



Research in the Trust

Report for Quality Academy

May 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 Q4 the Trust currently has 498 active research projects with 12,698 participants recruited into research studies this financial year.

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 for 2022/23, as set by the NIHR Y&H Clinical Research Network, was 578; at end of the financial year 613 had been completed (106% of target).

APPLIED HEALTH RESEARCH



We are delighted to have been awarded a new research grant (£412,250) by the Dunhill Medical Trust to develop methods to identify digitally excluded older people, and tailor interventions to meet their digital needs.

The study will develop an inclusive method of identifying older people who



are digitally excluded, explore key factors that influence their digital behaviours, and adapt or develop intervention(s) to address digital exclusion. The refined intervention(s) will be feasibility tested with older people to assess acceptability and obtain their feedback on content and delivery mechanisms.

This is a collaborative study led by Dr Liz Graham from the Academic Unit for Ageing and Stroke Research (ASR) at BIHR. The team includes colleagues from ASR (Professor Andy Clegg, Professor Anne Forster, Dr Jess Johansson and Dr Kate Best), Age-UK Leeds, NHS Bradford District & Craven Health and Care Partnership, North East and Yorkshire Region Office for Health Improvement and Disparities; as well as strong patient and public involvement - PPI co-applicant and collaboration with voluntary sector and community organisations which support older people. The study will run for 34 months, commencing Autumn 2023.



Congratulations to **Professor Andrew Clegg** who has been appointed as new Head of ASR, effective from 1st April 2023.

Professor Clegg is a Professor in Geriatric Medicine and also an Honorary Consultant at Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. He first joined the ASR in 2009

and has led many high impact research studies, including the multi-award winning, nationally implemented Electronic Frailty Index.

The team is excited to operate under his new leadership and look forward to a prosperous future.

Yorkshire Quality and Safety Research Team

In the March report we described four research studies that the Quality and Safety Research Group are currently undertaking to address safety priorities within BTHFT, implementation of PSIRF, evaluating the patient wellness score, incivility and staff from ethnic minorities and patient and family involvement in patient safety investigations. In the last 6 weeks we have been working hard to set up and launch the new NIHR Yorkshire and Humber Patient Safety Research Collaboration a joint BTHFT and University of Leeds research programme. Within this funding we have a number of opportunities for short sessional secondments for NHS frontline staff and managers who are keen to work with us on research projects in one of our four themes of work: Safe Care in the Home, Safety intelligence for improvement, De-cluttering (safely) for safety and Safer systems, cultures and practices. We will be advertising these secondments shortly via @YHPSRC.

The Yorkshire and Humber Applied Research Collaboration (YH ARC) continues to work with partner organisations across the region to speed up the translation of research into practice. We have recently completed our annual report for NIHR, successfully delivering our objectives. During the last financial year, we have:

- collaborated with **40 member organisations**,
- worked on **209 projects**,
- supported **54 PhD students**,
- published **42 articles** in high impact journals,
- recruited more than **16750 participants** into our research,
- realised **£2.3m of matched funding** from partners, representing 114% of the funding received from NIHR,
- leveraged **£10m of external funding** to support our work.

The top three significant achievements in the reporting period are: 1) our contribution to local, regional and national policy, 2) leveraging more than £10m to the region in external grant funding, and 3) working closely with our ICS partners in the region to embed research into the health and care system.

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 update include positive feedback from our funders; new local government policy briefings; and our support for the development of our local authorities' research systems (HDRCs) and for applications for external research funding to fund research delivery. More details are available on our website which also includes a link to sign up for our monthly newsletter [Home - Act Early](#)

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.

New BiB study about indoor air quality and health launches!

Our new BiB [INGENIOUS](#) study successfully launched on the 9th of March, and so far we have recruited 30 families out of a target of 300. The study aims to explore indoor air pollution and how it affects our health. Families will host a range of state of the air quality sensors in their homes for two weeks, and will complete detailed health surveys. Our study will be one of the first to quantify indoor exposures and their impact on health and follows on from recommendations in the Chief Medical Officer Report 2022, in which our BiB work was featured. You can find out more about the project here: [INGENIOUS project: Understanding air pollution in homes - YouTube](#)

BiB Fest 2023

BiB Fest is back! Last held in summer 2019, BiBFest Born in Bradford's 9th Scientific conference, celebrating 16 years of cutting edge findings, community empowerment and impact. We look forward to welcoming families, health and education professionals, policy makers and researchers to the beautiful Salts Mill in the world heritage village of Saltaire on the 4th July. We will share our exciting new findings about how our society, our lifestyles, our genes and our environment shape our lives. More information can be found here: [BiBFest 2023 - Born In Bradford](#)

Improvement Academy

The Improvement Academy is based within Bradford Institute for Health Research and undertakes implementation and improvement projects across Yorkshire and Humber and nationally, provides training across many areas, including Quality Improvement and Behaviour Change. The Improvement Academy is also the implementation arm of the Yorkshire and Humber Applied Research Collaborative. Below details some of the work in which we are currently involved.

Supporting Recruitment to Clinical Trials

Using data available via Connected Bradford, the Data Analytics Unit within the Improvement Academy has supported the identification for potential participants for clinical trials. This was initially shown as a proof-of-concept for a trial that was struggling to recruit participants from Bradford. We were able to use Connected Bradford to show that participants meeting the study's narrow eligibility criteria did exist, and this subsequently led to a more targeted recruitment strategy and resulted in the study recruiting its first participant.

More recently, we have included the use of Connected Bradford as part of the research ethics application to enable greater support in the identification of participants. This approach has huge potential benefits for the citizens of Bradford, ensuring greater equality in access to taking part in research and reaping the benefits from taking part in research studies.

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) is researching how artificial intelligence (AI) might work with clinicians and patients in the real world. As part of the project different scenarios will be tested with clinicians to assess different human-machine models of interaction for shared decision-making.

Recently a PPI panel was convened, which was also attended by a representative of the funder and members of the project team from York, to review the scenarios and capture the thoughts, feelings, and questions patients are likely to have. The session was incredibly successful, and gave a richer insight into patient perceptions of the role AI might play in a clinical setting.

International Forum on Quality and Safety in Health Care

Members of the team will be presenting their work at the International Forum on Quality and Safety in Health Care in Copenhagen (15-17th May).



Project Outline: When temporary COVID-19 guidelines for glove use for “all patient contact” were withdrawn, healthcare professionals continued to wear gloves unnecessarily and hand hygiene concordance dropped. The aim of this project was to de-implement unnecessary glove use and by proxy to improve hand hygiene using the ABC approach. Results indicated that over a 12 week period, glove use reduced by an estimated 50%.

This was part of a programme of work funded by Public Health Wales, in which 15 teams across NHS University Health Boards in Wales were supported to use the ABC (Achieving Behaviour Change) approach in their own project. The teams were guided through a series of virtual workshops, one-to-one, and group coaching.

Thematic Analysis Training

The Patient Safety Incident Response Framework (PSIRF) sets out the NHS’ approach to developing and maintaining effective systems and processes for responding to patient safety incidents for the purpose of learning and improving patient safety. As part of an ask from members of the Patient Safety Collaborative, the Improvement Academy developed training on Thematic Analysis, which was delivered to staff within the Trust earlier this month. The training forms one part of the overall training offer that is being developed by the Improvement Academy to support organisations in implementing PSIRF.





Community Health Checks Project

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. Further analysis is underway; however initial analysis has indicated that the health check contributed to a new diagnosis of diabetes in 3 attendees and a new diagnosis of hypertension in 2 attendees. Anecdotal evidence has also indicated that the health check prompted a change in medication for a number of people with pre-existing diagnosis of hypertension.

Clinical Research

Clinical Research Delivery

The Clinical Research Nurses are working alongside the Magnet team and Quality Lead for Nursing Excellence to set up a Clinical Research Nurse and Midwife Unit Council. This forum will bring the clinical research workforce together and provide a forum for them to raise, address, and escalate where appropriate, current issues.

The first task of the council has been to set up a stand to represent clinical research nursing and midwifery at the trust celebration event this month.

Research engagement

To raise awareness of research in the Trust and to celebrate International Clinical Trials Day (20 May) the research teams are planning an awareness event on 17 May in the Trust concourse.

NIHR Patient Recruitment Centre: Bradford

Our Patient Recruitment Centre is very busy and currently is running 29 commercial clinical trials and has recruited 267 patients in 2022/23. The PRC are the highest recruiter for the NIMBLE and LOGOS study and have been

asked by the respective commercial sponsors to share their experiences of how they have achieved this. Additionally, after obtaining the first European patient for the TIDE trial, the PRC have reached their target early and have been asked by the sponsor to help other sites.

