

# Research and Development e-Bulletin

April  
2019



Produced by: Research and Development

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Caring | Discovering | Growing | **Together**

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Northumberland,  
Tyne and Wear  
NHS Foundation Trust

# Save the Date!

**Please note the date of the  
Annual Research and  
Development Conference  
has now changed to**

**16<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

**NHS**  
Health Research  
Authority



## AcoRD online module

## Research Funding Alerts

### [19/05 - Health Services & Delivery Research Programme \(researcher-led evidence synthesis\)](#)

Closing date: 25 April 2019

The Health Services and Delivery Research (HS&DR) Programme is accepting stage 2 evidence synthesis applications to their researcher-led workstream.

### [19/06 - Health Services & Delivery Research Programme \(standard researcher-led\)](#)

Closing date: 25 April 2019

The Health Services and Delivery Research (HS&DR) Programme are accepting stage 1 applications to their researcher-led workstream.

### [19/14 Community health and care services to support people with learning disabilities and behaviour that challenges, and their families and carers](#)

Closing date: 09 May 2019

The Health Services and Delivery Research (HS&DR) Programme are accepting stage 1 applications to their commissioned workstream.

### [19/13 Support interventions for carers](#)

Closing date: 09 May 2019

The Health Services and Delivery Research (HS&DR) Programme are accepting stage 1 applications to their commissioned workstream.

### [19/11 Health Technology Assessment Programme - researcher-led \(primary research\)](#)

Closing date: 15 May 2019

The Health Technology Assessment Programme is accepting stage 1 applications to their researcher-led workstream.

### [19/19 - Public Health Research Programme: Researcher-led](#)

Closing date: 23 July 2019

The Public Health Research Programme are accepting stage 1 applications to their researcher-led workstream

### [Research for Patient Benefit Programme - Competition 39](#)

Closing date: 24 July 2019

Applications are invited for Competition 39 of the Research for Patient Benefit programme. The deadline for applications is 24 July 2019.

### [19/01 Improving health and wellbeing for people who are at risk of or exposed to Adverse Childhood Experiences \(ACEs\)](#)

Closing date: 30 July 2019

The Public Health Research Programme are accepting stage 1 applications to their commissioned workstream for this topic.

[19/02 Interventions that reduce harmful substance use with a focus on novel psychoactive substances](#)

Closing date: 30 July 2019

The Public Health Research Programme are accepting stage 1 applications to their commissioned workstream for this topic.

[19/32 Behavioural intervention to treat anxiety in adults with autism and moderate to severe learning disabilities](#)

Closing date: 31 July 2019

The Health Technology Assessment Programme is accepting stage 1 applications to their commissioned workstream for this primary research topic:

[19/33 Treating specific phobias in children with moderate to severe learning disabilities](#)

Closing date: 31 July 2019

The Health Technology Assessment Programme is accepting stage 1 applications to their commissioned workstream for this primary research topic:

[19/34 Medication for ADHD in adults with a history of psychosis or bipolar disorder](#)

Closing date: 31 July 2019

The Health Technology Assessment Programme is accepting stage 1 applications to their commissioned workstream for this primary research topic:

[19/53 Rivastigmine for psychotic symptoms associated with Parkinson's disease](#)

Closing date: 18 September 2019

The Health Technology Assessment Programme is accepting stage 1 applications to their commissioned workstream for this primary research topic.

[19/41 Clozapine for children and young people with treatment resistant schizophrenia](#)

Closing date: 04 December 2019

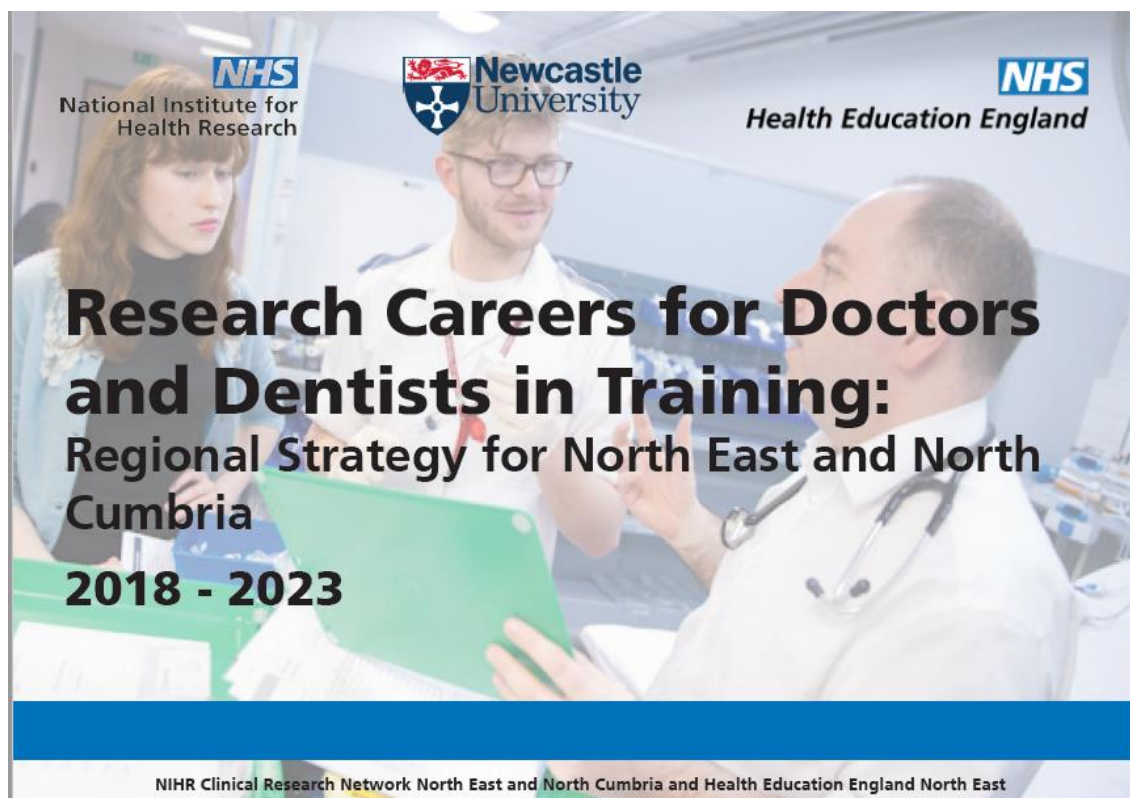
The Health Technology Assessment Programme is accepting stage 1 applications to their commissioned workstream for this primary research topic:

[19/42 Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor to prevent depression following traumatic brain injury](#)

Closing date: 04 December 2019

The Health Technology Assessment Programme is accepting stage 1 applications to their commissioned workstream for this primary research topic:





In partnership with Newcastle University and Health Education England, the NIHR Clinical Research Network North East and North Cumbria have today launched a five year strategy for Research Careers for Doctors and Dentists in Training, which is active until 2023.

The strategy is designed to help educate both doctors and dentists in training about the research training opportunities available in the region.

Shaped by contributions from key stakeholders, the strategy is also intended to serve as a resource for trainers and mentors, in order to help advise doctors and dentists in training.

If you would like further information please contact [nenclearning@nihr.ac.uk](mailto:nenclearning@nihr.ac.uk)

A copy of the strategy can be accessed [here](#).

## Doctoral and Advanced Fellowship Programmes

The NIHR Fellowships support individuals with the potential and on a trajectory to become future leaders in NIHR research.

Now with increased flexibility and options to include clinical time, they support people at various points of their development from initial pre-doctoral training to senior post-doctoral research.

**Doctoral and Advanced Fellowship competitions now open for applications.**

### **Doctoral Fellowship – closing date 18 June 2019**

The NIHR Doctoral Fellowship is a three year full-time award that supports individuals to undertake a PhD in an area of NIHR research. This Fellowship may also be taken up on a part-time basis of between 50-100% whole time equivalent (WTE).

Clinical applicants can include up to 20% clinical time as part of the Fellowship.

[Find out more](#)

### **Advanced Fellowship – closing date 4 June 2019**

The NIHR Advanced Fellowship is for those at post-doctoral level and aimed at several specific points of a researcher's career development. It is between 2 and 5 years and can be completed on a full or part-time basis (between 50-100% WTE).

They are also available with a 'clinical academic' option where clinical applicants can request up to 40% of their time be dedicated to clinical service/development, which would be covered by the Fellowship.

[Find out more](#)

### **NIHR-Charity Partnership Fellowships**

The NIHR has partnered with a number of charitable organisations to offer jointly funded NIHR-Charity Partnership Fellowships at both [Doctoral](#) and [Advanced](#) (post-doctoral) level.

**Please note that Doctoral and Advanced Fellowships now have two rounds per annum that open in April and October.**



## Research Design Service



### RDS Blog: From the RDS Desk

We can all have great ideas for research, but if you're intending to apply for funding it's vital that you check your idea is novel. It's the first check any funding panel will make, so let us help you jump that first hurdle and follow the tips in this month's RDS blog.

Click [here](#) to read the latest blog, 'Inspired – but is your research idea novel?'

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[Find out more about how RDS North East & North Cumbria can help you](#)

Want to keep up to date with the latest RDS NENC news? [Sign up to our newsletter here](#)

## News from NTW Research Delivery Team



### AD Genetics Study – PI: Dr Bob Barber

- There are three genes where mutations cause early-onset Alzheimer's disease – APP, PSEN1, and PSEN2. If one of these mutated genes is inherited from either parent, Alzheimer's symptoms are likely to develop before age 65.
- However, most people who have early-onset Alzheimer's don't have mutations in these three genes. It may be that there are more genetic risk factors still to be identified in early-onset Alzheimer's disease.
- Knowing what these genetic risk factors are will help drive new therapies.
- The study is recruiting patients diagnosed with AD with **onset of symptoms prior to the age of 70** (study has 2 cohorts; early onset – symptoms before age 65, and later onset – symptom onset aged 66-70).
- The study involves a one off home visit to take blood samples and to interview the patient and their relative/friend/carer.
- Please refer any potentially suitable AD patients to: Vicki Hetherington; 01912081351; [Victoria.hetherington@ntw.nhs.uk](mailto:Victoria.hetherington@ntw.nhs.uk)



Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust's Portfolio Research Delivery Team, in collaboration with Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust would like to introduce

**BRIGHtMIND:** A randomised double-blind controlled trial of connectivity guided theta burst transcranial magnetic stimulation versus repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation, for patients with a primary diagnosis of moderate to severe Major depressive disorder (MDD) who have failed to respond to adequate trials of at least 2 antidepressants in their current episode of Treatment Resistant depression (TRD).

### Participant Involvement

Following a screening and baseline visit, eligible participants will be invited to undergo an initial MRI scan, before being randomised to one of two treatment arms. They will then be given 20 treatment sessions delivered over 4- 6 weeks, followed by regular assessment and safety monitoring visits at 8, 16 and 26 weeks, and a second MRI scan at 16 weeks post randomisation.

### Inclusion criteria

- Adults > 18 years
- Diagnosis of MDD (defined according to DSM-5) that is treatment resistant (defined as scoring 2 or more (42) on the Massachusetts General Hospital Treatment Resistant Depression staging score (51) See appendix on more detailed scoring of treatment resistance.
- HDRS-17 score of 16 or more (moderate to severe depression) (52)
- Capacity to provide informed consent before any trial related activities.

### Exclusion Criteria

- History of bipolar disorder (due to risk of mania) or depression secondary to other mental disorder
- Neurological conditions e.g. brain neoplasm, cerebrovascular events, epilepsy, neurodegenerative disorders, and prior brain surgery
- Standard contraindications to MRI
- Major unstable medical illness requiring further investigation or treatment.
- Change in prescribed medication in the 2 weeks preceding the start of TMS trial or prescription of lamotrigine, pregabalin, gabapentin or benzodiazepines that act on brain glutamate or GABA, (only occasional use of other hypnotic drugs zopiclone, zolpidem, zoleplon and promethazine will be allowed.)
- Current substance abuse or dependence defined by DSM-5 criteria)
- Prior TMS treatment.
- At risk of suicidality.
- Potential complicated factors relating to the TMS treatment i.e Hairstyles which would impair magnetic transmission and piercings.
- Involved with any other clinical trial at the time of consent or 6 months prior.
- Unable to read or understand English.

Your support and referrals would be greatly received, so if you would like to refer a service user, or if you require further information, please contact me, Andrew Hamilton via the contact number, or email address below: - (if referring via email, please only provide a Rio number and initials).

**Study Coordinator.** Andrew Hamilton (Research Nurse RNMH) Tel: 0191 208 1338, Mob: 07867142629, or email to [andrew.hamilton@ntw.nhs.uk](mailto:andrew.hamilton@ntw.nhs.uk)

# HD Clinical Trial Site certificate

The DeNDRoN research team are thrilled to announce that NTW has been awarded HD Trial Site Certification for the second year running!



HD Clinical Trial Site Certification is an initiative of the Huntington Disease Clinical Trials Task Force (HD-CTTF), a group of international experts in Huntington's disease clinical and scientific research. The certification scheme aims to improve the site selection process for HD studies and maximise the visibility of high-quality trial-ready sites, each with an assessed ability to conduct clinical trials in HD. This will speed up the process of site identification and selection for future clinical trials and to give sites with an interest and confirmed clinical trial capability the opportunity to be considered, dependent on any additional study-specific site selection criteria. Led by Dr Suresh Komati, at NTW we currently have 171 active participants in HD research trials.

We were recently recognised at the ENROLL-HD congress meeting in Canada, as being in the top 5 recruiters in the UK for the ENROLL-HD study.

ENROLL-HD has been effectively used as a platform for participants and researchers to develop a positive and therapeutic relationship as well as to feed into other HD clinical research studies in NTW. It will again be used to support recruitment to HD studies currently in the pipeline at NTW such as HD Clarity, and gene silencing / Huntingtin lowering treatment studies PRECISION HD1 and PRECISION HD2. At present our clinical trials are conducted from Walkergate Park and the Centre for Life with a plan to expand this to other sites in the future, but recruitment for HD participants extends to outreach clinics across the North East and North Cumbria in Stockton, Hartlepool, Carlisle and Middlesbrough.



Sarah Edwards, Study Coordinator for Enroll-HD at the Enroll-HD congress meeting.

For any further information about the Enroll-HD study, please contact Sarah Edwards (Study Coordinator) on 0191 2467392 or email [sarah.edwards@ntw.nhs.uk](mailto:sarah.edwards@ntw.nhs.uk)

# Assertive Responding to Voices (AppRoVe)



## **Assertive Responding to Voices (AppRoVe)**

NTW are pleased to collaborate with the University of Sussex on a study **Developing a New measure for Distressing Voices**

**Inclusion criteria** – Over 18, hearing voices for a 6 month period, any mental health diagnosis, under the care of community or inpatient services, capacity to consent.

**Aim** - this study aims to evaluate the psychometric properties of two new measures of assertive responding to: 1) distressing voices ('auditory hallucinations'); and 2) other people.

**Design** – 46-item measures of assertive responding to voices (AppRoVE - voices) and other people (AppRoVE – social) have been developed through consultation with researchers, clinicians and people with lived experience of hearing voices. This study will evaluate the validity and reliability of the AppRoVE measures through a two-stage process.

**Expected outcomes** – this study will produce psychometrically robust measures of assertive responding to voices and other people.

**Anticipated benefits** – psychometrically robust measures of assertive responding to voices and other people can be used to assess therapeutic change processes for patients who receive relationally-based therapies for distressing voices.

Participation will involve a one off meeting to complete the study questionnaire. This can be facilitated either face to face or over the telephone.

Recruitment is due to end at the end of April 2019, so please get in touch soon if you have a patient who you think would like to participate.

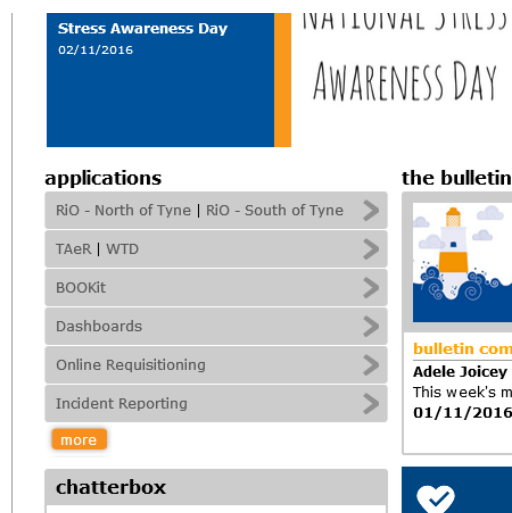
**For further information please contact: Principal Investigator Tom Reeves [tom.reeves@ntw.nhs.uk](mailto:tom.reeves@ntw.nhs.uk) Or Helen Spencer, Clinical Studies Officer, [helen.spencer@ntw.nhs.uk](mailto:helen.spencer@ntw.nhs.uk) Tel 0191 2081338**

## NIHR Research Currently in Recruitment

Opportunities for our service users to become involved in research is now available for quick access:

Under “Applications” click the “more” button and then “Research” – this takes you straight to the list of NIHR Portfolio research open in NTW.

### [Research looking for participants](#)



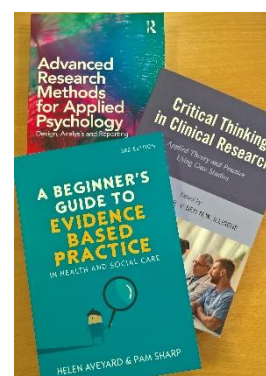
## Library and Knowledge Services

### News from the Library and Knowledge Services

#### New books

The library has added new books to the collection on a wide range of topics including:

- A beginner’s guide to evidence based practice
- Advanced research methods for applied psychology
- Critical thinking in clinical research
- Practice-based evidence for healthcare: clinical mindlines
- Evaluating the impact of implementing evidence-based practice



The collection also contains a growing selection of [e-books](#), accessible anywhere using [OpenAthens](#) on our [NTW Discovery Service](#).

#### Changes to journal subscriptions

Each year the library service reviews its journal subscriptions to ensure best value. Several titles have now been cancelled due to low usage. In response to last year’s survey, new titles include:

- International Journal of Transgenderism
- Journal of Occupational Science
- British Journal of Occupational Therapy

All journals can be searched or browsed on [NTW Discovery Service](#).

**Did you know?** The library team can conduct an evidence search on your behalf? To request a search visit: <https://weblive.ntw.nhs.uk/library/>



@NTWlibrary

## Research and Development Contacts

Vicky Ternent – Research Co-ordinator

Email: [Victoria.Ternent2@ntw.nhs.uk](mailto:Victoria.Ternent2@ntw.nhs.uk) Tel: 0191 2467228

Lyndsey Dixon - Research and Development Manager

Email: [Lyndsey.Dixon@ntw.nhs.uk](mailto:Lyndsey.Dixon@ntw.nhs.uk) Tel: 0191 2467221

Simon Douglas – Joint Director of Research Innovation and Clinical Effectiveness

Email: [Simon.Douglas@ntw.nhs.uk](mailto:Simon.Douglas@ntw.nhs.uk) Tel: 01912467222

Jill Davison – Dendron Delivery Team Lead

Email: [Jill.Davison@ntw.nhs.uk](mailto:Jill.Davison@ntw.nhs.uk) Tel: 0191 2467390

General contact email: [Research@ntw.nhs.uk](mailto:Research@ntw.nhs.uk) / [Serviceevaluation@ntw.nhs.uk](mailto:Serviceevaluation@ntw.nhs.uk)



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