NCARE newsletter

Summer 2017

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Welcome to Dr Nicola Turner, Research Fellow

Annual lecture by Professor Jane Seymour

New co-developed Medicine Usage Review (MUR) programme
Welcome to the Summer NCARE Newsletter

Kristian Pollock, Principal research fellow and interim lead of NCARE

The new look design continues and we have published this newsletter online so it can be shared extensively with all our research colleagues and partners, who support the advancement of research into supportive, palliative and end-of-life care.

Each issue covers the latest news, events and publications from NCARE, plus a research focus which gives real insight into the work that is being done.

We hope you find the newsletter of interest. Please send any feedback or ideas for future editions to kristian.pollock@nottingham.ac.uk. The next edition is planned for spring 2018.

This year’s annual lecture ‘Power to the people: do public health campaigns improve awareness and quality of palliative care?’ was delivered by Jane Seymour, Professor of Palliative and End-of-Life Care, School of Nursing and Midwifery, University of Sheffield.

Jane talked about the right to health, including a right of access to good quality palliative care. Jane examined the complexities of awareness raising, and distilled key messages from international research.

“Raising awareness is a key plank of the public health approach to palliative care, but involves consideration of subjects most of us prefer not to address.”
Health Education England (HEE) Part of an internship

**Dr Ruth Parry and Becky Whittaker**

Dr Ruth Parry and Becky Whittaker have been working with Health Education England (HEE) as part of an internship.

One of the problems of healthcare research is that it can be separate from actual practice, and difficult to get research findings translated into practice. One way of trying to close this gap is for researchers and educators to partner with government and professional bodies that oversee and provide guidance to practitioners.

Becky Whittaker, a member of the NCARE team, is doing just this at the moment, working one day per week with Health Education England (HEE), a part of the Department of Health that oversees training of healthcare professionals and staff.

Becky is advising them about end-of-life care training and communication skills training, drawing on her deep understanding of what works in healthcare training and on the work of the NCARE researchers on end-of-life care communication.

The particular area of focus at the moment is on the Person Centred Skills and Training Framework, due to be launched by the Skills for Health and Health Education England during the summer. We have had an early view of this framework, which provides particularly detailed and evidence-based guidance on communication. We feel this is going to raise people’s interest in the importance of skilful conversations and we will provide a link on the NCARE website once it is launched.

Please contact Becky for any information regarding communication skills training and the Person Centred Skills and Training Framework at becky.whittaker@nottingham.ac.uk.

**Updates**

We welcome Dr Nicola Turner.

Nicola joins the team as a Research Fellow working on the Managing Medicines at Home study. More information about the study can be found at: nottingham.ac.uk/ncare/mmh

Dr Kristian Pollock presented a well-received plenary presentation at the Tayside Palliative Care National Conference in Dundee on 22 June. Kristian talked around constructing choice in death and dying.
Events

Practitioner Research Network Open meetings

Glenys Caswell, Senior Research Fellow

We are pleased to announce further dates for our research seminars for 2017.

These seminars are open to practitioners, educators, researchers and the public. They start at 12.30 with lunch included. There will be time after talks for discussion and networking.

Details about upcoming seminars are on our website and also advertised via email subscription. If you would like to be added to the email list please contact glenys.caswell@nottingham.ac.uk.

Upcoming seminars

Thursday 21 September
Dr Louise Bramley and Dr Nicola Turner talk about their experiences of undertaking PhDs in end-of-life research.

Thursday 23 November
Dr Julie Carter
Leadership Fellow in End-of-Life Care, Transforming End-of-Life Care Team, University College London Hospitals. Julie will talk about initiatives to help develop and sustain improvements in care, focussing on communication and compassion as part of a five year quality improvement programme for patients in the last year of life.

Special seminar

We were delighted to welcome Professor Merryn Gott, Director of the bi-cultural Te Arai Palliative Care and End-of-Life Research Group at The University of Auckland, who presented a special seminar:

‘Developing innovative resources to support family caregivers within palliative care: the New Zealand experience’

The seminar described a research programme exploring the needs of family caregivers, and working collaboratively with them to develop innovative new resources to address these needs. Resources from the project were shared, including a music video made with Pacific Island family caregivers and digital stories made by Māori whānau caregivers (whānau is a Māori term for extended family). The use of digital media as a means of telling the stories of marginalised groups was also discussed and their dissemination within communities.

Pictured: Professor Merryn Gott
Study
Palliative and end-of-life-care

Becky Whittaker, Assistant Professor Palliative and End-of-Life Care

The School of Health Sciences provides the opportunity to study palliative and end-of-life care at undergraduate and masters level.

There are two specialist palliative and end-of-life care 30 credit modules:

Critical perspectives in palliative and end-of-life care
This module explores contemporary debates including ethics, decision making, withdrawing treatment and advance care planning.

Palliative and end-of-life care management
This module focuses on the delivery and management of care including:

- generic symptom management of complex symptoms
- application of end-of-life care principles
- using best practice tools to manage last days of life.

These modules can be completed as either:

- stand-alone learning
- together to gain a PGCert
- credits towards a masters degree.

Details about studying the modules individually, including costs, dates and registration can be found at nottingham.ac.uk/go/hscpd.

Information about studying both modules to gain a PGCert in Health and Social Care (palliative and end-of-life care) can be found at nottingham.ac.uk/go/hscpgcert.

If you are interested in studying both modules to count towards a full-time advanced nursing masters degree with specialist pathways, including palliative and end-of-life care, please visit nottingham.ac.uk/go/advnurse.msc.

For all questions about palliative and end-of-life care modules, please contact:

Becky Whittaker
Assistant Professor Palliative and End-of-Life Care
becky.whittaker@nottingham.ac.uk.

Pictured: Nampiima Teddie Valentine, MSc Advanced Nursing

For further details about our study options, visit: nottingham.ac.uk/studywithus
Evaluation of a new co-developed MUR awareness programme

Dr Asam Latif
University of Nottingham Researcher

A team of researchers at the University of Nottingham, led by Dr Asam Latif, have co-developed (with patients who are medically under-served) a short, free Medicines Use Review (MUR) e-learning programme, specifically for community pharmacy staff.

They are inviting pharmacists and support staff who are directly involved with identifying, inviting and delivering the MUR service to evaluate the e-learning.

The e-learning is designed to be short and concise. Three topics are covered:

- Discovering and understanding under-served communities
- Exploring the medicine experiences and needs of patients who are under-served
- Effectively interacting and engaging patients who are under-served

The evaluation involves a short online survey, followed by the e-learning (sent via email) and a follow up online survey three months later. The researchers are inviting all pharmacies within Nottinghamshire area to take part. The work is funded by the Department of Health (NIHR) and the project has ethical and governance approvals.

The evaluation started in June and Asam is finalising the e-learning which should be ready for evaluation over the summer.

More information about the project is available at: http://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/6/12/e013500.info

If you would like further information please contact asam.latif@nottingham.ac.uk.
## Recent NCARE publications

### Our most recent publications from our members and collaborators

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