



The Society for Research in Rehabilitation

March 2013 Newsletter - www.srr.org.uk

Report on the Winter meeting, The Assembly Rooms, Bath

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The programme began with an evening workshop with the South West Research Design Service at the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases., with Paul Ewings, Director of the South West RDS on 'turning a research idea into a high quality application for funding'.

The next morning the meeting began with free research papers, followed by a symposium on Development and Measurement. Dr David Abbott gave a very moving presentation on the transition from adolescence to adulthood for those with muscular dystrophy. Professor Lynn Rochester gave a good overview of measurements of gait and physical activity. Lunch was followed by further research papers and a symposium on Neurodegenerative conditions. Professor Derick Wade discussed appropriate service provision for longer term neurological conditions and Professor Neil Scolding closed the meeting with a review of the potential of stem cell therapy. The symposia presentations are available on the website. There were 6 research and 9 work in progress posters. We are grateful to Paul Carroll and Peter Tucker for organizing such a successful event.

SRR Summer Meeting, Nottingham, 2nd July 2013

'Research across the Rehabilitation Spectrum:
from preventing decline to return to work'.

Professor Maud Graff, from The Netherlands will talk about her ground breaking research in rehabilitating people with moderate and severe dementia and its implementation in other parts of Europe (including in the UK VALID (Valuing Active Life in Dementia, a NIHR Programme Grant for Applied Research, evaluating Community Occupational Therapy in Dementia) and **Professor Rowan Harwood** (University of Nottingham) will discuss the concept of managed decline in people deemed to have 'no rehab potential'. **Professor Marion Walker** will deliver the **Philip Nichols memorial lecture**, 'Progress in Rehabilitation Research: What have we learned from the RCT? Where to from here?' and **Professor Jan Ekholm** of the Karolinska Institute, Stockholm will talk about 'Vocational Rehabilitation: the role of health, the evidence and the future?'

There will be 8 free research papers, a poster walk, 'work in progress' posters and great opportunities for networking. Consider submitting your abstract **NOW**.

SUMMER ABSTRACT DEADLINE 4th April

Programme and registration form enclosed



Mr Ranjith Sudhakaran receiving his Verna Wright prize from Kate Radford at the Assembly Rooms, for his poster presented at the Ely Winter meeting.

Have you checked out our Facebook page <http://www.facebook.com/SRRUK> and follow us on Twitter [srr@rehabresearchuk](https://twitter.com/srr@rehabresearchuk)

Do we have your correct email address? If not please send it to patricia.dziunka@srr.org.uk

SRR Council and Business Meeting

Full minutes of the Business Meeting can be found on the SRR website.

Following the success of the pre-meeting research school in Bath, Council are discussing whether we should offer further training workshops to academic institutions with an interest in Rehabilitation Research.

The SRR website needs updating, with better graphics and a more accessible user interface. Council are looking at the specification for new site and will seek quotes for this work. We would welcome views of members on whether we retain private areas of the website (ie. symposium presentations) for members, or make these freely available.

Andrew Bateman has been co-opted onto Council to help develop our use of social media.

Please email Patricia Dziunka with thoughts or comments that you may have on these topics.

NIHR / CNO Clinical Academic Training Programme for Nurses, Midwives and Allied Health Professionals

The NIHR / CNO Clinical Doctoral Research Fellowship scheme is aimed at graduate nurses, midwives and AHPs working in England who would like to obtain a PhD by research whilst still developing clinical skills. Candidates must have at least 1 year's post-graduation clinical experience and the research experience and training necessary to undertake a PhD. Fellowships fund salary costs, PhD tuition fees, research project costs and relevant training and development. Further information and instructions for applicants are available on the NIHR Trainees Coordinating Centre (NIHR TCC) website. Applications must be received by 30th April 2013.

SRR Distinguished Scholar Award

This will be an award for persons whose contributions have had significant impact through the development of theory, methodology or evidence through excellent rehabilitation research. The focus of the award is the acceptance of an invitation from the Society's Council to present landmark rehabilitation research. This presentation would be during the Winter meeting, complementing the Philip Nichols lecture in the Summer meeting. The awardee would be presented with an honorarium and a certificate or prize plaque. Criteria for the award and instructions for nominating will be added to the website shortly.

European Federation for Rehabilitation Research

The 12th Congress of EFRR will be at the Harbiye Cultural Center – Istanbul, Turkey, 11-14 September 2013. This is a great opportunity to showcase UK rehabilitation research and network with colleagues from around Europe. **Abstract deadline 15th March.** www.efrr2013.org. For details of EFRR membership, aims and constitution go to: <http://www.efrr.org>

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Fiona Coupar won the Verna Wright prize for the best oral presentation at the Leeds Summer meeting. 'A randomised, feasibility study of an assistive technology intervention targeted at the upper limb'.

Cheryl Padilla-Harris, Research Nurse, Research and Development Department, Milton Keynes Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, was the winner of our prize draw at the UKSF 2012 SRR Stand competition..

SRR members are involved in NIHR Health Technology Assessment Programme's. Topic Identification, Development and Evaluation (TIDE) panels. The HTA wants greater input from people with expertise in rehabilitation and in particular neurological rehabilitation. There has also been a re-think of the panel structure and ways of working to promote a speedier process of turning research suggestions and ideas into calls for research. Panel members are asked to bring ideas directly to panel meetings for discussion. You can still submit suggestions on line, but by discussing it first with a TIDE panel member, means it won't be filtered out at source and can be presented in context, calling on relevant expertise. This is a real opportunity for us to influence calls for research. Contact Kate Radford if you have a suggestion for HTA research.