



# ***NIHR RESEARCH DESIGN SERVICE FOR THE EAST OF ENGLAND***

## ***ELECTRONIC BULLETIN***

**SEPTEMBER 2009**

**Issue 1**

Welcome to the first of our bi-monthly bulletins from the NIHR Research Design Service for the East of England. In the Bulletin you will find regular updates for Researchers, R&D staff and Research Advisors alike. This issue includes:

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### ***What can the RDS do for you?***

The National Institute of Health Research, Research Design Service for the East of England (RDS EoE) is an active and dynamic network offering research advice and support across the region. The RDS EoE will help turn innovative research ideas into strong research proposals to attract funding.

Thinking of applying for research funding? If so, the RDS EoE can advise on all aspects of preparing grant applications and building collaborative research teams, including:

- Sources of funding
- Refining research objectives
- Designing your study
- Methodological expertise
- Planning research teams and budgets
- Patient and Public Involvement

A designated Research Advisor will work with you to identify how RDS EoE can help you. We will support you as you develop your research ideas and funding applications. Support

may be one-off, or might be on-going over a period of time as you develop your funding application.

If you have any questions, or indeed a research proposal that you would like to discuss, we can be contacted on 01206 874856. For further information, visit us at:

[www.RDS-eoe.nihr.ac.uk](http://www.RDS-eoe.nihr.ac.uk)

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### ***Local Research Events***

The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) and East of England Strategic Health Authority are organising a joint event to promote the benefits of research in the NHS - Friday 6 November 2009 at Sopwell House, St. Albans, Herts. Registration available. Registration available at: [www.profbriefings.co.uk/registration/eastofengland](http://www.profbriefings.co.uk/registration/eastofengland)

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### ***Training Opportunities***

- RDS EoE sponsored Research for Patient Benefit 2 day workshop 30<sup>th</sup> September & 14<sup>th</sup> October 2009 at the University of Bedfordshire. **This workshop is now full.**
- RDS EoE sponsored Research for Patient Benefit 2 day workshop November/December at Cambridge. For further information or to reserve a place, please first telephone Adwoa Date-Bah on 01223 725461 or e-mail: [Adwoa.Date-Bah@cambridgeshire.nhs.uk](mailto:Adwoa.Date-Bah@cambridgeshire.nhs.uk)
- A workshop on 'User Involvement in Research' will take place in the ZICER suite at University of East Anglia (UEA) from 9.30am to 4pm on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October. The session leaders are Dr Fiona Poland and Dr Laura Bowater (both of UEA). The day will cover: building researcher skills in involving users in research; what is user involvement in research; why involve users in research; involvement at different stages of the research process; parallel small workshops on developing the research, writing the bid, implementing the research process and disseminating the results. There will be discussion of the skills needed for involving people in research and opportunities for collective problem solving. The cost of the workshop is £158, for which sponsorship may be available. For information or an application form, please e-mail: [s.horn@uea.ac.uk](mailto:s.horn@uea.ac.uk) or telephone: 01603 597118
- The Centre for Applied Medical Statistics are running a number of statistical training courses, details of which can be found at <http://www.phpc.cam.ac.uk/cams/courses.htm> For enquiries and bookings, please contact Mrs Marianne Blanc on 01223 330335 or e-mail [cams@medschl.cam.ac.uk](mailto:cams@medschl.cam.ac.uk)

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### ***Research Funding***

**National Institute for Health Research [NIHR] - Research for Patient Benefit [RfPB] Programme**

<http://www.nihr-ccf.org.uk/site/programmes/rfpb/default.cfm>

National budget of £25 million/annum. Individual research projects up to 36 months and £250,000. Funding supports projects in Health Services Research and Public Health -

quantitative or qualitative but should aim to:- study ways that NHS services are provided and used; evaluate whether interventions are effective and provide value for money; examine whether alternative means for providing healthcare would be more beneficial in terms of cost and effectiveness; formally assess innovations and developments in healthcare which will benefit patients.

### **Competition 11**

Registration of intention to submit deadline	11 December 2009, 5 PM
<b>Submission Deadline</b>	<b>22 January 2010, 5 PM</b>
Declaration and Signatures deadline	29 January 2010, 5 PM

### **NIHR - Programme Development Grants**

<http://www.nihr-ccf.org.uk/site/callsproposals/developmentgrants/default.cfm>

Development Grants will provide funding of £20k to £100k [over 6-18m] for:

- \* Evidence synthesis, that might include modelling;
- \* Selection or development of interventions or measures of outcome;
- \* Pilot/feasibility studies to determine recruitment and participant retention rates, inform sample sizes calculations, optimise delivery of intervention, etc.
- \* Initiation and development of collaborations with methodological experts necessary to deliver proposed research programme
- \* Convening meetings to plan programme strategy, develop protocols, foster collaborative working within research team, etc.

**Submission deadline 30th November 2009.**

### **NIHR Health Technology Assessment Programme [HTA]**

<http://www.nchta.org/funding/standardcalls/topics.shtml>

Seeking research proposals on following topics:

09/70 Interventions to reduce the fear of falling in the elderly

09/71 Family based interventions for young people who misuse alcohol and/or other substances

09/76 Case finding for depression in vulnerable adolescents

09/80 Physical activity programmes for individuals with dementia

09/81 Self-managed therapy packages for obsessive-compulsive disorder

**Submission deadline 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2009.**

### **NIHR Programme Grants for Applied Research**

NIHR Programme Grants for Applied Research call webpage. Applications are invited from leading research groups for an NIHR Programme Grant for Applied Research award. Each programme grant funds a coherent series of related projects to tackle high priority health issues. Proposals should comprise health services research and/or innovation (e.g. introduction of new technologies), where there is potential gain for patients within the relatively near future, i.e. 'near market' research with application in the NHS within 3-5 years of the end of the funding period. Potential applicants are required to complete a stage 1 grant application form summarising their proposed research programme (in stage 2, full applications will be invited from those meeting the assessment criteria and short listed at stage 1). The deadline for submission of stage 1 applications through the NIHR CCF website is no later than 5pm on **Monday 5 October 2009.**

### **Dimbleby Cancer Care**

<http://www.dimblebycancercare.org/research.php>

Applications for proposed research fits the following criteria: leads to a better understanding of support needs of patients, and their families and carers, from diagnosis through treatment, to recovery or end of life and to discover how these needs can best be met; offers improved psychosocial care to patients, their families and carers, facilitates better communication and continuity of care throughout a patient's cancer journey; tests the efficacy of, and improve existing support strategies

Application process takes place once a year **Deadline 20 November 2009**.

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### ***Mentoring Scheme***

We are looking for researchers who would benefit from guidance and support from a mentor. The East of England Multi-Professional Denary Mentoring Scheme is designed to provide a confidential space in which to explore how to make the most of career and research experiences. Mentors provide knowledge and experience in a number of areas including supporting professional development and exploring research opportunities.

The aim is for mutual benefit to both mentor and mentee and there is no prescription in terms of nature of relationship or number of meetings.

If you would like to explore the possibility of having a mentor, would be interested in becoming a mentor, or are interested in both opportunities please contact Matthew Norton on 01223 725464 or by e-mail: [matthew.norton@cambridgeshire.nhs.uk](mailto:matthew.norton@cambridgeshire.nhs.uk)

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### ***How to Obtain Help***

To access an RDS EoE Research Adviosr relative to the expertise required and your geographical location, please contact the Central Coordinators on 01206 874856 or by e-mail to: [rdseo@essex.ac.uk](mailto:rdseo@essex.ac.uk)

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Please forward this email to anyone who has an interest in health research in the East of England. If you would like to unsubscribe from these bulletins please email [rdsc@essex.ac.uk](mailto:rdsc@essex.ac.uk)

