Royal College of Nursing Research Institute
School of Health and Social Studies
University of Warwick

Second Annual Report
1st August 2008 to 31st July 2009
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Director’s Message

I am very pleased to present a report on the progress of the Royal College of Nursing Research Institute (RCN RI) since August 2008.

Staff at the RCN RI are now well integrated within the School of Health and Social Studies, and are active in developing networks and grant applications across the University.

Our grant income and publication track record continues to be strong. Several research studies were completed during the year, so some staff have moved on and we have welcomed new staff to the RCN RI. Staff have continued to enhance the profile and reputation of both the RCN and the University of Warwick by speaking at national and international conferences.

I would like to thank all the staff of the RCN RI for their hard work and commitment, their enthusiasm for research and really working together to ensure the research we undertake is high quality and relevant to those with health care needs.

Maintaining and developing the strategic alliance between the RCN and the University of Warwick requires a great deal of work, and I would particularly like to thank Dr Peter Carter and Geraldine Cunningham from the Royal College of Nursing who have made major contributions to the continuing success of the strategic alliance. I would also like to pay tribute to our Joint Advisory Board and thank them for the generosity they have shown with their time, support and advice.

Professor Kate Seers
Director

September 2009
Introduction

The RCN RI was formerly the research team at the Royal College of Nursing Institute from 1996-2007. When the RCN wished to develop a strategic alliance with another Higher Education Institute to enhance its ability to deliver high quality research, the University of Warwick was successful in its bid to be the RCN’s strategic alliance partner for research. The RCN RI has been a research centre within the School of Health & Social Studies at the University of Warwick since 1st August 2007.

The research of the RCN RI supports the mission of both the RCN “to represent nurses and nursing, promote excellence in practice and to shape health policies”, and the University of Warwick’s Strategy “to make Warwick an undisputed world leader in research and scholarship.” It also addresses the RCN’s 2008-2013 Strategic Plan objectives of strengthening the RCN as the leading authority on nursing on health and social care, contributing to campaigning for nursing, health care and patients, maximising the RCN’s contributing to improving the health and wellbeing of the national, EU and international population.

The RCN RI aims to:
- Produce high quality research that improves knowledge, patient care and impacts on policy
- Increase research capacity relevant to nursing by providing high quality research training
- Contribute towards the RCN and the University of Warwick delivering on their strategic objectives

Governance

The RCN Research Institute is overseen by a Joint Advisory Board. This consists of the Chief Executive Officer & General Secretary of the RCN, the Director of the RCN Institute, a member of RCN Council, two patient representatives, two external academics, one member of the NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement, two Professorial academic staff from other departments at University of Warwick, the Head of SHSS, Director of Research of SHSS, the Director of the RCN RI and a staff member. They have agreed terms of reference (see appendix 1) and meet twice a year.

RCN RI Staff

Jo Brett, Research Fellow (part-time 0.7)
Jackie Chandler-Oatts, Research Fellow
Dr Claire Hawkes, Research Fellow
Dr Kirstie Haywood, Senior Research Fellow
Deirdre Kennedy, Project Manager
Paul Kent, PA to Director and team administrator
Dr Lydia Lewis, Research Fellow
Dr Natasha Posner, Research Fellow
Professor Kate Seers, Director
Tanya Smith, Administrator
Dr Sophie Staniszewska, Senior Research Fellow (0.6)
Dr Liz Tutton, Research Fellow (part-time 0.4)

National Centre for Involvement Evidence for Practice Team (based in RCN RI 1/10/08-31/8/09)
Dr Andy Gibson, Research Fellow
Dr Sandy Herron-Marx, Senior Research Fellow
Dr Carole Mockford, Research Fellow
Rebecca Putz, Research Assistant
Dr Sophie Staniszewska, Principal Research Fellow (0.4)
Summary of Progress

Ongoing Research

RCN RI research is organised around three themes; patient experiences and involvement, patient reported outcomes, and translating knowledge into practice. Full details are included in our research strategy and progress on studies paper. All ongoing research is within budget and agreed timeframes. All annual or final reports submitted as required by funders have been accepted.

Dissemination

Since the beginning of 2008, staff at the RCN RI have had 31 publications (listed later in this report) and spoken at several national and international conferences.

Grants

We have two large grants underway; an EU FP7 research grant for 3 million euros on which Professor Seers is lead co-ordinator with European and International collaborators, and a Research for Patient Benefit grant for £224,781, with Professor Seers as principal investigator. We also have a UKCRC grant of £58,444 with Dr Staniszewska as principal investigator.

Measures of Esteem

Members of RCN RI have a variety of measures of external esteem, including membership of a research assessment exercise panel, chairing INVOLVE sub groups (patient involvement), editorial board membership, invited plenary lectures, invited national and international scientific committees, contribution to national policy initiatives and contribution to the academic community via external examining, especially at PhD level.

PhD Students

With the start of the strategic alliance, 7 PhD students transferred to University of Warwick and four chose to stay with University of Manchester. Four of these students have now been awarded their PhD, and progress of the others is satisfactory.

Strategic Alliance Legal Requirements

The strategic alliance between the RCN and the University of Warwick has a legal transfer document, which states the outcomes to be delivered. The Joint Advisory Board meeting in March 2009 reviewed these and agreed progress towards these objectives was satisfactory.

Other developments

Our research strategy was updated in August 2009 in collaboration with all members of the RCN RI. Our three main themes are patient/user experiences and user participation; patient reported outcomes; and knowledge transfer and evidence into practice. We plan to work towards more programmatic funding rather then individual grants to increase the sustainability of the unit.

Contribution to the University/Faculty Social Sciences/School of Health and Social Studies

RCN RI staff attend the graduate research committee and the school meeting. Professor Seers is part of the SHSS executive team, and is Director of Research for SHSS. She also attends faculty research directors’ meetings. Dr Staniszewska is research staff member of the staff-student liaison committee. RCN RI staff also contribute to being members of MPhil to PhD upgrade panels, act as exam advisors and internal examiners at Masters and PhD level.
New posts funded

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Post</th>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Funder</th>
<th>Start Date and Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior Research Fellow</td>
<td>Facilitating Implementation of Research Evidence</td>
<td>EU FP7</td>
<td>From September 2009 for 40 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Manager</td>
<td>Facilitating Implementation of Research Evidence</td>
<td>EU FP7</td>
<td>From August 2009 for 40 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P/T administrator</td>
<td>Facilitating Implementation of Research Evidence</td>
<td>EU FP7</td>
<td>40 months, tba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Fellow (P/T)</td>
<td>Systematic review of impact of patient and public involvement on research</td>
<td>UKCRC</td>
<td>12 months from November 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Research Fellow (P/T)</td>
<td>Core concepts of care</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>From 1st October 2009 for 42 months</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Management of Transition

Following the move to the University of Warwick, some fixed term contract staff remained based in Oxford. Professor Seers worked across sites in both Warwick and Oxford. All fixed term contract staff based in Oxford completed their contracts at the end of June 2009. The whole team has been involved in developing the updated research strategy, and a very positive away day took place in autumn 2008 to review progress and explore views on the progress of the strategic alliance. Overall, the relationship with both the RCN and the University of Warwick is good and the strategic alliance has already proved very successful for both partners.

Leadership

Strong strategic leadership underpins the effectiveness and culture of the RCN RI. We endeavour to model valuing and respect of all staff as we believe this is essential for a team to function well and to enable staff to develop to their full potential.

Conclusion

The RCN RI has continued to thrive at the University of Warwick. Two large grants have helped embed the strategic alliance, and concrete plans for future development are in place, working towards ensuring the sustainability of the RCN RI.
List of Publications 2008-2009

Theme A – Patient Experiences and User Involvement


In Press:


### Theme B – Patient Reported Outcomes


In Press:


Under review:


Theme C – Translating knowledge into practice


Research Reports

http://www.sdo.nihr.ac.uk/files/project/78-final-report.pdf (final report)
http://www.sdo.nihr.ac.uk/files/project/78-exec-summary.pdf (executive summary)

Other Staff Publications


**Conference Papers/Posters**

**Kirstie Haywood**

Collaborative conference between the James Lind Alliance, RCN RI, and Institute of Education, London: Outcomes in clinical research – whose responsibility? 
Oral presentation: ‘Responding to the patient’s voice: the importance of patient reported outcomes’. 
Poster Presentation: Haywood KL, Chapman S, Staniszewska S. Health Status and Quality Of Life (Qol) In Myalgic Encephalopathy / Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS): A Structured Review Of Patient-Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs)  


Forthcoming:

Clinical Therapists Network (CTN) Annual Conference 15th October 2009  
‘Responding to patient reported outcomes – challenges for a multidisciplinary team.’ 
Manchester Conference Centre. October 2009

RCN HQ – PROMs event. Meeting arranged between RCN RI (K Haywood) and RCN Policy unit (Leehla Barham). KH to present re PROMs. To raise profile of PROMs and relevance to nursing. Thursday 19th November 2009.

**Natasha Posner**


Kate Seers

i) Debate at Motion: This house believes that research should be published with the highest impact factor journals. Seconder for the motion.


Forthcoming:

Sophie Staniszewska


Staniszewska S. An overview of research at the National Centre for Involvement. National Centre for Involvement Annual Conference, July 2009.


Forthcoming:

Liz Tutton

British Trauma Society Annual Clinical Meeting. Hope on a Trauma Unit: The views of staff and patients, , St James Park, Newcastle, UK. May 2009

RCN International Nursing Research Conference 2009. Comparing hope on two units: Trauma and Stroke (collaborators Kate Seers, Debbie Langstaff, Martin Westwood. Cardiff City Hall, Cardiff, Wales, UK. March 2009

## Current Research Grants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funder/Topic/PI</th>
<th>Amount £</th>
<th>Co-investigators</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NHS Service Delivery and Organisation. Evaluating CLARCHS in action <strong>Staniszewska</strong></td>
<td>9,777</td>
<td>Rycroft-Malone, J McCormack B Dopson S Thompson C et al.</td>
<td>54 months. Start tbc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Commission FP7. Facilitating the implementation of research evidence <strong>Seers</strong></td>
<td>€3 million euros</td>
<td>Harvey, Rycroft-Malone. McCormack, Titchen, Cox, Wallin, McCarthy,</td>
<td>January 2009 for 48 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research for Patient Benefit. Urgent care needs in diabetes <strong>Seers</strong></td>
<td>224,000</td>
<td>Coates, <strong>Posner</strong>, Canny and Pandaya</td>
<td>September 2008 for 26 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UKCRC A structured review of outcomes of patient and public involvement in health and social research. <strong>Staniszewska</strong></td>
<td>58,444</td>
<td>Herron-Marx S, <strong>Seers K</strong>, Bayliss H, <strong>Mockford C</strong>, Brett J</td>
<td>November 2008 for 12 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Warwick Research development fund. Pilot work for MRC application on patient outcomes <strong>Staniszewska</strong>, S</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td><strong>Staniszewska</strong>, S</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Grant Applications Submitted - unsuccessful

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount £</th>
<th>Co-investigators</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NIHR Senior Research Fellowship. Evaluating the impact of user involvement in research: developing robust and pragmatic measures. <strong>Staniszewska</strong>, S</td>
<td>503,466</td>
<td>5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes UK Maintaining service engagement: vulnerable young people with diabetes in transition from paediatric to adult services <strong>Staniszewska</strong>, S, <strong>Chandler-Oatts</strong>, Hawkes, Fontenla.</td>
<td>186,351</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIHR Mental Health Research Network. Patient reported outcomes review. <strong>Haywood</strong>, K; <strong>Staniszewska</strong>, S, Weich, S</td>
<td>97,229</td>
<td>(too expensive – want to do for 30K)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Big Lottery – ME/CFS via Action for ME**
Functional Impairment and Receipt of Formal Support in CFS/ME

100,507

**Posner, N, Phelby D Lacerda E Nacul L & Collett T.**

**NHS SDO**
Does a generalist model improve quality of end of life in acute stroke.

**Staniszewska, S**

42,192

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Applications submitted – awaiting outcome</th>
<th>Amount £</th>
<th>Co-investigators</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Big Lottery</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Children's Palliative Care Research Project in the West Midlands
Better Care: Better Lives for life-limited children in the West Midlands.
**Staniszewska, S** | 85,020 | Hunt, A, **Staniszewska S** et al, bid via Association for Children’s Palliative Care (ACT) |       |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Applications being developed</th>
<th>Due</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MRC – Patient outcomes</td>
<td>tbc</td>
<td><strong>Staniszewska S</strong> et al</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MRC – ME/CFS patient outcomes</td>
<td>Sept 09</td>
<td><strong>Haywood, K</strong> et al</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUPA - Quality of Life Assessment in Continence Routine Practice: enabling the identification of patient important issues through enhanced communication.</td>
<td>Oct 09</td>
<td><strong>Haywood, K, Staniszewska, S, Seers K</strong> et al.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research for Patient Benefit Patient experiences of traumatic pelvic injuries.</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td><strong>Tutton L, Seers K</strong> et al</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ESRC Seminar Series Grant Awarded**

Tritter J, **Staniszewska S**, Herron-Marx S. Exploring the Impact of Public Involvement: Understanding the role of theory, practice and culture. Economic and Social Research Council seminar series. £10,500
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Conference Title</th>
<th>Attendees</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26-27 Sep 08</td>
<td>Conference on the Highest Attainable Standard of Health with the UN Special Rapporteur, BMA House</td>
<td>Natasha Posner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Oct 08</td>
<td>Improving Patients’ Experiences, The Kings Fund</td>
<td>Sophie Staniszewska</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-12 Nov 08</td>
<td>INVOLVE 6th National Conference: Public Involvement in research – getting it right and making a difference. University of Nottingham</td>
<td>Carole Mockford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Nov 08</td>
<td>Outcomes in Clinical Research, The James Lind Alliance</td>
<td>Sophie Staniszewska, Kirstie Haywood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 Nov 08</td>
<td>National Centre for Involvement – Involving, engaging, empowering – PPI in action. International Conference Centre, Birmingham</td>
<td>Carole Mockford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-25 Mar 09</td>
<td>RCN Research Conference, Cardiff</td>
<td>Kate Seers, Jo Brett, Liz Tutton, Sophie Staniszewska, Claire Hawkes, Jackie Chandler-Oatts, Kirstie Haywood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 09</td>
<td>International Forum on Quality and Safety in Health Care, Berlin</td>
<td>Claire Hawkes, Jackie Chandler-Oatts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-3 Apr 09</td>
<td>Pain Society Conference, Sandown</td>
<td>Kate Seers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 Apr 09</td>
<td>Critical Perspectives on User Involvement conference in Brighton</td>
<td>Andy Gibson, Sophie Staniszewska, Carole Mockford, Becky Putz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 09</td>
<td>British Society of Rheumatology, Glasgow</td>
<td>Kirstie Haywood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 Apr 09</td>
<td>Measuring the Patient Experience, Hallam Conference Centre, London</td>
<td>Sophie Staniszewska</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 May 09</td>
<td>Measuring Patients’ Experience of Care in Hospital, The Kings Fund</td>
<td>Sophie Staniszewska</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-26 Jun 09</td>
<td>Knowledge Utilisation Colloquium, Deganwy, Wales</td>
<td>Kate Seers, Claire Hawkes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>R&amp;D Seminars</td>
<td>Journal Club</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 2008</td>
<td>FIRE - facilitating implementation of research evidence- Study (Kate Seers)</td>
<td>Library &amp; information Services - update</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 2008</td>
<td>Justifying sociological knowledge: from realism to interpretation. (Jackie Chandler-Oatts)</td>
<td>Natasha Posner. 'Psychosis and recovery: programme logic and indicators of person-centred outcomes'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 2008</td>
<td>Christmas Celebrations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 2009</td>
<td>Discussion of bids and potential for collaboration</td>
<td>Claire Hawkes. Guideline implementation in an ICU setting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun 2009</td>
<td>Mental Health and Self Harm. (Di Bailey, Reader in Social Work and Social Care, School of Applied Social Sciences, Durham University)</td>
<td>Market Prescriptions: Implications of 'World Class Commissioning' for Patient and Public Involvement in the NHS. (Dr Andrew Gibson)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul 2009</td>
<td>Maximising the impact of continuing professional education on practice. (Professor Jan Draper, Director of Nursing, Faculty of Health and Social Care, Open University)</td>
<td>Joanne Mangnall Changing continence care in care homes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Joint Advisory Board
Royal College of Nursing Research Institute (RCN RI)
School of Health & Social Studies
University of Warwick

The Royal College of Nursing Research Institute (RCN RI)
The RCN RI was formerly the Research Team at the Royal College of Nursing Institute from 1996-2007. When the RCN wished to develop a strategic alliance with another Higher Education Institute to enhance its ability to deliver high quality research, the University of Warwick was successful in its bid to be the RCN’s strategic alliance partner for research. The RCN RI has been a Research Centre within the School of Health & Social Studies at the University of Warwick since 1st August 2007.

Aims of the RCN Research Institute
The RCN RI is committed to staying at the leading edge of research in our specialist areas via national and international inter-disciplinary collaboration. Specifically we aim to:

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

Terms of Reference for Joint Advisory Board

1. To advise the University, the Royal College of Nursing and the Director RCN RI on strategic planning and direction.
2. To advise on the academic plans of the RCN RI, including scope and range.
3. To review objectives and progress against objectives.
4. To monitor the strategic alliance agreement between University of Warwick and the Royal College of Nursing, and discuss and recommend any variations and developments.
5. To ensure sound financial governance of RCN RI by receiving and commenting on financial statements.
6. To receive and review an Annual Report.
7. To monitor the quality of PhD student experience.
Membership of Joint Advisory Board

1. Two members from University of Warwick.
2. Two members from the Royal College of Nursing.
3. Two external members with expertise in directing research centres.
4. Two user/patient members.
5. One member working in health care and one member from the National Institute for Innovation and Improvement.
6. Director of RCN RI.
7. Director of Research and the Head of the School of Health & Social Studies.
8. One staff member from RCN RI.

Additional members can be co-opted to provide specialist advice as required.

The Joint Advisory Board will be supported administratively by the PA to the Director RCN RI.

Working Methods

1. The Joint Advisory Board will meet twice a year in the first three years, and then at least annually.
2. All matters relating to the Joint Advisory Board will be treated as confidential.
3. Electronic or written communication may be used between Joint Advisory Board meetings.
4. All members will have equal standing on the group.
5. Term of office is three years, renewable for one additional three year period.
6. The Joint Advisory Board will be chaired by an external member.
7. Conflicts of Interest will be declared and recorded.
8. A minimum of five members must be present for a meeting to be quorate. If a meeting is not quorate, and decisions taken will be by Chair’s action, and will be ratified by email following the meeting.
9. If a Joint Advisory Board member is not present at three consecutive meetings, a new Joint Advisory Board member may be considered by the Chair and the Director of the RCN RI. It is expected that the member will normally attend, but they can send a fully briefed representative where this is unavoidable.
10. The experience and involvement of users and the impact of that involvement will be monitored.