

February 2025

NIHR | School for Primary Care Research

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Welcome to the February 2025 edition of the NIHR School for Primary Care Research (SPCR) newsletter. As we move into a new month, we are excited to share the latest developments in primary care research, training opportunities, and public involvement initiatives. In this issue, we highlight key projects, upcoming seminars, and important milestones within our research community.

SPCR News

NIHR | School for Primary Care Research

Undergraduate Student Internship Programme

Applications now open



The NIHR School for Primary Care Research (SPCR) is excited to announce the launch of the Undergraduate Student Internship Programme 2025. This initiative offers undergraduate students from any UK university the opportunity to immerse themselves in primary care research, working alongside established research teams across the SPCR's nine member institutions.

Find out more: [SPCR Undergraduate Programme and How to Apply](#)

This programme is an excellent opportunity for undergraduate students to gain hands-on experience in primary care research, enhancing their skills and potentially igniting a passion for a future career in this vital field.

For any queries regarding the SPCR internship programme, please contact spcr@keele.ac.uk.

SPCR Masterclass | Applying to the NIHR Research for Patient Benefit programme.

Thank you to everyone that attended the recent SPCR Masterclass | Applying to the NIHR Research for Patient Benefit programme. For anyone who was unable to attend a recording of the session is now available on [our YouTube channel](#):

[View all previous masterclass recordings](#) here



NIHR School for Primary Care Research joins public involvement pledge

The NIHR School for Primary Care Research has joined other health and social care organisations in a pledge to improve public involvement in research.

[Go to the full article](#)



Congratulations to Ben Bowers honoured by Queen's Nursing Institute Fellowship

Congratulations to former SPCR Fellowship award holder, Dr Ben Bowers, who has been awarded a Fellowship of the [Queen's Nursing Institute](#) at their annual awards. This honour recognises his exceptional leadership and impact in advancing end-of-life care research and community nursing practice.

[Go to the full article](#)



Congratulations to Professor Gene Feder

Congratulations to SPCR Colleague Professor Gene Feder on being appointed the Academy of Medical Sciences representative on the UK & Ireland Human Rights Committee.

[Read more](#)

SPCR Blog Posts

NIHR SPCR Research Placement in Malaysia

Read our new blog post by SPCR Post Doctoral Fellow, Ali Hindi. Ali shares insights from their NIHR SPCR research placement in Malaysia—from collaboration & mentoring to cultural connections & long-term partnerships.



[Read more](#)

Publications



Do community-based digital health inclusion programmes contribute to tackling health inequalities in disadvantaged population groups?: a qualitative study of experiences of a city-wide programme in the North of England. Shoba Poduval et al writes for *BMC Public Health*.

SPCR funding project reference: [676](#)



plaTform fOR Urinary tract infection diagnostiC evAluation (TOUCAN): a protocol for a prospective diagnostic accuracy study of point-of-care testing in patients suspected of acute uncomplicated urinary tract infection in primary care clinics in England.

Gail Hayward and Chris Butler et al writes for *BMJ*

SPCR funding project reference: [590](#)



Mortality in adolescents after therapeutic intervention for self-harm: A systematic review and meta-analysis.

Faraz Mughal et al writes for *The Association for Child and Adolescent Mental Health*

SPCR funding project reference: Doctoral Fellowship (300957).



The Management of Chronic Insomnia in Young Children: A Survey of UK General Practice.

Samantha Hornsey et al writes for *Behavioral Sleep Medicine Volume 23, 2025 - Issue 2*

SPCR funding project reference: PhD Studentship C152-2018



Technostress, technosuffering, and relational strain: a multi-method qualitative study of how remote and digital work affects staff in UK general practice.

Francesca Dakin et al writes for *British Journal of General Practice*

SPCR funding project reference: DPhil [award number 1189008].

NIHR Three Schools' Mental Health Updates

NIHR Three Schools' Mental Health Research Recognised in BJGP Top 10 for 2024



The NIHR Three Research Schools' Mental Health Programme is delighted to announce that a study led by Dr. Juan Carlos Bazo Alvarez has been recognised as one of the Top 10 articles of 2024 by the British Journal of General Practice (BJGP).

[READ MORE](#)

Publications

- [Interventions that prevent or reduce perinatal loneliness and its proximal determinants: a restricted scoping review](#). Ruth Naughton-Doe, NIHR Three Schools' Mental Health Programme Fellowship Award holder, et al writes for BMC Public Health.
- [A Co-produced International Qualitative Systematic Review on Lived Experiences of Trauma During Homelessness in Adulthood and Impacts on Mental Health](#), Emma Adams, NIHR Three Schools' Mental Health Programme Career Development Award holder, et al writes for *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse*, 0(0).

Mental Health Programme Online Seminars

Beyond Tokenism: Meaningful Participation in Healthcare Innovation.

Thank you to everyone that attended the recent NIHR Three Schools' Mental Health Programme Webinar; Beyond Tokenism: Meaningful Participation in Healthcare Innovation. For anyone who was unable to attend a recording of the session is now available on our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v908-Rrzuel>

[See all previous seminar details](#)

Save the dates | Mental Health Programme Online Seminars

- Examining Access to Mental Health Services for Social Work-Experienced Young People, **Thursday, 20 March 2025, 12pm to 1pm**. [Find out more and how to register](#).
- Technology to Aid Preparation for NHS Talking Therapies, **Tuesday 08 April 2025**, 12pm to 1pm. [Find out more and how to register](#).
- Engaging marginalised young people in education, **Thursday 24 April 2025**, 12 – 1pm. [Find out more and how to register](#)



Three Schools' Mental Health Programme Newsletters

Find out what's happening with the [Three Schools' Mental Health Programme](#). Sign up to the quarterly newsletter to receive automatic emails to your inbox.

[Subscribe to the Three Schools' newsletter here](#)

Events

SPCR Bitesized Impact Webinar | PPIE Fund - Project Showcase



Wednesday, 12 March 2025; 11.30am – 1pm:

This session will feature perspectives from both the researchers and public partners involved in these projects. Additional details about the individual projects being presented can be found below:

- Symptom Patterns and life with longer-Term COVID-19 in children and young people: cOproduction of long-Covid resources for children and young people (SPLaToon) Alice Faux-Nightingale, Keele University
- Bridging Gaps: Lived experience changing primary care services, Michelle Farr, University of Bristol
- Exploring approaches to reach and engage people with chronic high pain (CHIP), Sarah Harrison, Keele University
- The Creative Community Output Collective: exploring local communities experience during the covid-19 pandemic in Greater Manchester, Stephanie Gillibrand, University of Manchester
- Found poetry: a creative approach to explore the lived experiences of blood testing, Jessica Watson, University of Bristol

[Register here](#)

NIHR Updates

A new model of delivery for research publications to replace the Journals Library

NIHR is working to build on its commitment to open research. Following a strategic review, the NIHR will be closing its Journals Library as it plans a transition to a new publications and open access model which is more equitable in supporting all NIHR's funded researchers and builds on new innovations. As a result, no new submissions will be accepted after April. [Find out more.](#)

Other

Change NHS Survey



Your views, experiences and ideas can help shape a new 10 Year Health Plan for England through the [Change NHS survey](#). Whether you are a member of the public or someone who works in health and care in England, have your say!

[Fill out the Change NHS survey.](#)

New NHS England research toolkit

NHS England have recently published a [research toolkit](#) offering practical information and support for matrons and other health and care leaders, with specific guidance on:

- how to recognise key components of research leadership
- how to reflect on individual research leadership and create a research development action plan
- how to access communities of practice and share ideas with like minded leaders

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