

Integrating for Improvement: Expert Consultation & Method Development

We would like to invite you to take part in a one-day event, on the **7th January 2020** (10-4pm) at The Steeple in Dundee.

We are holding an event to bring together researchers and quality improvement practitioners, alongside key stakeholders to explore how health services research and healthcare quality improvement methods can be combined to provide timely but methodologically rigorous improvements in services. The goal is to generate a new method for effecting evidence-based change in a timely way.

We will be using **healthcare transitions after stroke** as an exemplar complex problem, through which innovative methods can then be rigorously tested. The aim of the day will be to build on the data collected at an earlier event with people who have had a stroke, their carers, and health and social care professionals, and **together we will creatively explore the development of a new hybrid research/quality improvement method.**

The information sheet (below) tells you more about the study.

If you are interested in taking part – please get in touch with:

Tricia Tooman on **01382 386539** or email at t.tooman@dundee.ac.uk.
She will tell you more about the study and answer any questions.

Thank you for your time.

Yours sincerely,

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Participant Information Sheet

We are inviting you to take part in an expert consultation. Before you decide to take part, please read this information.

Who is doing the project?

Dr Jacqui Morris, Reader
University of Dundee School of Nursing & Health Science
Email: j.y.morris@dundee.ac.uk
Phone: 01382 388666

Professor Judith Sixsmith, Dr Jenna Breckenridge, Dr Nicola Gray and Dr Tricia Tooman are also involved, as well as researchers from Stirling University and three NHS Scotland boards.

Why is the project happening?

NHS services have increasingly utilised Quality Improvement (QI) methods in order to develop and deliver relevant, efficient and timely change for improvement. Comparatively, health services research (HSR) methods are ideally underpinned by theory and able to draw upon a wide range of ways to explore problems for robust and potentially generalizable results. This study seeks to develop ways that QI and HSR methods can be combined to provide rigorous, timely, effective and useful solutions to current complex health and social care problems.

Why have I been invited?

You have been invited because you have been identified as a health services researcher and/or quality improvement methods expert.

Do I have to take part?

No. Your participation is completely voluntary. You are free to decline to take part without giving a reason and can withdraw at any time.

How will I take part?

We are holding a one-day event that brings together health services researchers, quality improvement methodologists, and selected stakeholders from an earlier event that focused on the transition of care for stroke patients. We will use a 'Sandpit' approach to bring your expertise to bear on the problem. Sandpit is a creative problem-solving approach to develop shared understanding of a problem and to develop creative and innovative solutions.

(<https://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/applicationprocess/routes/network/ideas/whatisasandpit/sandpitpsychology/>)

The intent of the Sandpit event will be twofold: 1) To examine how existing quality improvement and research methods can be applied to address the emerging transition problems in rapid, responsive but rigorous ways; 2) to plan a major QI/Research hybrid project that can identify generalizable but contextually flexible approaches to QI and that will test the method in a range of real settings.

The day will include both small and large group discussions and last approximately 6 hours. Lunch will be provided and rest and refreshment areas will be available at all times.

Are there any risks in taking part?

There are no known risks for you in this project.

What are the possible benefits in taking part?

There are no direct benefits, however, this is an opportunity to join with other researchers and stakeholders to find ways to draw on the strengths and address the weaknesses in our often disparate methodological areas.

What will happen with my data?

All personal information will be accessible only to the research team and will be stored on a password protected University of Dundee computer for seven years. We are planning to publish this work in the form of reports, presentations and peer reviewed journals. No personal details about you will be mentioned in any form of dissemination.

We hope you will consider taking part in this project!

If you want to find out more, a member of the research team will contact you to discuss any questions you may have. Please contact Tricia Tooman at 01382 386539 or t.tooman@dundee.ac.uk. A written consent form will need to be signed at the beginning of the event.