoke research informed consent training session and competency package
- Research training now added to ESR – Training team have created the option to add Informed consent and GCP training to staff training matrix.

NIHR Patient Recruitment Centre: Bradford

Our Patient Recruitment Centre is very busy and currently is running 30 commercial clinical trials, has recruited 227 patients (up to Quarter 3), and has recently met the recruitment target for the Tide study after being the site to recruit the first patient in Europe in November 2022.

Our ambition is to expand the PRC research (and commercial research) into more clinical areas to meet the research needs of our population and to provide a wider and more comprehensive commercial research portfolio thereby enabling an increase in research income, reputation and sustainability.

To enable this expansion we will be investing in Consultant PAs in a number of areas (where an expanding commercial pipeline is envisaged) which will free up consultant time to work with the PRC team to develop the PRC and their speciality's commercial research portfolio.