

## SPCR PPIE placement project 2022-2023

**Name + email supervisor:**

Joint supervisors:

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**Location:**

Impact Accelerator Unit, School of Medicine, Keele University

**Proposed start date and duration of the placement:**

September 2022 for 12 months

**Name project:**

D-MAPP Study – reaching seldom heard voices

**Summary of the research the placement project is linked to:**

The Digital – My Arm Pain Programme (D-MAPP) is a research project led by a team of researchers at the University of Leeds, working in partnership with Keele University. They are looking to develop a website to support people who are living with painful conditions of the elbow, forearm, wrist or hand, such as hand or thumb osteoarthritis, carpal tunnel syndrome and tennis elbow.

The project involves a number of stages which will focus on designing and testing out the D-MAPP website. The aim is for it to provide specific advice, such as information and exercises, to guide people in how to manage their condition. A wide variety of experts will be involved throughout the project and will help to decide exactly what D-MAPP will involve and how it will look. These experts will include a range of people who are living with these painful conditions of the elbow, forearm, wrist or hand, as well as health professionals (such as consultants, GPs, physiotherapists and occupational therapists) with experience of managing these conditions. The content of the website will be decided through a survey study, focus groups (small group discussions) and interviews with these experts. They will then support the researchers to design the final website through a process known as 'experience based co-design'. Once it is finalised, the D-MAPP website will be tested out on a larger scale to see if it is able to make a difference to people living with these conditions.

Keele University is leading workpackage 4 on Implementation and Knowledge Mobilisation and this will be the focus for the PPIE placement. Workpackage 4 will assess the challenges of intervention implementation of D-MAPP with Key clinical, academic, patient and public stakeholders in primary and community care.

**Description of the placement project:**

Building on the strengths of Keele's established PPIE group we have the ambition through our D-MAPP project to expand our PPIE lay membership to ensure equality, diversity and inclusivity from communities across the North West Midlands. The focus of this work will be to build relationships with the Polish community and the people of Black African, Asian and Caribbean heritage. Initial work will aim to establish a relationship, working with the community leaders to build trust and

interest before working with people in the community to raise awareness of research and involvement. As part of the placement the candidate will support the organisation to pilot and evaluate a listening café community engagement approach for research with identified communities. The concept of storytelling as a method of engagement will be brought to the listening cafes. The D-MAPP team will be working with NHS England to build the skill set of local stakeholders to be able to use digital storytelling within our PPIE work. The IAU worked in partnership with NHS England to produce the Storytelling toolkit which is currently being published. Over the duration of the D-MAPP project the aim will be to develop a community of practice for lay members of Black African, Asian, and Caribbean heritage and the local Polish community that will link into the wider community of practice involving Clinicians, Academics and managers of health services. The Communities of practices will support the implementation of the D-MAPP innovation into practice.

The D-MAPP Keele project team have already started working closely with Deborah Nicklin and Michelle Harris from VAST (Voluntary Action Stoke on Trent) identifying the need for extensive engagement with voluntary and community groups to build rapport and relationships and to identify the key needs of these community groups. Members of the Keele team will continue to lead this work with the member on placement having an active supporting role. VAST will broker the approach to engaging the D-MAPP Keele team with community leaders.

The Impact Accelerator Unit (IAU) has a Race Equality Ambassador, Natalie Knight, who has been working on the pilot of the NIHR Race Equality Framework for Public Involvement Research. The framework has been developed by members of the NIHR Race Equality Public Action Group to work to actively address race inequalities. Natalie will be actively supporting the D-MAPP project and this PPIE placement.

**The outputs aimed for during the placement:**

- Initiate engagement with the Polish community and the people of Black African, Asian and Caribbean heritage in the North West Midlands region
- Enhance our current PPIE membership or evolve new PPIE groups whichever is deemed most appropriate by the members
- Identify key barriers and enablers for members of local community groups participating in research/PPIE and suggestions for further engagement with local communities

**Overview of the tasks you might undertake as part of this placement:**

- Identify and explore current community engagement strategies
- Engage with VAST to identify community leaders within the Black African, Asian and Caribbean heritage people
- Support the Keele D-MAPP team to engage with new community groups using recommended or novel strategies e.g. Listening café, storytelling
- Support the team to Identify the needs, barriers and enablers to engagement in research/PPIE with the Polish community and people of Black African, Asian and Caribbean heritage in the North West Midlands.
- Work with the Keele D-MAPP team to develop the PPIE engagement within the community of practice events in work package 4 of the project

**The insights and skills that you can gain through this placement:**

The IAU has a strong track record in knowledge mobilisation and implementation research and is a pilot site for the NIHR Race Equality Framework for Public Involvement in Research.

**This placement will give the candidate an opportunity to:**

- Work with the IAU PPIE team implementing the NIHR Race Equality Framework
- Receive race competency training
- Develop a new initiative to engage with members of the Polish community and people of black African, Asian and Caribbean heritage
- Work with the PPIE standards of good practice
- Advance their knowledge of NIHR funded research for distal upper limb pain
- Develop skills/experience related to improving inclusion in health research including: improving inclusion across the research cycle e.g. during PPIE and Community of Practice (CoP) activities;  
collaborative working with diverse stakeholders including people from under-served groups, and third sector organisations;  
Improving accessibility/inclusivity of musculoskeletal digital interventions.  
Establishing collaborations/networks required for preparing a future Fellowship application
- With the PPIE team, help deliver a community workshop to explore barriers to engagement with musculoskeletal digital interventions amongst under-served groups
- Assist with evaluating and disseminating the workshop findings, including working with a knowledge broker to design an infographic to feedback to communities and the DMAPP team
- Engagement with third sector groups and organisations

**Working with IAU team members:**

Dr Laura Swaites, Knowledge Mobilisation Research Fellow-Expertise: implementation of musculoskeletal innovations with PPIE.

Nicki Evans, IAU Manager: Expertise: managing implementation projects and collaborating with diverse stakeholders; PPIE lead.

Professor Krycia Dziedzic, IAU Director and academic lead for PPIE, NIHR Senior Investigator.

Natalie Knight: Race Equality Ambassador for Public Involvement in Research.

Tina Hadley-Barrows: Consultant physiotherapist and DMAPP coordinator WP4.