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2018 has been an exciting year for Pharmacy Research UK. We awarded around £175,000 of new grants, supporting the very best in pharmacy research across the UK. As well as supporting pharmacists to develop their research we have continued to fund long-term research projects, and seen our funding lead to 25 research publications in the year. We’ve been working to increase our impact by working in partnership with fantastic organisations like the British Oncology Pharmacy Association (BOPA) and the Leverhulme Trust. And we’re delighted to have established a new partnership with the College of Mental Health Pharmacy (CMHP) to jointly support important new work into the support that pharmacists can provide to people with mental health issues.

At the same time we have gone through significant organisational change, fully taking on our own staff team and appointing our first permanent chief executive. We are grateful to Angela King, our interim chief executive who guided us through the first half of the year and handed over in June to our new chief executive Guy Parckar. And we are grateful to the Royal Pharmaceutical Society, who continue to host us in their office.

This report gives a snapshot of our work in 2018, showing some of the brilliant researchers who are benefitting from our support, and highlighting some of the research work that we believe can build the evidence base for improvements for patients across the UK.

Pharmacists play an important role in supporting the health of our nation, and we believe that the right research can show how that impact can grow even further. In 2018 we have been reviewing our strategy to make sure that we are helping to deliver the biggest possible impact through the research that we fund. We want to be working more and more in partnership with others – stretching our resources and helping to deliver shared goals. Ultimately, we want to fund capacity building and original research to help pharmacy and pharmacists improve the public’s health and deliver better outcomes for patients. This review shows the progress we’ve made in 2018, and some of the researchers, partners and many others who have helped us to achieve it, and as we move into 2019 we feel well placed to achieve even more.

Guy Parckar
Chief Executive

Professor Anthony Smith
Chair of Trustees
2018 in numbers

26 active projects

10 newly contracted research projects

£175k of funding committed

36 pharmacists supported to conduct research
2018 highlights

An additional £175k of funding committed this year across a range of bursaries and research projects. All these contribute to the development of pharmacists’ skills to undertake research, and add value to the pharmacy research evidence base.

We have secured a new partnership with the College of Mental Health Pharmacy to fund research investigating the role of pharmacists in improving health outcomes for people with mental health conditions.

We have reviewed and redeveloped our strategy, ensuring that we focus our research where we believe we can deliver the maximum benefit.

The PRUK mentoring scheme is in full swing and the number of mentoring partnerships has been growing this year, but we want to do even more to increase the support network available for aspiring researchers in pharmacy.

We are proud to continue to work closely with the Royal Pharmaceutical Society, the membership body for pharmacists, to support professionals in applying for research funding and improving the quality of research proposals from the sector.

We have closed the year with a new team, including a new CEO and Research Coordinator (see ‘Our team’ for further information).
Research impact

Since our inception in 2012 we have used the online system Researchfish to track the progress of the awards and projects that we have funded. Since 2012 we have awarded nearly £2 million of research grants, awards and bursaries. In 2018 we have funded £175k of new awards across our different funding schemes.

In 2018, over 25 published outputs have been confirmed from the research funded by PRUK, over half through journal articles. The research that we have funded has further supported the leading researchers to collaborate with other organisations, such as the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, Arthritis Care Scotland, and the Wales Centre for Pharmacy Profession Education.
Our research continues to explore the pertinent issues relevant in the field today, through both large and small scale projects that have informed local practice, sparked interest in the pharmacy research sector and provided platforms for further investigative research.

Over 35 pharmacy professionals have been supported by PRUK to develop their research skills and obtain a range of qualifications to help them progress onto the next stages of their research career. We have committed over £600k to date to develop capacity in the profession, including contributions to the completion of PhDs and supervised research projects, as well as funding other short courses and masters programmes. This includes research investigating deprescribing, improving patient-pharmacist interactions, maximising access to medicines for young people, and much more.
**Researcher profiles**

**Emma Foreman**

2018 BOPA-PRUK Research Award Recipient

The use of Direct Oral Anticoagulants (DOACs) is increasing, and our experience of using them alongside cancer treatment is limited. Enzalutamide is a known inducer of CYP450 but also a possible inducer or inhibitor of the drug transporter p-glycoprotein. DOACs are affected by both of these pathways, but the significance of the theoretical interaction with enzalutamide is unknown, and there is no clear recommendation for how it should be managed in practice. I had always thought it would be useful to investigate this interaction, but never had the opportunity until I found out about the BOPA-PRUK Research award. I am now gaining valuable practical experience in how to carry out research, from creating a protocol to undertaking the role of a Chief Investigator. As I am hoping to recruit additional sites to join my study, this will open up opportunities for Pharmacists to act as Principal Investigators at those sites and share the experience.

**Ranjita Dhital**

2018 Personal Research Award Recipient

My participatory art-based research ‘Architecture of Pharmacies’ will use visual and other qualitative research methods to co-design community pharmacy spaces with pharmacy patients, clinicians, architects, artists and other stakeholders. This research will also involve a multidisciplinary team of researchers from architecture, pharmacy practice, psychology and design, and result in the creation of a pharmacy design guide which could be piloted and tested in future studies. During my research and clinical practice, I discovered how little attention had been given to the physical and social aspects of the community pharmacy environment. What effect could a small and cluttered pharmacy consultation room, which I often noticed, have on pharmacy patients and staff? The community pharmacy profession has experienced significant health service developments over the years, however, spaces where these new pharmacy services are delivered have not been examined. My study will explore and examine how community pharmacy spaces could be improved to support pharmacy teams and improve health outcomes for patients.
2018 research projects

This year, PRUK awarded £175k in new research development awards, training bursaries and partnership awards. These awards cover a range of topics that will impact pharmacy services and care and inform research for the future.

### PERSONAL RESEARCH AWARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scheme</th>
<th>Investigator</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Galen Award</td>
<td>Kristina Medlinskiene</td>
<td>University of Bradford</td>
<td>A study of barriers and enablers in the introduction of direct and oral anticoagulants (DOACs) for atrial fibrillation into patient care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galen Award</td>
<td>Sion Scott</td>
<td>University of East Anglia</td>
<td>Developing a theory and evidence-based deprescribing model for older people in hospital; selecting intervention components and modes of delivery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leverhulme Award</td>
<td>Ranjita Dhital</td>
<td>University of Reading</td>
<td>The Architecture of Pharmacies: Community pharmacy patients’ and staff’s experiences and perceptions of pharmacy spaces to inform the development of a pharmacy design guide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leverhulme Award</td>
<td>Kumud Kantilal</td>
<td>University of East Anglia</td>
<td>Design and implementation of novel pharmacy service models for older cancer survivors</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### RESEARCH TRAINING BURSARIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level 1</th>
<th>Barry Jubraj</th>
<th>Kingston University London</th>
<th>PhD by Publication Equipping stakeholders to deliver Medicines Optimisation using a collaborative approach</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>Catherine Dewsbury</td>
<td>University of Bath</td>
<td>Research interest: whether schools of pharmacy are preparing students for their legal responsibilities in practice or if they have narrowed the law curriculum solely to meet the needs of the General Pharmaceutical Council registration exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>Jenny Scott</td>
<td>University of Bath</td>
<td>Should a feasibility study of proactive community pharmacy take home naloxone supply vs. usual care be undertaken?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>Karrar Karrar</td>
<td>Cardiff University</td>
<td>Strengthening the pharmaceutical supply chain in resource limited low- and middle-income countries: A look into pharmaceutical companies’ contributions to making antimicrobial supply chains more resilient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 3</td>
<td>Victoria Tavares</td>
<td>The University of Manchester</td>
<td>M ClinRes Y2 Dissertation and Final Units. Aim: to explore in depth undergraduate MPharm student perspectives and views on the causes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Our partners

Through working in partnership with other organisations we have been able to extend our reach and fund additional projects across the pharmacy research sector.

In 2018 we continued to work with the British Oncology Pharmacy Association, to provide its members with research funding. The BOPA-PRUK partnership 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. This funding is designed to enable pharmacy professionals to gain further experience in conducting their own research project, whilst also informing the research area and allowing for further collaboration with experienced researchers. This aligns with our charitable objective of supporting the pharmacy research leaders of the future and advocating for a research active career for pharmacists.

We have formed a new partnership with the College of Mental Health Pharmacy to provide funding for professionals who wish to undertake research for the benefit of patients with mental health conditions, ensuring the safe and effective use of medicines through improved pharmaceutical care. Further information about this exciting new partnership is available on page 15.
The Leverhulme Trade Charities were established in 1925, at the wish of William Hesketh Lever, who left a share of his wealth to provide grants for the benefit of chemists, grocers and commercial travellers. We are very grateful to the Trust for providing funding for our research training bursaries and personal research awards.

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) is the professional membership body for pharmacists and pharmacy in Great Britain. It leads and promotes the advancement of science, practice and education in pharmacy to shape and influence the future delivery of pharmacy driven services. It supports and empowers its members to improve health outcomes for society through research, professional guidance, networks and resources.

PRUK are fortunate to be based in the RPS office and we work closely together to develop targeted guidance for researchers as well as running training courses, events and other activities.

Pharmacy Research Wales is a multi-stakeholder collaboration established to develop a pharmacy research strategy for Wales and is led by the All Wales Chief Pharmacists Committee. Their strategy is aimed at all Health Service and Pharmacy Practitioners interested in medicines use research that influences practice and policy to benefit the health of the people of Wales and beyond. It addresses the needs of the pharmacy profession in relation to research.
Victoria Tavares

2017 & 2018 Research Training Bursary Recipient

It has been identified that Pharmacy students from black and minority ethnic (BME) groups are less likely to pass the GPhC pre-registration assessment and recommendations have been made for schools of pharmacy to consider with the aim of narrowing this gap. It has not been established whether differential attainment between BME students and their white counterparts exists at pharmacy undergraduate level, however the wider literature suggests that differential attainment is an issue across higher education. The funding that I have received via Pharmacy Research UK has enabled me to undertake a MClinRes, the project component of the masters seeks to measure these reasons allowing comparisons to be made across differing groups of students. The findings will help to identify whether any particular groups of students have specific support needs allowing a more informed approach to implementing interventions that seek to balance differential attainment in UG pharmacy students.

Terry Ng

2017 BOPA-PRUK Research Award Recipient

My study looks at the acceptability for the use of web-based video consultations in patients receiving lifelong treatment for Chronic Myeloid Leukaemia (CML). For cancer patients, travelling to hospital appointments can be difficult because they may feel unwell and it can be costly. The use of video consultations could lead to fewer hospital visits and improve patient outcomes and experience.

It is hoped the results will help the UCLH Pharmacy Cancer Team decide whether further work in this area is needed. The BOPA-PRUK Research Award is a personal grant for pharmacy professionals to start their careers in research.

It has allowed me to attend a qualitative research methods course which has informed the final study protocol and given me skills required to conduct the study. The experience so far has given me valuable insight into the world of patient focussed research and the importance of building a strong supportive network.
About us

Pharmacy Research UK funds capacity building and original research to help pharmacy and pharmacists improve the public’s health and deliver better outcomes for patients.

Our charitable goals

- Supporting high quality research into the practice and provision of pharmacy that can help drive improvements in policy and practice
- Building the pharmacy research workforce by supporting the development of research skills among pharmacy professionals
- Creating partnerships to amplify the value and reach of pharmacy
- Using and promoting research to highlight the critical role of pharmacy in health provision

Member of AMRC

Pharmacy Research UK is proud to be a member of the Association of Medical Research Charities (AMRC). As an AMRC member, we benefit from being part of an active network of other research charities that collaborate to share the latest updates in the UK research landscape and ensure operational processes are updated and relevant. We have also recently subscribed to AMRC Open Research to offer our researchers the opportunity to publish their findings in an open access online platform.

Mentoring scheme

This scheme is intended for researchers working across pharmacy practice and pharmacy professionals working within health service research to help build up their research knowledge and expertise through the support and mentorship of an experienced peer. The scheme has been endorsed by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society and is also supported by the British Oncology Pharmacy Association.

“...I have a wonderful experience of this mentoring scheme and I am glad that as a result of this collaboration, we have managed to publish in the European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy.” – Professor Zaheer-Ud-Din Babar
What we fund

In 2018, PRUK offered funding through the following schemes:

1. Capacity and capability funding schemes

Research training bursaries
The bursary scheme is intended to support community and other primary care pharmacists who have an interest in developing their skills in conducting research relating to everyday practice.

Personal research awards
Personal awards are designed to develop pharmacy practice research capacity. Applications are therefore assessed both in relation to the development of the individual applicant and the research project proposed.

BOPA-PRUK research award
This award, co-funded by BOPA, is to support novice researchers to engage in research by offering funding for them to lead an independent research project for the benefit of patients in the haematology or oncology pharmacy field.

CMHP-PRUK research award
We are pleased to have secured a new partnership beginning from 2019, in collaboration with the College of Mental Health Pharmacy. This award is to support researchers to conduct research in the area of mental health pharmacy, by offering funding for them to lead an independent research project. We recognise that mental health is a vast and increasingly important area of investigative research, with pharmacy research playing a vital role in exploring benefits that can be provided to patients who suffer from mental illness.

“The College of Mental Health Pharmacy has offered a research bursary for many years but this partnership with PRUK has transformed the way we will do this in 2019. We can now offer a better funding stream and help to develop research which aims to benefit patients with mental illness. This partnership matches our charitable aims wonderfully. I would like to thank PRUK for their hard work in making this partnership a reality.” – Juliet Shepherd, CMHP President

Guy Parckar, PRUK CEO, says “We are very excited to be working with the College of Mental Health Pharmacy in 2019 to offer this new joint award. Working in partnership with other organisations is a critical part of our strategy, allowing us to increase our reach and our impact, and our partnership with the CMHP is a perfect example of this. Mental health is a really important area of research for Pharmacy Research UK, and working together with the CMHP is a perfect fit to help both organisations to fund the strongest, most impactful research that we can.”
Our projects

Since 2012, we have funded a variety of projects, bursaries, grants and partnership awards across the nation. The map below presents the geographical range of the research we have funded to date.

- **Sunderland**: University of Sunderland
  Number of researchers funded: 2
- **Aberdeen**: Robert Gordon University, University of Aberdeen
  Number of researchers funded: 2
  RG1 (1) and UoA (1)
- **Bradford**: University of Bradford
  Number of researchers funded: 1
- **Sheffield**: Sheffield University
  Number of researchers funded: 1
- **Norwich**: University of East Anglia
  Number of researchers funded: 3
- **Swansea**: Swansea University
  Number of researchers funded: 1
- **Cardiff**: Cardiff University
  Number of researchers funded: 1
- **Bath**: University of Bath
  Number of researchers funded: 2
- **London**: University College London, Royal Brompton & Harefield NHS Foundation Trust, Royal Pharmaceutical Society, King’s College London, Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust, London School of Economics, Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, Kingston University
  Number of researchers funded: 7
  KU (2), ISE (1), RMNHSFT (1), UCL (3), RBHNHSFT (1), RPS (1), KCL (2), ICHNHSFT (1)
Our Scientific Advisory Panel

Professor Rachel Elliott, Chair
Rachel is a professor in Health Economics at the University of Manchester. Rachel trained as an industrial pharmacist and was one of the first critical care specialist pharmacists in the UK. Her research focus is the application of applied health economics and economic evaluation to medicines policy, prescribing and consumption. She is also a Fellow of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society.

Sylvia D Bailey
Sylvia has a background in primary care management in Walsall and Birmingham, and served as a Non-Executive Director on the Walsall Manor Health Authority and Walsall Community Health Council. She has been a Lay Governor of a Black Country Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (Mental Health) and is a board member of Healthwatch Walsall. She is also a NIHR and Cancer Research UK lay PPI research applications reviewer.

Professor Alison Blenkinsopp
Alison is a health services researcher and registered pharmacist, currently Professor of the Practice of Pharmacy at University of Bradford’s School of Pharmacy. She leads the Safe Use of Medicines theme in the new Yorkshire & Humber NIHR Patient Safety Translational Research Centre.

Professor Christine Bond
Christine is Emeritus Professor of Primary Care, Institute of Applied Health Sciences, University of Aberdeen, Chair of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society Science and Research Board, Editor in Chief of International Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Trustee of Antibiotic Research UK. In 2010 she was awarded the Pharmas Lifetime Achievement Award.

Dr Debi Bhattacharya
Debi is a Senior Lecturer in pharmacy practice at the University of East Anglia. She is the director of the pharmacist non-medical prescribing programme at UEA and the research lead for the medicines management team. Debi is also an editorial board member of the journal ‘Patient Preference and Adherence’.

Professor Carmel Hughes
Carmel is Professor of Primary Care Pharmacy and Head of the School of Pharmacy at Queen’s University Belfast. She is also joint Clinical Lead for the Northern Ireland Clinical Research Network for Primary Care. She was the first pharmacist to be awarded a Harkness Fellowship in Primary Care Pharmacy and is the only pharmacist to have received a National Primary Care Career Scientist Award.

Dr Douglas Steinke
Douglas is a Senior Lecturer of Pharmacoepidemiology at the University of Manchester. He is also a health services researcher in their division of Pharmacy and Optometry.

Professor Richard Holland
Head of Leicester Medical School and Professor of Public Health Medicine at the University of Leicester. He previously worked at UEA, first as a lecturer in public health, then gaining a fellowship with the Medical Research Council to investigate home based medication review by pharmacists in older people.
Our Trustees

Professor Anthony Smith, Chair
Anthony has served as Chair of PRUK since it was founded in 2012. He is Vice Provost (Education) at University College London. Prior to his appointment at UCL on January 1st 2012, Anthony was Principal and Dean of the School of Pharmacy, University of London.

Susan Ashelby
Sue was a member of PTECO and became a founder trustee of PRUK on its formation. She worked in the hospital sector as a clinical pharmacist and went on to teach at the Cardiff University School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. In addition, she has had experience working as a pharmaceutical advisor in a General Practice.

Martin Astbury
Martin became the first President of the new Royal Pharmaceutical Society in October 2010 and was returned as President in July 2016 to start his 5th term. He is currently on the English Pharmacy Board and Assembly of the RPS. Martin’s patient facing role is with Wm Morrisons Pharmacies. Internationally Martin is an Executive Committee member of FIP (International Pharmaceutical Federation) Community Pharmacy Section.

Professor Brian Edwards
Brian is Emeritus Professor of Health Care Development at the University of Sheffield. Prior to this he had an extended career in health services management which included the management of a large teaching hospital and two NHS regions.

Peter Curphey
Peter has extensive experience in senior management roles within community pharmacy, most notably at Boots. Peter is a Fellow of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society, was a Member of the RPS Council from 1994-2003 and was President from 1997-1998. Peter leads the visiting degree accreditation team on behalf of the General Pharmaceutical Council and is a member of the GPhC Investigation Committee.

Anthony Clinch
Tony worked for Unilever PLC in various capacities from 1955 until his retirement. He was latterly Director of Finance for The Leverhulme Trust and the Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust.

Malcolm Harrison
Malcolm is the Chief Executive of the Company Chemists’ Association (CCA). The CCA is the trade association for large pharmacy operators in England, Scotland and Wales. Previously Malcolm worked as part of the Walgreens Boots Alliance International Healthcare Public Affairs team. In 2016 Malcolm became a Fellow of the NHS Innovation Accelerator programme, working with NHS England and the Academic Health Science Networks to develop new ways in which innovation and technology in pharmacy can be brought to market at scale within the NHS. Malcolm previously worked in a variety of roles within Boots UK both as a pharmacist and within retail operations. Malcolm has been a registered pharmacist for over 20 years and is a member of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society. He holds a CIPR Diploma in Public Affairs and is a trustee for the charity Pharmacy Research UK
Our team

Guy Parckar – Chief Executive
I started work as chief executive of Pharmacy Research UK (PRUK) in June 2018 and am responsible, working alongside our trustees and staff team, for the overall management, strategy and operations of the charity.

I have worked in the charity sector for more than a decade, most recently as the CEO of a small health-related charity, and before that working in policy, campaigns and communications roles in a large disability charity. I’ve also served as a trustee at two small charities, and prior to that worked in Parliament. I work three days per week and am based at PRUK’s office in the Royal Pharmaceutical Society in London.

Desh Mofidi – Research Manager
I have a background in psychology and have studied neuroscience, where during this time I recognised the importance and value that research had. Following my studies, I worked for three years within the Research for Patient Benefit programme of the National Institute for Health Research and experienced the processes underlying the assessment of research applications, which I found to be very robust and informative.

I am now proud to have been the Research Manager for over two and a half years at PRUK. Over that space of time, I have seen an increase in the number of pharmacists and other professionals who have engaged in research and find that we are increasing our networking activities in order to expand the scope of support we can offer pharmacists, through raising awareness of the impact that pharmacy research has.

Halima Begum – Research Coordinator
I graduated at the Surrey Institute of Art & Design (UCA). I previously worked in the charity sector for more than 6 years at the Chartered Institution of Highways & Transportation and at a back-specialist clinic. I am responsible for the daily operations at Pharmacy Research UK, managing incoming applications and other administrative duties including financial processing. My aim is to help PRUK to grow even more and for patients to get the best medical care they need.
Researcher profiles

Jenny Scott

2018 Research Training Bursary Recipient

My PRUK bursary is supporting me in the first steps towards evaluating the impact of take home naloxone, by facilitating three things.

(1) A qualitative study to understand what might be feasible and acceptable to community pharmacists in terms of design of a future trial which will compare pharmacy supply of ‘take home naloxone’ to people at risk of or likely to witness an overdose, with other sources of take home naloxone, such as addiction services. (2) Supporting engagement with a mentor who is a world-leading expert on naloxone, so I can learn from his expertise. (3) Funding three courses to develop my research skills and prepare me to lead on the design and execution of the evaluation of take home naloxone. My funding has enabled my confidence and skills as a researcher to grow and importantly it is giving me protected time to invest in my own development.

Bryony Dean Franklin

2016 Project Grant Recipient

It is well known that there are risks associated with transfer of information about medication between healthcare providers.

Patients may use various types of patient-held information about medication (“PHIMed”) to record details of their medication, which may be paper or electronic. However, we do not yet know how PHIMed should best be used, nor what its key ‘active ingredients’ are. Following patients and carers highlighting this as a priority for research, the PHIMed study aims to identify how PHIMed is used in practice, the barriers and facilitators to its use, and the key features of PHIMed that support medicines optimisation in practice.

We will use the findings to produce initial guidance for patients, carers and healthcare professionals on use of PHIMed. We would also like to use the findings to design a future trial of the impact of PHIMed on patient outcomes. The PRUK funding has been vital in allowing us to do this work, and is also allowing us to support patient and public involvement at every stage of the research.
HSRPP 2018

Pharmacy Research UK is proud to support the Health Service Research and Pharmacy Practice Conference (HSRPP) as part of our commitment to supporting the development of early career researchers, and showcasing the best in new pharmacy research. The annual conference has been held over two days for the past 25 years. The 2018 HSRPP Conference was hosted by Newcastle University. A number of our past and current PRUK funded researchers also gave oral and poster presentations at the event. The 2019 conference will be hosted by the University of Birmingham and the 2020 event will be hosted by the University of Cardiff.

The 2019 conference will be hosted by the University of Birmingham on 8th and 9th April. The conference theme will be, “Crossing Cultural Boundaries: Optimising Communications for Future Care”.

“Well organised conference overall, excellent conference dinner and the theme was well integrated into the keynotes and oral sessions”.

“A very well organised conference that was very well delivered. Congratulations and many thanks to all those involved in making it”.

HSRPP 2018
NEWCASTLE

HSRPP 2019
BIRMINGHAM

HSRPP 2020
CARDIFF
2019 and beyond

We are proud to support pharmacists and researchers working within pharmacy practice to develop their skills in conducting high quality research. We believe that pharmacy research can be a key driver in policy change and patient benefit. However, we recognise the need to address areas where pharmacy research is not being fully represented, or where there are still gaps in the opportunities for pharmacists to engage in research.

As we look forward, we will be focussed on:

- Continuing to provide competitive funding opportunities to build researcher capacity across the UK.
- Engaging and supporting pharmacy professionals to build competitive research proposals via workshops, feedback and 1:1 support.
- Increasing the scope of the PRUK Mentoring Scheme, allowing the support database to expand further for professionals across the discipline to gain the support they need.
- Supporting the delivery of the 25th HSRPP conference hosted by the University of Birmingham and undertake preparations for the 2020 conference at Cardiff University.
- Publishing PRUK-funded research findings and highlight key policies through our communication channels.
- Developing new partnerships so that we can maximise our impact and deliver research that can drive improvements in pharmacy practice.
- Focus on increasing collaborations with other organisations dedicated to increasing research opportunities for pharmacy professionals.
- Exploring new models of support, such as research fellowships, to help develop the pharmacy research leaders of the future.
- Increase fundraising efforts by helping to raising awareness on the value that pharmacy research has on a number of areas.
- Embed a new research strategy for 2019 to 2022, setting specific priorities and objectives to enable research in pharmacy to remain relevant and target the areas of most need target the areas of most need and the greatest patient benefit.
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