



PRUK awards record £200k in fellowship funding

We are delighted to announce our **largest ever annual funding award** of nearly **£200k** to support Pharmacy Research. The 13 awards cover a wide range of pharmacy topics that will impact pharmacy services and patient care, such as investigating trends in opioid prescribing, the medicines experience of people with learning disabilities and mitigating the challenges faced by community pharmacists at the transition from education into practice.

For more information see our [press release](#).

Funding in 2017

2016 Project grants update

The PRUK project grants launched in August 2016 and are designed to directly advance pharmacy research for the overall benefit of patients and the public. We received an impressive 66 Stage 1 proposals for the project grants scheme and 13 applications have been invited to submit a full proposal, all relating to the following PRUK priority areas:

- Medicines optimisation and pharmaceutical care
- Accessing medicines in the modern era
- The roles and competencies of pharmacy technicians
- Patient / professional experience and understanding of pharmacy
- The contribution of pharmacy to public health

Stage 2 proposals will be assessed in early 2017 - see further information on the grants scheme in [our blog](#). The PRUK team are busy searching for potential peer reviewers to review the full Stage 2 proposals in February 2017. If you are interested to peer review, please [register your interest](#).

2017 Awards and bursaries

We are currently updating the timelines and documents for the 2017 awards and bursaries, which are set to open for applications in early January 2017. Keep an eye on our [website](#) for details of the 2017 timelines and updated application process.

Events in 2017

HSRPP 2017

The 2017 Health Services Research and Pharmacy Practice (HSRPP) Conference will be hosted by the University of Nottingham from **April 10th-11th**. Booking for early bird rates is open online on the [Pharmacy Research UK Website](#). Keynote speakers for HSRPP 2017 include:

- **Professor Sue Ziebland** – Professor of Medical Sociology from the University of Oxford
- **Professor Justin Waring** – Professor of Organisational Sociology and Director of the Centre for Health Innovation, Leadership and Learning from the University of Nottingham
- **Professor Fiona Patterson** – Founding Director of the Work Psychology Group and Principal Researcher from the University of Cambridge

PRUK / RPS Proposal writing workshop

Following the success of this year's RPS-PRUK workshop, 'Developing a Successful Research Funding Application', we are delighted to announce the return of the event for 2017.

Delivered by Professor Felicity Smith of UCL School of Pharmacy, this two-day cross-sectoral workshop will provide grounding in the proficiencies needed to design a successful research funding application and is suited to emerging researchers and professionals in patient-facing roles who are looking to apply for research funding in 2017.

Through mixed learning methods including lectures, discussion and practical exercises, the workshop will enable participants to develop a proposal with appropriate research methods and provide grounding in analytical techniques and ethical and governance considerations. An optional third day review module will focus on common issues and themes surrounding proposal development.

[Visit the RPS events page](#) to book your place.

Research advice surgeries

Every month the RPS runs research advice surgeries which can be attended in person, by phone or via video conference. If you are thinking about applying for funding in 2017 and would like to know the types of funding and support available these sessions are extremely useful. The next surgery is on the 6th Dec - see the [RPS events page](#) for all the times available.

Using the RPS library databases: systematic reviews

The RPS are running a webinar on the 7th Dec on how to search MEDLINE and CINAHL when conducting a systemic review. [Book your place](#) through the RPS events page.

PRUK in the press

Enhancing skill mix in community pharmacies

We are delighted to announce the publication of research funded by the charity which examined enhancing the skill mix in community pharmacies. The research was conducted by Professor Alison Bullock at the University of Cardiff and explores barriers to optimising skill mix and how these can be overcome. See the [press release](#) and the [full project report](#).

Health Literacy Month

To celebrate Health Literacy Month in October, we asked Paul Duell of the University of East Anglia to highlight the importance of health literacy and what it means to the medical profession. See [Paul's blog](#).

Partnerships

UKCPA-PRUK Award

UKCPA (the UK Clinical Pharmacy Association) and PRUK are delighted to grant the 2016 UKCPA-PRUK Research Awards to Andrew Sturrock, Senior Lecturer in Pharmacy Practice and Clinical Therapeutics at the University of Sunderland; and to Daniel Greenwood, a PhD student in Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Manchester. These awards are designed to support pharmacy practitioners to further

their research within clinical pharmacy. This year two projects have been awarded funding:

- The multidisciplinary approach to the prevention of bisphosphonate related osteonecrosis of the jaw (BRONJ). A qualitative study into the attitudes and perceptions of patients.
- Enhanced clinical pharmacy practice in the emergency department: what is it and what does it mean for patient care?

See our [full press release](#).

PRUK at the UKCPA conference

PRUK was delighted to attend the 2016 United Kingdom Clinical Pharmacy Association (UKCPA) conference held in Manchester. Leading a workshop on how to develop a research grant application, the PRUK team covered the main considerations that should be taken into account when applying for research funding. Dr Rachel Joynes and Desh Mofidi provided an insight into the main factors that a typical funding panel will look for when assessing an application. The presentation then discussed how researchers can strengthen their application through awareness of the common pitfalls and issues that judging panels raise.

The workshop that followed focused on the critical components that need to be considered in preparing a strong research grant application. This productive exercise raised awareness of how applicants should approach and prepare their application, with communication and networking playing a key role in strengthening their approach. Further information about the conference is available on the [UKCPA website](#).

Working with Pharmacy Research Wales

We are delighted to support the development and implementation of a research strategy for Wales, formally launched in mid-October. The [Pharmacy Research Wales](#) strategy was developed under the guidance of the All Wales Chief Pharmacists Committee through a wide-ranging consultation and aims to improve the quality and quantity of research that influences practice and policy.

RPS Research Ready community pharmacy accreditation

We are working closely with [Research Ready](#), an RPS project to promote the use of community pharmacies in research. More people visit community pharmacies for health-related reasons than any other NHS care setting. Community pharmacies are hubs of local healthcare activity which can make a valuable contribution to research in the NHS.

With over 1.6 million visits each day, community pharmacies are well-placed to support research activity by:

- Raising awareness of opportunities to get involved in research
- Promoting suitable research studies (e.g. leaflets, posters)

- Identifying suitable study participants
- Recruiting to studies (e.g. obtaining valid informed consent)
- Supporting or delivering an intervention
- Storing and dispensing clinical trial medication
- Advising on study design and feasibility of delivery in community pharmacy.

For further information contact researchready@rpharms.com.

Research studies are recruiting

Would you like to help us improve pharmacist-led care for asthma patients?

Help shape future pharmacy services for asthma patients and win up to £200 of online shopping! If you are a registered community, hospital, or patient-facing primary care pharmacist in the United Kingdom (UK), your opinion and experiences could help improve pharmacy services for asthma patients.

The UCL School of Pharmacy is running this ethically approved study. They would like to know how UK pharmacists are currently involved in asthma care and to identify some of the barriers that may be keeping pharmacists from getting more involved in the care of asthma patients. Based on the results of this study, they will develop a pharmacist-led intervention programme that will help asthma patients make the most of their medications. If you agree to participate in this study, you will be asked to complete an online questionnaire that will take no more than 30 minutes.

<http://tinyurl.com/asthmapharmacist>

The relevance of opportunities to demonstrate expertise and job satisfaction in community pharmacy: a comparative study between Japan and the UK

The purpose of this study is gain a greater understanding of activities which would improve job satisfaction for pharmacists and the quality of healthcare services. This project has ethical approval and participants will be reimbursed their expenses. This research involves a questionnaire: participants are required to answer a simple questionnaire which asks you about some operations in community pharmacy. Approximate time required will be 5 minutes. Interview: The interview will be done face to face with using the results of questionnaire sheet. It typically will last for 1 hour. For further information and to take part please contact: Dr Mishima at s.mishima@ucl.ac.uk.

Research news

[Latest news on pharmacy cuts](#)

[Wellcome Trust is proposing to set up a network of hospitals to collaborate on trials of new antibiotics](#)

[Medical research charities and pharmaceutical companies will gather at Patients First to discuss how to deliver the best outcomes for patients](#)

[NIHR publishes this year's Research Activity League Table](#)



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