



Service Users in Research
Mental Health Research Network



**National Institute for
Health Research**

MHRN Service Users in Research

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Service Users in Research Bulletin

Issue Ten: February 2011

This is the tenth edition of the bulletin that we send out to members via post or email. In these bulletins we provide news about user involvement in the NIHR Mental Health Research Network (MHRN) and advertise opportunities for people to get involved in the MHRN and mental health research generally.

If anyone has anything that they would like to be in the bulletin or if you would like to join Service Users in Research then please let us know. You can email us at: mhrnppi@kcl.ac.uk.

To join Service Users in Research please fill out the membership form which is sent out alongside this email. You can also join online at:

<http://www.mhrn.info/pages/join-service-users-in-research-online.html>

These bulletins are additionally placed online at www.mhrn.info



We are on Facebook! To find the Service Users in Research page type in 'Service Users in Research' in the search box at www.facebook.com

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Please note that for events organised by MHRN hubs, travel expenses are usually only able to be offered to people living in the area covered by that hub. Please always check beforehand.

Lay Members wanted for Research Ethics Committees


National Patient Safety Agency
National Research Ethics Service

Research Ethics Committee Lay Members

The National Research Ethics Service is trying to recruit lay members to Research Ethics Committees in the London area.

Lay members are non-health care professionals, perhaps patients, ex-patients or their relatives, who are interested in scrutinising the ethical aspects of research proposals.

Committee members receive training in ethical review and have opportunities to debate challenging issues in the life sciences to help protect the rights and well-being of research participants and promote ethical research.

Positions are voluntary but expenses are paid, including travel and childcare costs if applicable. Committees meet on average for half a day per month and applicants will need to be able to attend at least two thirds of meetings.

Please note there is no deadline for applications – the recruitment process is ongoing.

To find out more please contact:

Michael Fox on 020 7794 0500 ext - 31342
michael.fox1@nhs.net

Research & Ethics Dept
South House
Royal Free Hospital
Pond Street
London, NW3 2QG

<http://www.nres.npsa.nhs.uk/aboutus/>

Mental Health Research Network North East Service User and Carer Forum 2011



Mental Health Research Network North East Service User and Carer Forum 2011

Friday 04th March 2011
10.00 - 3.30pm

Discovery Museum, Newcastle upon Tyne

REGISTRATION IS FREE

Set in the magnificent Great Hall of the Discovery Museum, this one day forum will bring together service users, carers, academics and professionals alike to discuss involvement opportunities, incentives for participation and raise awareness of studies within the MHRN North East



FOCUS ON...

- Barriers/Challenges
- Training/Support
- Promotion/involvement opportunities

PLUS.....

Opportunities for networking

Lunch and refreshments

A series of interactive café discussions

Travel costs for Service Users and Carers will be reimbursed



FOR FURTHER DETAILS OR TO REGISTER YOUR ATTENDANCE PLEASE CONTACT:

ALISSA HARRISON
MHRN North East Hub, Academic Psychiatry, Campus for Ageing and Vitality,
Newcastle, NE4 6BE

Tel: 0191 2563291
Fax: 0191 2563339
Email: mhrn@ntw.nhs.uk

MHRN North West hub Service User Research Showcase meeting

North West Hub
Mental Health Research Network

NHS
National Institute for
Health Research

**THE NORTH WEST HUB OF THE
MENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH
NETWORK INVITES YOU TO ATTEND**

**A SERVICE USER RESEARCH SHOWCASE
A FREE EVENT FOR SERVICE USERS**

ON FRIDAY 11TH MARCH 2011

**AT THE GUJARAT HINDU SOCIETY
SOUTH MEADOW LANE
PRESTON
PR1 8JN**

9.45 AM – 2.30 PM

SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

**PHIL BYRNE
RORY BYRNE
LIZ PITT
JASON PRICE
KIRSTY STEVENSON**

Flyer designed by Lisa Cooper-Francis; NW Hub MHRN SURP-NW Committee Member

The NW Hub MHRN encourages people with personal experience of mental health problems to work with us and get involved in individual research projects. Some of the studies we support employ people with experience of mental health problems as researchers.

This free event provides a great opportunity for anyone interested to hear more about the experiences of those who have become involved with mental health research in the North West of England and to contribute to ideas for future developments.

Do join us for a lively day, with food for thought as well as a good lunch!

Reasonable travel expenses will be reimbursed to Service Users for travel within the North West area

Please return booking forms to/contact for further information:
Theresa Connelly, NW Hub Secretary
Tel: 01772 773504
or email:
theresa.connelly@lancashirecare.nhs.uk

**NW Hub MHRN
The LANTERN Centre
Vicarage Lane
Fulwood
PRESTON
PR2 8DY**

**Closing date for applications
18th February 2011**

The NIHR Mental Health Research Network is part of the National Institute for Health Research and the UK Clinical Research Network

MHRN East Midlands hub plus South Yorkshire

Public and Patient Involvement Update

(This is an extract of an update that was written by Debbie Butler of the MHRN East Midlands hub)

Our first meeting is a **service user and carer meeting in Nottingham city centre at a venue called Life at the Centre**. www.lifeatthecentre.com. The meeting will take place **between 12.00 and 2.30 on January 26th**. On this occasion I am unable to attend but in my place there will be two colleagues of mine to answer any questions and to introduce the Speaker. **Their names are Jon Lander and Amy Shuttlewood** Refreshments of tea coffee and biscuits will be available.

The speaker is also a colleague called **Mohan Mudigonda** will be speaking to us about the Mental Health Capacity Act. This event is approaching soon therefore could I ask if you are interested in attending that you let me know as soon as possible either by phone on 0115 8231292 or by e-mail on Debbie.butler3@nhs.net.

Our next event will take place in February. This event which we have called a Communication Workshop will be worth attending if you would like some help in how to put across any ideas you may have to the professionals that we work with during our time in the mental health services either as a patient or a service user and or carer representative. **The date for this is February the 25th and will be held at the Jubilee campus in Nottingham at the Dearing Building Room A32. 10.00am to 3.30pm** Once again if you let me know you would like to attend then we can make sure we have the right resources to make the day enjoyable for you. This workshop is open to service users and carers across the Hub. My contact details for this event are as above. Could I ask you to contact me to express interest in attending, numbers are limited so places will be on a first come first served basis.

Our next meeting in March is arranged for 1pm till 4pm in rooms at The Parish Centre 91 Sheffield Road Stonegravels Chesterfield on Friday 25th March 2011 www.parishcentrestonegravels.co.uk.

This is to enable those service users and carers who live in the Derbyshire part of our hub to get to know us. It would be good if anyone from the other areas may perhaps attend enabling us to get to know one another. Once again if you would like to attend please let me know.

The East Midlands and South Yorkshire Mental Health Research Network covers a large area including Lincolnshire, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and South Yorkshire. The vision is to encompass our service users and carers in helping 'the Professionals' on the topic of research. Although links have been established in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire we are in discussion with colleagues in South Yorkshire and Lincolnshire and if you would like to get involved please let me know.

North London Seminar: 'OCTET' – a study investigating the effectiveness of community treatment orders

Seminar to be held on 25th February 2011

Part of a series of seminars organised by experts with experience who work with the MHRN's North London Hub.

This seminar focuses on the OCTET study that is investigating the effectiveness of community treatment orders. Speakers will include Jorun Rugkåsa from the University of Oxford who is a member of the OCTET study team, and people who have been put under a community treatment order.

For more information and to register a place, contact hub administrator Jemma Reilly-Ayton, 020 7386 1156, j.reilly-ayton@imperial.ac.uk

This is the fourth in the 2011 series of 'SUNLOWs seminars' organised by people with experience of mental health problems. The seminars aim to inform people living within the hub's boundaries about MHRN-supported research.

www.sunlows.org.uk contains information about mental health research being carried out in the North London area and is maintained by people with experience of mental health problems who work with the hub.

Event details

Location: North London Hub offices, The Claybrook Centre, St Dunstan's Road
London W6 8RP

Date Times: 2pm to 4.30pm, 25th February 2011

MHRN West Hub: Lead Service User and Carer Representative Opportunity



Lead Service User and Carer Representative

West Hub, Mental Health Research Network

The West Hub of the Mental Health Research Network (MHRN) is looking for a new Lead Service User Representative. This position will suit an experienced service user / carer with some knowledge of research.

The post will involve sitting on our Hub Executive Committee, being involved with Hub interview panels for new staff, sitting on our Service User Steering Group, helping with our annual research day and representing the Hub as appropriate. All expenses will be paid and financial remuneration is available for duties carried out.

For an informal chat about the position or to request a full description of the role please contact:

Nathan Filer
School of Social & Community Medicine
University of Bristol
Oakfield House
Oakfield Grove
Clifton
Bristol BS8 2BN

Nathan.Filer@bristol.ac.uk

01173 313368

Closing Date: Feb 28th 2011

MHRN West Hub: South West Mental Health Research Day 2011



West Hub
Mental Health Research Network



NHS
National Institute for
Health Research

MENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH IN THE SOUTH WEST Research Day 2011

Wednesday, 9th March 2011, Exeter Conference Centre, Exeter

This research day is a fantastic networking opportunity and is targeted at everyone involved with or who has an interest in mental health research including healthcare professionals, researchers, service users and carers.



We are inviting abstracts for speaker presentations, posters and workshops in all areas of mental health, including :

- Primary care
- Secondary care
- Social care
- Pharmaceutical /commercial trials
- Service user/carer led research

The Mental Health Research Network (MHRN) has been established to facilitate research into mental health problems and to improve collaboration between researchers and NHS partners. The West Hub of the Network is a consortium of Universities and NHS Trusts across the South West including Avon, Wiltshire, Devon and Cornwall, with linked sites in Hampshire and Gloucestershire

If you would like to take part in this exciting event, abstracts can refer to **completed studies** and ones **currently in progress**, but should include details of **impact, relevance and importance to practice**. We would like the event to include both the research and the experience of being involved in research. There will be prizes for the best speaker and poster presentations. We will reimburse travel expenses for service users & carers. **This event is free of charge.** (non attendance without reasonable notification will be chargeable)

Registration forms can be obtained by visiting www.mhrn.info or by contacting us on westhub-mhrn@bristol.ac.uk or by telephone: 0117 331 0921

Abstract submission : Please complete the registration and abstract sections and return on the email address above by **Friday, 3rd December 2010**
Registration only : Please complete the registration section only and return on the email address above by **Friday, 21st January 2011**



Hosted by :

Devon Partnership 
NHS Trust

West Hub Mental Health Research Network
Academic Unit of Psychiatry, University of Bristol
Cotham House, Cotham Hill
Bristol, BS6 6JL

Hampshire Partnership 
NHS Foundation Trust



University of
Wiltshire

 PENINSULA
MEDICAL SCHOOL
UNIVERSITY OF EXETER

 UNIVERSITY OF THE
WEST OF ENGLAND

Devon Partnership 
NHS Trust

 UNIVERSITY OF
BATH

Avon and Wiltshire 
Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust

Cornwall Partnership 
NHS Trust

 UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHAMPTON

Foundation Trust
For Gloucestershire

 NHS

 UNIVERSITY OF
BRISTOL

Latest News from Involve (www.invo.org.uk)

Changing Our World: examples of user-controlled research in action



“This report is intended to increase the understanding and awareness of user-controlled research through exploring in-depth seven examples of research where service users or disabled people controlled the research process. The report provides a description of the seven examples and a summary of the role and value of the user-controlled research”

The report can be downloaded from:

http://www.invo.org.uk/pdfs/6823_INVOLVE_UCRCS_brochure_WEB.pdf

If you would like a hard copy of the report then please email: admin@invo.org.uk or telephone 02380 651088.

Mental Health in the News

Genes may play role in friends we choose, says study

“Researchers in the United States say they have uncovered tentative evidence of a genetic component to friendship”

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-12207954>

To look at the original research paper see:

<http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2011/01/07/1011687108>

Why the responsible reporting of mental health issues is so important

“A soon-to-be-published research report on coverage of mental illness in the US and British mainstream”

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/sustainability/blog/editorial-mental-health-reporting>

British Medical Journal Psychiatry Updates

See:

<http://www.bmj.com/site/topics/psychiatry>

The British Medical Journal (BMJ) is one of the country's most well known medical journals. There is a special section on the BMJ website which has all the articles and letters etc published by the BMJ family of journals. It's quite interesting actually. One of the latest pieces in this section is entitled 'sixty eight per cent of us hallucinate'.

Sixty eight per cent of us hallucinate

"This survey showed that 68% of medical staff have sensory hallucinations. I have experienced similar sensations when carrying a mobile phone with a vibrate function"

See: <http://www.bmj.com/content/342/bmj.d299.full>

This is actually a letter in response to a research paper entitled '*Phantom vibration syndrome among medical staff: a cross sectional survey*'. You can read the full text of the original paper here:

http://www.bmj.com/content/341/bmj.c6914.abstract?ijkey=96606f3289d2c72718cccd2a02ca11b68dcb77ff&keytype2=tf_ipsecsha

Students paid £250 for having a ketamine jab

"Fifteen participants were injected with ketamine before being tested to see if it made them more or less likely to identify a false rubber hand as their own"

<http://www.metro.co.uk/news/851020-students-paid-250-for-having-a-ketamine-jab>

This is a pretty interesting article from December 2010. We didn't pick it up until now. The article refers to some students at Cambridge University that were paid to have ketamine injections as part of a schizophrenia research study. The article touches upon some important issues relating to volunteering to get involved in this kind of research.

Expert Review of the Public and Patient Involvement (PPI) in the NIHR Mental Health Research Network

In November 2010 the way that the MHRN involves users and carers was reviewed by 'Dr. Edvard Beem of the Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development, and Dr Frederick J Frese, an American psychologist who has personal experience of mental health problems'. The two reviewers met with a wide range of user, carers, researchers, and MHRN staff and a report has been produced which will be placed on the MHRN website by 1st February 2011 (www.mhrn.info).