Awards and Bursaries 2018

Pharmacy Research UK (PRUK) recently announced that the funding round for 2018 personal research awards and training bursaries is now open and applicants have until the 2nd May to submit their application. From this year onwards, funding will now be available to all pharmacists engaged in research, including non RPS members.

The PRUK awards come under three categories:

- Research Training Bursaries
- Personal Research Awards
- BOPA-PRUK Research Award

Personal awards enable small scale research projects that may not be eligible for funding from other bodies to be undertaken and can be awarded to both academics and pharmacy practitioners. Research training bursaries provide funding for pharmacists who have an interest in developing their skills in conducting research relating to their everyday practice. The BOPA-PRUK Research Award (jointly funded by the British Oncology Pharmacy Association) calls for pharmacy professionals who are new to research to lead on their own project for the benefit of patients within the field of haematology or oncology pharmacy research.

For more information see our press release.
The 2018 Health Services Research and Pharmacy Practice (HSRPP) Conference is fast approaching! The 24th HSRPP conference will be hosted by the University of Newcastle under the theme "Innovative Healthcare in the 21st Century: Providing smarter, safer, and patient-centred health services" from April 12th-13th. Booking for early bird rates is open online and the early bird deadline is February 16th 2018. The keynote speakers for this year’s conference are:

- Professor Paul Little – Professor of Primary Care Research at the University of Southampton
- Professor Aziz Sheikh – Professor of Primary Care Research and Development and Co-Director of the Centre of Medical Informatics
- Professor Bryony Dean Franklin – Director of the Centre of Medication Safety and Service Quality and Professor of Medication Safety

The Workshop Themes for the conference are as follows:

- **Workshop 1** – "Using qualitative research methods and the person-based approach"
- **Workshop 2** – "Introduction to Public Engagement"
- **Workshop 3** – "Big Data and Data Visualisation"
- **Workshop 4** – "Critical Writing Skills"

Read more about the upcoming conference here.

---

**Make Mentoring your New Year’s Resolution**

If you are in need of a New Year’s resolution to help propel your career forward, consider becoming a mentor or mentee through the free PRUK mentoring scheme. Effective mentoring is an essential component of expanding the pharmacy academic workforce for the future and continues to be a proven pathway to research career growth and development.

**For Mentees** - Advice and guidance imparted by a peer with experience can be an invaluable stepping stone to progressing and moving forward with your work.

**For Mentors** - By contributing to the development of the younger generation, experienced researchers will maintain the high standards of the profession and steer it to greater heights.
PRUK’s Fifth Birthday

On December 13th PRUK celebrated its fifth birthday! Since our inception, PRUK has funded nearly £1.7m of project grants, training bursaries and research fellowships relating to the practice of pharmacy. None of the research we have funded would have been possible without the backing of our strategic partners, researchers and supporters, in particular the Leverhulme Trust, and we sincerely thank you all for helping us to champion and promote pharmacy research.

Your support is vital if we are to continue to fund high profile research to improve patient outcomes, as well as provide the next generation of pharmacy researchers with the opportunity to develop their research skills. We are asking our supporters to please consider donating £5 as a gift to PRUK to help us mark this milestone. Your donations will enable us to continue to strengthen the research culture within pharmacy and improve the way professionals, patients and the public think about and access pharmacy services.

To donate to PRUK, please click here.

RPS Winter Summit

PRUK had a presence at the RPS Winter Summit, which took place on Tuesday 5th December at the Mary Ward House in London. The RPS Winter Summit was the first of its kind and was designed to bridge the gap between
industry, academia, policy and practice, by showcasing the latest innovations in science, research and education. We welcomed attendees to our stand to share information about our funding awards and mentoring programme and relished the opportunity to meet pharmacists who conduct research in the cutting edge of pharmaceutical science.

The event was a great success, with many delegates expressing how beneficial it was to hear the latest research being undertaken in their area and across other sectors. Attendees included PRUK funded researchers and Dr Sarah Slight, 2018 HSRPP chair, delivered her RPS Practice Research Award speech entitled “How can health information technologies improve patient safety?”

For more information check out our RPS Winter Summit Blog.

---

**Emma Davies' Poster Prize**

PRUK are delighted to share news that Emma Davies was awarded the runner up prize for her poster presentation at the RPS Winter Summit. Her presentation on "Trends in strong opioid prescribing in a primary care population: preliminary results" is based on her study Trends in opioid prescribing and associated resource utilization in Wales which was funded through her 2016 PRUK personal research award.

It is fantastic to see Emma's project receiving the commendation and acclaim it deserves from experts in the field through effective dissemination methods. PRUK look forward to seeing the far-reaching implications and valuable outputs that the research will generate for Chronic Pain sufferers upon its completion.

To read more about Emma’s prize and presentation, check out our news story.

---

**PRUK Research**
Determining Patient Health Literacy during a Medicine Consultation Study

Last month PRUK shared the publication of health literacy research funded by the charity. Research into ‘Determining Patient Health Literacy during a Medicine Consultation Study’ was conducted by Paul Duell at the University of East Anglia and was funded by his 2015 personal award. Health literacy is a person’s ability to obtain, understand and apply health information. Previous studies have shown that patients that have limited health literacy have poorer health, rendering the ability to use information and services to make decisions about health a vital pre-cursor to living a longer life.

Previous research has shown that there are seven patient behaviours that could predict a patient’s level of health literacy. This project aimed to test pharmacists’ ability to assess each of these behaviours during a medicine consultation and see if any are an accurate measurement of health literacy. PRUK are delighted that he has contributed to this important research area.

Read more about Paul’s project here.

Research Output from Nina Barnett’s Training Bursary

PRUK have also shared Nina Barnett’s final report, following completion of her 2016 training bursary. This report reviews a person-centred approach to pharmacy practice through a focus on using health coaching methods. Nina’s bursary facilitated the development of her research skills through enabling her to undertake a small scale project as part of her PhD at Kingston University.

The project assesses how Nina’s work as a pharmacist in care of older people in secondary care from 1997 to 2017 has analysed and influenced national policy and professional guidance in developing person-centred care in pharmacy practice. The findings from the project affirm that person-centred care is at the heart of safe and effective pharmacy practice and that learning from the multidisciplinary approach to care of older people, pharmacy practice has evolved towards a more person-centred approach.

Read more about Nina’s project here.

Events

Research Proposal Writing Workshop

RPS and PRUK are joining forces to run a research proposal writing workshop on the 6th and 7th March 2018.
The workshop run by Professor Felicity Smith from the UCL School of Pharmacy will be focused on the key considerations that are required when putting together a competitive research bid. We strongly suggest that any pharmacist submitting their first funding application book their place onto the workshop as attendees for the conference will benefit from expertise from an established researcher.

PRUK recently announced that our Awards and Bursaries scheme will also be open to non-RPS pharmacists from 2018. We are therefore delighted to be able to offer a £70 discount on the workshop price to the first five non-RPS pharmacists who both attend the workshop and apply in time for the PRUK 2018 Awards and Bursaries round.

For more information and to book your place please visit the [RPS Events page](https://mailchi.mp/e4ff95044afa/pruk-november-newsletter-1528677).

**FIP Congress in Glasgow**

The 2018 FIP (International Pharmaceutical Federation) Congress invites pharmacy practitioners and pharmaceutical scientists from around the world to submit abstracts for the conference. The theme of the 78th FIP World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences is “Pharmacy: Transforming outcomes!”

**Call for Abstract Submissions:**

**Deadlines:**

- Deadline for sending in abstracts for mentoring: **1st March 2018**
- Deadline for mentor to give feedback to the mentee: **15th March 2018**
- Deadline for abstract submission: **1st April 2018**

Book your place through the FIP Glasgow [website](https://mailchi.mp/e4ff95044afa/pruk-november-newsletter-1528677).

**RPS/PRUK Research Advice Sessions**

If you are a novice researcher seeking to develop your research capabilities and potential, sign up for a Research Advice session. These surgeries are beneficial for anyone who is planning to apply for PRUK funding in 2018 and would like to learn about the support and streams available.

The monthly workshops are run by PRUK alongside the RPS research team and can be attended in person, by phone or via video conference. Individual slots last approximately 30 minutes and the next two sessions are scheduled for **Tuesday 6th February** and **Thursday 1st March**.

See the [RPS events page](https://mailchi.mp/e4ff95044afa/pruk-november-newsletter-1528677) to book your place.

---

**Goodbye Rachel and Welcome Angela**
Last month we said a sad goodbye to our Executive Director Dr Rachel Joynes. Team PRUK would like to thank Rachel for her dedication and hard work over the last 2 ½ years. PRUK would not be where it is today without her support and guidance and we wish her all the best in her future endeavours!

We are delighted to announce that our new Interim CEO is Angela King. Angela has spent over a decade in the health related voluntary sector as a volunteer, employee, Trustee and Chief Executive, before stepping into a variety of Patient and Public Involvement roles, mostly within the National Institute for Health Research. Over the last 20 years, she has been a lay member of a number of non-government national advisory bodies, steering groups and committees, including the organising committee of an international scientific conference. Angela was a PRUK trustee before stepping into the interim CEO role and has been involved with the charity since 2016.

Research News

New learning materials from CPPE on mental health for pharmacy professionals who have an interest in developing their knowledge in this area

Clinical Pharmacist’s top five researcher articles of 2017

Building an evidence base for community pharmacy in the Pharmaceutical Journal

CPA PharmAid scheme