Awards and bursaries scheme open for applications

We are delighted to announce that our Awards and Bursaries scheme for 2017 is now open for applications. The deadline to apply for an award is the 3rd May and applications can be made to three separate funds – Research Training Bursaries, Personal Research Awards and the BOPA-PRUK Research Award. These schemes are designed to equip pharmacy professionals with the skills needed to contribute to and progress research in the sector. A summary of each scheme has been included below, or
go to our website to find out more.

**Personal Research Awards**: These are available to registered pharmacists and this unique funding is to enable pharmacists to develop the research skills required to advance their research career. Proposals from a wide variety of pharmacy topics will be considered as the purpose of the scheme is to build research capacity within pharmacy practice.

**Research Training Bursaries**: Research training bursaries provide funding for community and primary care pharmacists who have an interest in developing their skills in conducting research relating to every day practice. There are three levels of funding, depending on the qualifications that are being worked towards.

**BOPA-PRUK Research Award**: The BOPA-PRUK Research Award is designed for pharmacy professionals in oncology and haematology to undertake research projects in translational and health service related to oncology and haematology pharmacy, with a focus on patient benefit.

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**HSRPP 2017**

This year’s Health Services Research and Pharmacy Practice (HSRPP) Conference is being held in Nottingham on the 10th and 11th April. The theme is “Drivers for change: policy, practice and education”. We are offering an early bird discount rate for anyone who registers for HSRPP 2017 by 17th February. See our website for booking details and prices.

**Key note speakers**

Professor Sue Ziebland: Professor of Medical Sociology, University of Oxford - Sue’s background is in medical sociology, with increasing focus on qualitative research
approaches. Sue has worked as a researcher in the academic, NHS and voluntary sectors and has published over 150 papers and chapters in social science and health publications.

Professor Justin Waring: Professor of Organisational Sociology, University of Nottingham - Justin's research background and teaching deals with the reconfiguration and governance of public services, with a particular focus on the changing organisation and management of healthcare services. His primary interest is to understand how new organisational forms and processes interact with institutionalised professional practices, cultures and identities; and how such institutional influences can both stimulate or stymie reform.

Professor Fiona Patterson: Founding Director of the Work Psychology Group and Researcher, University of Cambridge - Fiona was Head of Organisational Psychology at The Boots Corporation Plc and an internal consultant psychologist at Ford Motor Company Limited (Global) in the corporate sector. Fiona publishes regularly in the highest-ranking journals in Psychology (e.g. Journal of Applied Psychology) and in Medicine (e.g. British Medical Journal, Medical Education). She is co-author of the leading international textbook Work Psychology and has published over 80 peer reviewed journal articles. She has recently launched a new international research network for selection and assessment for the healthcare professions with contributors from around the globe.
PRUK in the news

Medication management for people with dementia

We are delighted that the PRUK-funded project at Aston University on medication management for people with dementia has recently been published in Health Expectations. The project highlights the role of informal family carers in medication management and shows how community pharmacists can assist with these patients. The full project report is also published on our website.

The role of pharmacists in caring for young people with chronic illness

A previously published project funded by PRUK has recently been published in the
Journal of Adolescent Health. This project explored the potential role of pharmacists in the care of young people with juvenile arthritis in the optimal use of their medication. The full report is also published on our website.

**Pharmacist ‘intelligent’ referrals to a Psychiatric Liaison Team**

In December we were pleased to announce the publication of research funded by the charity which explored the role that pharmacists could play in enhancing mental health patients’ access to a psychiatric liaison team. The study also aimed to establish whether a new pharmacy referral system could facilitate a reduction in the time from admission to referral to the psychiatric liaison team, in addition to increasing the number of patients accessing the service; and to explore the process of referrals to a psychiatric liaison team in an acute NHS Hospital Trust. For more information see the press release and the full project report.

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**Events in 2017**

**PRUK / RPS Proposal Writing Workshop**

*Workshop: Developing a Successful Research Funding Application, 8th March*

Following the success of this year’s RPS-PRUK workshop, 'Developing a Successful Research Funding Application', we are delighted to announce a final date in March. Delivered by Professor Felicity Smith of UCL School of Pharmacy, this 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. If you have
not attended the previous two days, you will need a partial draft application. This third
day 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 run 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
extremely useful. The next surgery is on the 7th February and to book your place sign
up through the RPS website.

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**RPS launches toolkit for research, evidence
and evaluation**

The RPS has launched the *Research, Evidence and Evaluation Toolkit* (REET). This
new interactive resource will support its users to identify, recognise and further develop
their research skills and help them engage in activities that generate evidence. With
future planned development of the *REET*, users will be able to access this toolkit through
an interactive online system.

We will be testing this toolkit and online system during 2017 and we are currently
recruiting volunteers to join our user testing group. If you would like to be part of this
project please email practice.research@rpharms.com.

Visit the full RPS news story
Research news

The HEE/NIHR Integrated Clinical Academic programme for non-medical healthcare professionals is anticipated to launch in March 2017.

The role of academic pharmacists in science and research by the Pharmaceutical Journal, including a quote from our Scientific Advisory Panel member Christine Bond.

RCBC Wales are offering funding for up to three First into Research Fellowships.