

The Spark

NHS

**National Institute for
Health Research**

NIHR CLAHRC
Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland (LNR)



"Working together to conduct and implement high quality research to improve the health of the population of Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland"

In this issue



"More for Less": NHS Efficiency, Savings and the CLAHRC for LNR

- Caroline Morris, CLAHRC Coordinator, Kettering General Hospital Foundation Trust

It has become increasingly clear that the CLAHRCs have come at an interesting time in NHS history with the drive to make an "unprecedented" £20 billion of efficiency savings during this parliament; equating to at least 4% efficiency savings per year. Of these £5 billion will be from sweeping reforms in the upcoming Health and Social Care Bill.

Simultaneously care will be more patient focused, quality improved, and capacity will meet the additional demands from a population that is increasing, ageing and having more with long-term conditions. So the CLAHRC's term of funding is spanning a time of huge change with two big and linked agendas: Modernisation, and Cost Savings - which have been brought together in the Bill.

One of the main themes emerging as Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) start to grapple with the difficult realities of commissioning reform and cost savings is that a key word will be VALUE which is defined as outcomes/cost. CCGs will have to be

transparent about providing value for money services to providers, patients and public. This means CCGs will have to make difficult decisions about how to spend their £80 billion budget, providing quality outcomes for the greatest number of people at low cost.

A vital element of the value equation is the need to ensure that services are evidence based. CLAHRC for LNR projects are already actively supporting CCGs through a wide variety of work ranging from public health initiatives, clinical research, evaluation projects, to best practice initiatives in secondary care. Support includes

- Health economics and patient experience information as an integral part of applied research project design. As these projects enter the analysis and implementation phases, CLAHRC for LNR will be able to provide new information to the health community on the value of interventions. Information relating to economic and/or patient value has historically been very limited in health research projects.

continued overleaf

- Collaboration between primary and secondary care partners, particularly through the network of Coordinators based in local trusts. This vertical integration of care pathways is seen by many healthcare leaders as being a key enabler for both cost savings and value to be realised.
- Evidence-based decision making in commissioning care pathways. Following this through into secondary care with support to implement best practice based on best evidence, thus maximising outcomes.
- Evidence-based funding applications.
- Capacity within local NHS trusts to evaluate services through training workshops and academic support. Consequently also supporting greater transparency around commissioning decisions.
- Strategic prioritisation around reform priorities e.g. reducing emergency hospital admissions and length

of stay in hospital; self-management of long term conditions.

- Skill mix projects – where using a different mix of healthcare professionals in service design can prove more cost effective.
- Innovation as a progressive alternative to simply cutting services.
- Data collection to identify local need and inequalities.

As the reforms evolve so will the CLAHRC for LNR need to respond to them. Forthcoming challenges will include working with our stakeholders on issues such as evidence-based demand management. Another will be to establish with our stakeholders what success looks like in step with the reforms, both for the CLAHRC as a whole, and in local projects.

National Award Success

 An educational website developed by child health leads in Leicester has won a national patient safety award.

The website www.spottingthesickchild.com is aimed at frontline doctors and nurses who look after young children. It teaches the basic facts and relevant examination of the seven most common complaints in acutely ill youngsters.

The site, co-created by experts from Leicester's Hospitals' Emergency Department and the University of Leicester won the Patient Safety Diagnosis category at the Patient Safety Awards 2011.

Dr Ffion Davies, Consultant in the Emergency Department and the clinical lead for the project is delighted at winning the award.

She said, "With the support of several Royal Colleges in endorsing this learning package we really hope the message spreads to healthcare staff and students that learning about a potentially scary topic has just been made easier!"

Dr Damian Roland, paediatric SpR in the emergency department, designed the interactive self-assessment section of the website called "my waiting room" and has also been awarded a prestigious NIHR fellowship to investigate the benefits that educational tools like "Spotting the Sick Child" ultimately provide for patients.

He said: "It is great news to have our work recognised and we will be continuing research into how to improve learning packages like this one."



(l-r) Dr Nic Blackwell, Dr Ffion Davies, Dr Monica Lakhanpaul, Dr Damian Roland

Dr Monica Lakhanpaul, consultant paediatrician and senior lecturer in child health at the University, was the academic lead for the project. She said: "We wish to give our thanks to the parents and children who made it all possible.

"It is not easy to agree to have your child filmed when they are ill but the parents involved in this project understood why their involvement was so important and we are grateful for their support".

The website was funded by the Department of Health and developed in collaboration between Dr Ffion Davies, consultant in emergency medicine at Leicester's Hospitals, Dr Damian Roland, paediatric SpR in the emergency department at Leicester's Hospitals, Dr Monica Lakhanpaul of the University of Leicester and Leicestershire Partnership Trust, Dr Holger Wahl, paediatric registrar HERADU and Dr Nicholas Blackwell of OCB Media, a spin-out company of the University of Leicester specialising in online medical education.

CLAHRC-LNR's achievements at the SDO Boundary Spanning event in Sheffield

Representatives from CLAHRC-LNR were at the SDO Network Boundary Spanning event in Sheffield which took place on 29th June 2011.

The event was an opportunity for staff working across boundaries in CLAHRCs to come together and share ideas and lessons in regard to facilitating CLAHRC research and implementation.

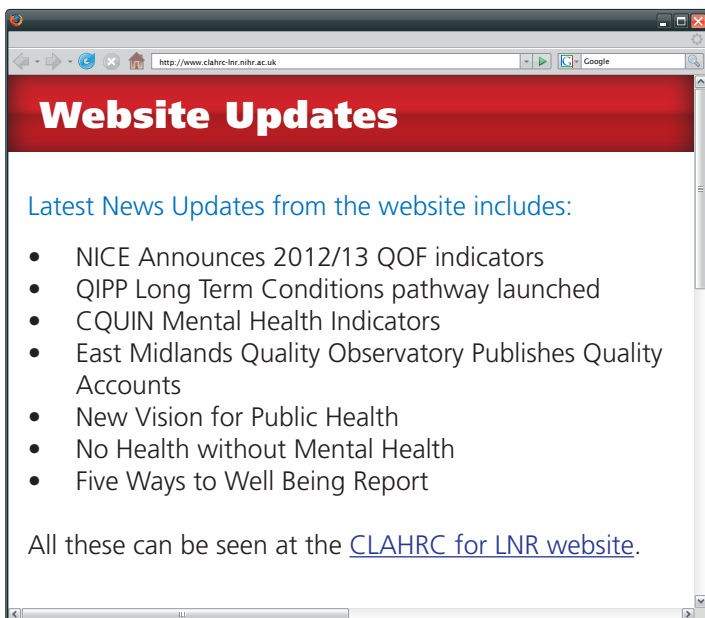
The participative event comprised presentations, poster sessions and an exchange wall to encourage delegates to share their knowledge and experience and network.

The event, which was hosted by the SDO network, attracted over 60 delegates. The delegates included people in boundary spanning roles, managers,

researchers and clinicians. They were invited to view a range of oral and poster presentations on a variety of topics, including Boundary spanning roles, evaluations, problem solving and knowledge translation models as flexible ways of thinking about implementation.

One of the sessions featured a presentation by Graham Martin Senior Lecturer in Social Science Applied to Health on the CLAHRC Coordinator role.

Philippa Hinks, CLAHRC Coordinator for Northampton General Hospital said "The event was a great opportunity to hear the experiences of people doing a similar role to ours in other CLAHRCs, to network with members of the other CLAHRCs and to see how the other CLAHRCs are progressing."



Hello & Goodbye

We welcome some new people to our team in this edition of Spark including Adele Horobin who started as our Knowledge Manager. Adele has a background in technology transfer with the University of Nottingham and a PhD in wound management. She will take the lead on KM initiatives including the Knowledge Management and Dissemination workstream. Also joining soon is Kim Donahue who will leading on developing research capacity in partner trusts.



Adele Horobin

Meanwhile we must say good bye to Janette Camosso-Stefanovic, who has provided librarianship support, as she is moving to Germany

Successful Open Evening for HERO Team

The Health Education Reaching Out (HERO) team from the University of Leicester, and supported by CLAHRC for LNR, hosted a very successful open evening on the 14 June. HERO aims to:

- Educate and inspire people to take responsibility for their own health, diet and well-being.
- Promote awareness of the links that exist between an unhealthy diet, a sedentary lifestyle and serious health problems in later life.

Through fun and interactive workshops and public events HERO provides people of various social and ethnic backgrounds with the insight to prevent and reduce their risk of developing chronic diseases, such as cancer, heart disease and diabetes. HERO is committed to providing adults, families, students and school-children with a basis to appreciate the long-term



(l-r) Dr Joanne Singletary, Prof Annette Cashmore, Dr Nicola Suter-Giorgini, Dr Julian Barwell, Prof Richard Baker

benefits of regular exercise, a healthy diet and a stress-free lifestyle. The open evening provided an opportunity for health care researchers and others to learn about the team's work and try out some of their activities. For more information about HERO visit www.le.ac.uk/hero

COURSES, TRAINING & EVENTS

Date / Time	Title	Location	Booking
15th September 12 - 2 pm	Advancing the Science of Knowledge Translation CLAHRC for LNR Seminar Implementation & Translation	Frank and Katherine May Lecture Theatre, Henry Welcome Building, University of Leicester LE1 9HN	Michelle Ollerton mo111@le.ac.uk 0116 2523277
23rd September	A once in a lifetime chance or nobody's priority? Mental health in an era of GP-led commissioning	Health Services Management Centre, Park House, University of Birmingham B15 2RT	Ann Thomas a.d.thomas@bham.ac.uk 0121 4147058
29th September	Trent CLRN Delivery, Delivery, Delivery: Sharing Best Practice	East Midlands Conference Centre University Park Nottingham NG7 2RJ	Jane Flewitt jane.flewitt@nuh.nhs.uk 0115 9249924 ext 70656
30th September	Setting priorities & rationing in health & social care: using evidence to inform practice	Health Services Management Centre, Park House, University of Birmingham B15 2RT	Ann Thomas a.d.thomas@bham.ac.uk 0121 4147058

CLAHRC for LNR Seminars - Implementation and Translation

The Implementation and Translation theme have arranged a series of seminars to develop expertise in CLAHRC on implementation and translation.

The seminars will be particularly useful for CLAHRC staff and NHS staff involved in research, and will be led by speakers who have much knowledge and expertise in the field. The first seminar arranged for 11th July 2011, fronted by Professor Andy Lockett who is the principal investigator of an SDO-funded evaluation of CLAHRCs, provided insights from this research project and others on facilitating implementation. Dr Justin Waring (University of Nottingham Business School) also took part in the seminar.

Other speakers in future seminars include Jeremy Grimshaw, a Senior Scientist who holds a tier 1 Canadian Research Chair in Health Knowledge Transfer and Uptake (15th September 2011) and Professor Harry Scarborough,

who is a founder member of Warwick's Innovation, Knowledge and Organisational Network's Research Unit (November). Details of further seminars will be made available nearer the time.

If you are involved in research and are interested in attending these seminars please contact Michelle Ollerton, CLAHRC Administrator email mo111@le.ac.uk or telephone 0116 252 3277.

Please note that places will be limited and require RSVP.



Finding the evidence

Northamptonshire Library Services	www.library.northants.nhs.uk
The UHL Library Service	www.uhlLibrary.nhs.uk
The Clinical Sciences Library	www.le.ac.uk/li/clinical/index.html