



CHSS recent events
Page 2



New models of care
Page 4



Dr Chris Farmer
Page 6



New staff at CHSS
Page 8

Newsletter

CHSS
University of Kent

Centre for Health Services Studies

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CHSS partnership with local Vanguard

In 2015, as one of the first steps towards delivering the Five Year Forward View, the NHS invited individual organisations and partnerships to apply to become 'Vanguard' sites for the new care models programme. In an exciting new collaboration, CHSS is to establish a research support office within the local Vanguard. The work is being undertaken with the Kent Surrey and Sussex NIHR Clinical Research Network.

Read about the aims of the partnership and how it will enhance patient care, on pages 4 and 5.



Excellence in health research

CHSS events report

Health psychology conference inspires audience

The 2015 Kent, Surrey and Sussex Health Psychology Network (KSSHPN) Annual Conference, 'Developing a Research Career in Health Psychology' was hosted by CHSS in November. The one day conference attracted health psychologists, students, trainees and researchers across academia, pharma, NHS and charities.



The sessions were lively and varied and included an insightful presentation on applying health psychology within social marketing from CHSS Research Fellow Rowena Merritt.

Annette King, Kent Academic Lead for the NIHR Research Design Service SE at CHSS led an interactive session on how to apply for research funding.

BPS Division of Health Psychology Chair, Prof Karen Rodham's closing address was 'How Health Psychology Can Help People Learn to Live and Cope with Complex Regional Pain Syndrome'.

Conference organiser Dr Kate Hamilton-West was delighted with the response: 'The day went so well and we've had excellent feedback. Delegates really enjoyed the variety of speakers and loved hearing about people's passionate journeys through their research careers. They went away buzzing with new ideas! I'm already looking forward to planning next year's event!'

For further information about KSSHPN visit <http://ksshealthpsychologynetwork.weebly.com>

Look out for future CHSS events on our news page and on Twitter.

CHSS welcomes Ukraine public health delegation



In December our partners from Kyiv Economics Institute at the Kyiv School of Economics came to Canterbury on a working visit within the MRC/Wellcome Trust/DFID/ESRC funded project 'Feasibility Study: Effectiveness of Public Health System (Programmes/Policies) in Combating Severe Population Health Crisis in Ukraine'.

The delegation comprised Ms Nataliia Shapoval, Ms Anna Kvit and Mr Vadym Bizyaev (Kyiv Economics Institute at the Kyiv School of Economics, Ukraine), Professor Stephen Peckham, Dr Olena Nizalova and Dr Erica Gadsby (CHSS) and Professor Olena Hankivsky (Simon Fraser University, Canada).

At the end of the week-long visit there was a two-day workshop where the whole project team presented preliminary findings from the study. These included telephone interviews with regional departments of health across Ukraine, in-depth interviews with key specialists in three selected regions, and an analysis of Public Health interventions from 1990-2015. Mrs Nataliia Piven from the Ministry of Health of Ukraine also joined the workshop to discuss recent developments in Health reform.

For more information about the project visit the CHSS current research webpage.

CHSS to host International Symposium

2016 International Collaboration for Community Health Nursing Research (ICCHNR)

International Symposium: 'Changing populations, changing needs: Directions and models for community orientated primary care' 15-16 September 2016, University of Kent

CHSS are delighted to be hosting the two-day ICCHNR Symposium. Themed around new models and ways of working for nurses and health and social care practitioners within community and primary care, the programme will appeal to a multidisciplinary audience.

It includes an exciting list of international speakers who lead in research and development of innovative models of care.

The call for abstracts is open, with registration from 1 March 2016

For more details, see p8 or visit www.icchnr.org



CHSS research news

A bright future for Wei!



Dr Wei Yang was recently awarded a prestigious ESRC (Economic and Social Research Council) Future Research Leaders Fellowship. The Future Research Leaders scheme recognises outstanding early career social scientists, enabling them to acquire skills to become world leaders in their field. Only around 30 awards are given each year to postdoctoral researchers.

Wei is a Research Associate in health economics at CHSS. She joined the University of Kent two years ago.

She will spend the next three years researching the challenges of long term care of the ageing population in rural China. The project was the subject of her application to the Future Leaders scheme. The ESRC funding also provides valuable opportunities to attend research conferences and events.

Wei was delighted to hear of her success: 'It was wonderful to win this award and I am so happy to be working on the project. There are key questions around inequities in health and long term care in China's older rural population, particularly around financing. The whole area is under-researched and not well understood, so I am hopeful that my work can fill a knowledge gap, highlight the need for long term care in China and help to inform future policy decisions'.

Information about Wei's project, 'Who will care for you when you get old? – Studying inequalities in health and long term care among elderly in rural China' is available on our website.

Find out more about Wei at:
www.kent.ac.uk/chss/staff/research/yang.html



New models of care



CHSS develops new research partnership with local Vanguard

CHSS has long been involved in research locally, nationally and across Europe, to examine new ways of working and their impact on health and social care service provision and – most crucially – on patient care. Centre Director Stephen Peckham talks about an exciting new collaboration which seeks to put research at the very heart of care and to inform how local services are organised and delivered.

'In 2014 publication of NHS England's *Five Year Forward View* marked the start of an ambitious programme to develop new models of care. The result has been the establishment of new ways to organize health services being piloted in a number of 'Vanguard' sites around the country.

These new models include different forms of organisational integration, including Multispecialty Community Providers (MCPs), Primary and Acute Care Systems (PACS) and urgent and emergency care networks. They also support development of smaller hospitals, midwife-led maternity care and enhanced NHS care in care homes. More recently the Government announced acute care collaboration Vanguard sites linking hospitals together.

Vanguards focus on moving specialist care from hospitals to the community and in particular they emphasise integrated care for older people – a key element within the *Five Year Forward View*.

There are two Vanguard sites in Kent. The first, within Canterbury and Coastal Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) involves general practices in Whitstable, Faversham and Canterbury. Serving a population of 170,000 people the Vanguard, which has been named 'Encompass', is one of 14 MCPs operating across NHS England. It works in partnership with local health, care and support organisations. Among them are Canterbury and Coastal CCG, Kent County Council, East Kent Hospitals University Foundation Trust, Kent Community Health Trust, Kent Partnership Trust and Age UK.

Recently it was announced that Dartford and Gravesham NHS Trust would form part of a new acute care collaboration Vanguard. Working with Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, Dartford and Gravesham will explore becoming one of the first new multi-service chains (Foundation Groups) proposed by the 2014 Dalton Review of NHS providers. These groups involve different hospitals working closely together, offering clinical services to another site, and sharing corporate services through a management contract.

The new developments aim to address two longstanding problems in the UK health system. Integration of health and social care services will meet patients', service users' and carers' needs more effectively. There is also a need to address the sustainability of acute care providers.



Whilst shifting services from hospital to community settings, and closer health and social care service integration are far from new concepts, developing effective new ways of community working to address health and social care demands remains a challenge.

Since before the New Year, CHSS has been working with Encompass to establish a research support office within the Vanguard and build research capacity. The work is being undertaken in collaboration with the Kent Surrey and Sussex NIHR Clinical Research Network.

The new research partnership will:

- ensure delivery of high quality national studies in the Vanguard
- generate and facilitate research activity within all the member practices
- make research part of normal everyday activity
- use knowledge generated by new research to improve care quality
- use research to contribute to Vanguard development and activities
- provide educational and development opportunities for practice staff
- improve staff recruitment and retention.

The work builds on CHSS' ongoing integrated care research in collaboration with local CCGs and Kent local authorities, led by Professor Jenny Billings.

CHSS is also working with South East Commissioning Support Unit on a number of rapid evidence reviews commissioned by NHS England to support work undertaken by Vanguards across England'.

“As head of the Kent Academic Primary Care Unit hosted by CHSS, I am absolutely delighted to be working with the Vanguard. The focus on creating a sustainable research environment, where high quality studies can be delivered and new knowledge derived through Vanguard-specific research questions, is a combination which can only improve quality of care.



Nationally there is a quest to seek best ways of embedding research within large primary and community care-based organisations and we believe this initiative provides an exciting and novel example”.

Tricia Wilson
CHSS Professor of Primary and Community Care

“As a primary care physician working in East Kent and a member of CHSS, I am really excited by this opportunity to work with the Vanguard to significantly improve research within primary care and across the primary/secondary care interface.



Evaluating service and integration, participating in portfolio research and having the opportunity to undertake our own research projects within primary care will undoubtedly improve the care for all our patients”.

Dr Vanessa Short
GP, Renal Registrar and CHSS Clinical Research Fellow

“A key outcome of the Vanguard will be to continue to expand and improve integrated care for different population groups across the patch, and I will keenly welcome the opportunity to support the development and evaluation of their initiatives as Director of the Integrated Care Research Unit in CHSS.



The Vanguard’s work has the potential to have a direct impact on how care is seamlessly co-ordinated, to improve independence and quality of life at home, as well as adding to our understanding of what works for whom, how and with what benefits”.

Jenny Billings
CHSS Professor of Applied Health Research

CHSS people

Two hats for Doctor Chris



Chris Farmer, Consultant in renal medicine at East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust (EKHUFT) has stepped down as Trust Associate Medical Director to join CHSS as part time Clinical Professor. Chris is one of EKHUFT'S most prodigious researchers whose work has informed national policy in renal medicine. His appointment strengthens an already thriving EKHUFT/University relationship.

'I'm really enjoying spending two days of my working week at CHSS. I've been interested in research for twenty years and worked with the Centre before on successful grants and projects. CHSS is well aligned with my research so it was a natural choice to take up the post here. It's a nice group of people and a supportive environment.

I think I can bring quite a lot to this role because it's situated at the interface between clinicians and academics. It can be difficult in the NHS to develop research ideas and I'd like to help. It's important to have a working clinician's perspective on a project. Being familiar with the GP arena in East and West Kent I also hope to help CHSS drive and develop primary care research. I'd also like to bring a sense of humour!

People ask me about managing the clinical and academic work balance. I had to drop a lot of Trust management responsibility to take up this post. Occasionally I do acute on-call work which can be challenging, but it's all working really well.

What is striking – and slightly weird – is the two completely opposite environments I'm operating in. I've worked almost exclusively in the NHS for 25 years and there you are reacting to what every day may throw at you. In the University, the focus is on forward planning and strategy. But it's a good mix and I'm relishing all the challenges ahead.

Recently I've been working with colleagues on two NIHR research funding bids. One examines managing Acute Kidney Injury (AKI) in the community. The other is on quality of life in chronic kidney disease. There are also ongoing collaborations including identifying acutely sick patients in hospital, and we just published a paper on a project I worked on with Jenny Billings on using IT to alert clinicians to AKI (see opposite). I'm doing lab based research with Medway School of Pharmacy, and working on NIHR clinical portfolio studies so I'm keeping busy!

I come from Northampton originally. I went to Medical School at Charing Cross and Westminster, then spent two years at Brighton Hospital before doing most of my Postgrad work and MD at Guys in my main specialism of kidney transplantation. My first research study in the 1990s was with Helen Hobbs (now studying her PhD at Kent) so it's good to be working together again, and with Vanessa (Short).

I love renal work. The variety appeals to my interest in maths and technology, and transplantation is very cutting edge.

Looking ahead I think funding is the number one challenge both for renal medicine and research. Kidney disease rates are increasing as people live longer and because of a rise in diabetes, though dialysis rates are low. But I am up for a challenge!

To get away from all things renal, I like to take to the ocean waves. I recently sailed across a very rough Bay of Biscay. I'm no stranger to stormy seas, as I water-ski at Herne Bay (only in the summer months!) We braved storm force winds across Cape Finisterre. It was scary but still spectacularly beautiful. Once in port in Spain, our map told us we were on the Costa da Morte – the Coast of Death! Perhaps next time we'll stick to the Costa del Sol!

I really hope it will be plain sailing at CHSS!

For more information about Chris' work, see his webpage
www.kent.ac.uk/chss/staff/research/farmer.html

1 The winning EKHUFT team at the ceremony from left to right: Dr Michael Bedford (Renal Registrar), Dr Chris Farmer (Renal Consultant), Toby Wheeler (Renal IT developer), Dr Paul Stevens (Medical Director)

Other news, latest publications

Regional award for EKHUFT clinical alerting system

In January, East Kent Hospitals, with Care Flow Connect Ltd won the 'Enhancing Innovation through Collaboration' Award at the 2016 Kent Surrey Sussex Academic Health Science Network Expo and Awards in London.

The EKHUFT team won the award for their real-time communication, alerting and referrals system across multi-disciplinary teams.

The awards focused on digital innovation, medicines optimisation and out of hospital services for older people – themes to support NHS England's Five Year Forward View.

EKHUFT first began developing clinical alerting systems in 2013 to provide real-time alerts to front-line medical staff. They partnered with a commercial organisation to extend their project. It now provides a secure, portable electronic alerting system for doctors, nurses and allied healthcare professionals that can be accessed on any portable device with an internet connection.



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The system has created secure networks for patient handover and referral, facilitated hospital at night transfers of care and provides better continuity of care.



Applying for health research funding?

Free advice and support from Research Design Service South East

Since 2008 CHSS has hosted the RDS SE at the University Kent. The service also operates from the Universities of Brighton and Surrey. RDS SE is funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) to support teams and individuals preparing proposals for submission to health and social care research funders.

The multidisciplinary RDS SE team can advise on all aspects of designing and developing successful health or social care research

applications, including Fellowships, to NIHR and other funders:

- formulating a research question
- identifying funding sources
- building a research team
- involving patients and the public
- study design and methodology
- Statistics and health economics.

See more at: www.rds-se.nihr.ac.uk

New selected CHSS publications 2015/16

Hamilton-West K E (2016) The role of a practitioner health psychologist in a primary care mental health service. *Health Psychology Update* 25 pp40-46

Gage H, **Holdsworth L M**, Flannery C, Williams P and Butler C (2015) Impact of a hospice rapid response service on preferred place of death, and costs. *BMC Palliative Care* 14 (75) pp. 1-11 ISSN 1472-684X

d'Amico F, Rehill A, Knapp M R J, **Lowery D**, Cerga-Pashoja A et al (2015) Cost-effectiveness of exercise as a therapy for behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia within the EVIDEM-E randomised controlled trial. *International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry* ISSN 0885-6230 (In press)

Marchand C and Vandenberghe C (2015) Perceived Organizational Support, Perceived Resource Loss, and Psychological health: The Moderating Effect of Negative Affectivity. *Travail Humain* 78 (3). pp. 193-216. ISSN 0041-1868.

Jenkins L M, Bramwell D, Coleman A, **Gadsby E W**, **Peckham S** et al (2015) Integration, influence and change in public health: findings from a survey of Directors of Public Health in England. *Journal of Public Health* ISSN 1741-3842. (In press)

Marchand C and Vandenberghe C (2015) Perceived Organizational Support, Emotional Exhaustion and Turnover: Moderating Role of Negative Affectivity. *International Journal of Stress Management* ISSN 1072-5245

Yang W (2015) Catastrophic Health Expenditure. In: Odekon, Mehmet, ed. *Encyclopedia of world poverty*. SAGE Publications pp. 180-181 ISBN 9781483345703

Details of all CHSS current research is available on our website: www.kent.ac.uk/chss/research/current.html

Staff news

Information about all CHSS staff can be found on our website: www.kent.ac.uk/chss/staff/index.html

Welcome to new staff...

Lindsay Forbes

Senior Clinical Fellow in Public Health

Lindsay joined CHSS in January from King's College London and Queen Mary, University of London. An experienced researcher and public health physician, her expertise lies in designing and evaluating interventions and services to improve patient and public outcomes. Lindsay was a Principal Investigator of the Department of Health Policy Research Unit on cancer awareness, screening and early diagnosis.

She will work with existing staff providing advice and leadership on public health research and supporting project development. Lindsay will also teach and supervise undergraduate and postgraduate students.



About CHSS

CHSS is a centre of research excellence which undertakes high quality research into a wide range of health systems and health services issues at local, national and international levels. CHSS also supports and advises health care staff to develop and undertake research projects. CHSS collaborates with a wide range of partners in Kent, the UK and in other countries to improve the links between research, policy and practice.

Please see the CHSS website for details of current and previous research and publications

Details of current CHSS vacancies and studentships can be found at: www.kent.ac.uk/chss/vacancies.html

Save the date!



2016 International Collaboration for Community Health Nursing Research (ICCHNR)

International Symposium:
'Changing populations, changing needs: Directions and models for community orientated primary care'
Thursday 15 – Friday 16 September 2016,
University of Kent, Canterbury, UK

Confirmed speakers:

Jos de Blok (Buurtzorg organisation, Netherlands)

Ruta Valaitis (McMasters University, Canada)

Maxine Jones (NUKA model, NHS Tayside, Scotland)

Juan Carlos Contel (Regional Health Council of Cataluña, Spain)

Vari Drennan (Kingston and St Georges University London, England)

Alison Leary (London South Bank University, England)

Catherine Evans (Kings College London, England)

Susan Hamer (National Institute of Health Research, England)

Jenny Billings (University of Kent, England)

David Gilbert (Patient Director, England)

Jane Ball (Southampton University, England)

Find out more on the ICCHNR website
www.icchnr.org

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