



NRS Ageing Specialty Group

NRS Ageing Specialty Group is affiliated to NIHR CRN: Ageing

Newsletter, January 2022

Happy New Year from NRS Ageing

With a new year, comes a new Newsletter from the NRS Ageing team. It has been a while since the last time we emailed. As with so many things, producing this Newsletter has been a victim of covid disruption. Unfortunately, it seems that covid disruption will still be with us for a while, or at least over these winter months. Despite the massive pressures of the ongoing viral pandemic, there is still a real energy and enthusiasm in Scotland to use research to improve the care of older adults. I hope we don't lose that, and I am looking forward to what 2022 will bring. Keep up the good work everybody. Terry



@DrTerryQuinn

Contact us: cams-ageingscotland@glasgow.ac.uk

Updating the NRS Ageing website and other social media

One of my New Year resolutions is to update the NRS Ageing website. I have some ideas, but would be interested to hear your thoughts and suggestions.

I also think we should have more social media presence and plan to start a twitter account. Any suggestions for content most welcome.

Check out the website here:

<https://www.nhsresearchscotland.org.uk/research-areas/age-and-ageing> and send comments or thoughts to me.



University of Edinburgh Advanced Care Research Centre (ACRC)

Winter 2021 saw the launch of the University of Edinburgh Advanced Care Research Centre (ACRC). The ACRC coordinates research to both improve our understanding of care in later life and to revolutionise how that care is delivered. The ACRC is a major development in the Scottish ageing research ecosystem, and I would encourage people to explore their website, which has details on ongoing research, archived lectures and details on future PhD Fellowships. <https://www.ed.ac.uk/usher/advanced-care-research-centre>



Prof Bruce Guthrie at opening plenary, ACRC launch

Calling all early career ageing researchers

The Chief Scientist Office (CSO) have launched a new Fellowship scheme for early postdoctoral researchers. The scheme is designed for researchers post PhD. Those first years immediately after a PhD can be difficult, and we can lose a lot of ageing research talent at this early stage. So, this scheme is particularly welcome, and I would hope it attracts lots of great applications. More details:

<https://www.cso.scot.nhs.uk/personal-awards-initiative/early-postdoctoral-fellowship/>



The CSO are currently looking for people to join the assessment panel for applications to the scheme. It would be great to have our older adult research community represented here. If you are interested, then contact Julie Simpson by email: Julie.Simpson@gov.scot

Update from the National Ageing Research Leads

The National Ageing Research Leads meet regularly, and I thought it would be useful to share some of the group's recent activity. We are working on developing a best practice paper around supporting older people in research. This is still at an early stage, but under the leadership of Prof Miles Whitham, the project should complete in 2022. The challenges of ageing research in the midst of the ongoing pandemic are being felt across the UK, but important multi-centre trials in older adults continue to recruit well, for example CONFORM-OH (drug treatment in orthostatic hypotension) and CHIEF-PD (cholinesterase inhibitors in Parkinson's). If you would like to hear more about these trials and potentially bring them to your site, then let me know.

NIHR Survey

An ongoing problem in clinical research is that we have enthusiastic people who want to help with projects but who don't know how to get started, and we have multi-centre trials that are looking for new sites but don't have the necessary contacts.



The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) is collating a database of researchers who could act as a local principal investigator (PI) for studies in older adults. If you would be interested in helping with research, then please add your name to the database. Although it is not a competition, every few months the NIHR look at how many names are on the database, and with a few more names Scotland could be the top site! (so please join up)

<https://forms.ncl.ac.uk/view.php?id=8418591>

Awards

Former NRS Ageing lead, Professor Gillian Mead, was awarded the Tenovus Scotland, Lady Illingworth Trust Award. This is a 5-yearly award for an outstanding contribution to the disabilities which affect older adults. With her portfolio of research around stroke, exercise and end of life care, Prof Mead is a most deserving winner of the award.



Does your unit have any news you would like to share with the group in future communications? If so, we would love to hear from you at cams-ageingscotland@glasgow.ac.uk You can unsubscribe at any time by replying to this email.



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