



ANNUAL REVIEW 2023

Contents

4.	Foreword
5.	Our Mission
6-8.	Our Trustees
9-10.	Our Scientific Advisory Panel
12.	Our Funding Priorities
13.	What We Fund
14-15.	Research Impact
16-17.	Our Partners
18.	2023 in Numbers
19.	PRUK Strategy
20-23.	PRUK Case Study
24.	Our Team
25.	Our Projects
26.	2023 Research Projects
27.	HSRPP 2023
28.	Looking Forward

Foreword

2023 has been a year of building and development for Pharmacy Research UK (PRUK), with some hugely exciting changes to look forward to in the coming year. We have of course continued to support an array of fantastic pharmacy researchers and projects – committing well over £100,000 of new research funding, as well as continuing to fund a range of ongoing projects. We've also continued to stretch our reach through our partnership working, including at the very end of 2023 agreeing with our colleagues at Diabetes UK to co-fund a project that has the potential to be the largest we have ever funded.

This has only been possible through working together – magnifying PRUK's resources by working with organisations who share our goals and ambitions. We are incredibly grateful to the partner organisations who work with us and together help increase the resources that we are able to direct to pharmacy research.

We also took time in 2023 to reflect on our strategy and goals, to see if there is even more that we can be doing to support pharmacy research. This resulted in the development of a number of new plans and initiatives that we will be taking forward in 2024. Among these are our new PhD studentship award, which we will pilot in 2024 with the aim of making this a regular part of our funding offering, and also an incredibly important decision to ensure that our funding is open to all pharmacy professionals.

We are very proud to be able to continue to fund our existing awards and support new and existing researchers, to work with our many partner organisations, while also being able to plan and develop new awards and activities. That we can do so is thanks to the people that keep PRUK going.

This includes our small staff team, as well as the trustees and Scientific Advisory Panel who give up their time to support our work, and the researchers, volunteers and partners who have worked with us.

2023 has seen PRUK continue to support pharmacy research as we have always done, while also ensuring we keep our finances in a healthy position. But also excitingly it has seen us developing entirely new offerings that can build the scope of what we can offer. As such 2024 promises to be even more interesting!



Guy Parckar
Chief Executive

Our mission

Our vision is to improve the health of the public through excellence in pharmacy research. We address this long term venture by continuing to:



Promote research into the practice of pharmacy and publish significant findings



Educate pharmacists in order to enhance the standard of healthcare available to the public



Advance and promote knowledge and skills in relation to the practice of pharmacy

About us

PRUK funds capacity building and original research to help pharmacy and its professionals improve the public's health and deliver better outcomes for patients. We seek to understand the way pharmacy professionals, patients and the public think about and access medicines and pharmacy services and utilise our research outputs to develop and support policy and practice relevant to pharmacy, health and social care.

Our Trustees

Our Board of Trustees oversee the way in which PRUK is governed. This extends to reviewing funding policies, allocating funds to research

Malcolm Harrison (Chair)

Malcolm is the Chair of Pharmacy Research UK, having first joined the board as a trustee in 2016, and becoming chair in 2021. 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.

Professor Brian Edwards

Brian is Emeritus Professor of Health Care Development at the University of Sheffield where he was Dean of the School for Health and Related Research. 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 [Trent and West Midlands]. He was a member of the NHS Management Board and Chair of a large mental health Trust. He was President of the Hospital Committee for Europe for three years. He continues to add to his extensive writings on health policy which include the history of the NHS. His master classes on health management and ethics continue to be very popular. Brian was previously a Trustee of the Pharmacy Practice Research Trust.

Raymond Anderson

Raymond is a pharmacist, running two busy community pharmacies in Portadown in Northern Ireland. Alongside this he has held a wide range of professional and non-executive roles, including as President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland and President of the Commonwealth Pharmacists Association. He currently sits on the European Medicines Agency Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee, appointed as a healthcare professional representative by the European Commission. He had also held a number of non-executive roles outside the world of pharmacy. He joined the Pharmacy Research UK trustee board in 2019.

Susan Ashelby

Sue was a member of the Pharmaceutical Trust for Educational and Charitable Objects (PTECO), and became a founder trustee for PRUK on its formation in 2012. 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 undergraduate and postgraduate levels. In addition she has experience as a pharmaceutical adviser in general practice.

Professor Rachel Elliott

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.

Tase Oputu

Tase joined the PRUK board in 2023, having worked in the NHS and hospital pharmacy for over 27 years. Tase's roles have included working in Tanzania with Voluntary Services Overseas, public health strategy with the Healthcare Commission and several senior hospital pharmacy manager roles in hospitals in London and the South East. She is currently the Lead Pharmacist for Medicines Commissioning and Pathways at Barts Health NHS Trust, and sits on the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's English Pharmacy Board and Assembly. Tase is passionate about Equality, Diversity & Inclusion. She is a graduate of the Ready Now NHS Leadership Academy programme for senior BME leaders. She has chaired BME staff networks at Newham Hospital and Maidstone & Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust. Tase was a school governor for four years.

Jess Purkiss

Jess joined the Board of Trustees in March 2022. Her career pathway changed with the help of a PRUK Bursary. Working as a Community Pharmacist for 20 years she used the catalyst of the bursary and the knowledge she learnt to become research pharmacist lead and a member of the Research Governance Board for a mental health trust.

A specialist in elderly care, frailty and deprescribing, she completed a Masters in Research and Leadership and is passionate about the role of pharmacists and their skills specifically with regards to roles in genomics and individualised care. She now works in a primary care network to improve the care of elderly people in care homes where she plans to use her skills for individualised care of the elderly and frail patients.

Ravinder Singh Chahil

Ravinder is currently the Senior Vice-President and General Counsel of Zealand Pharma A/S a Danish based biotech specialising in therapeutic peptides. Ravinder brings international experience in intellectual property law in the life science sector, with expertise in litigation, licensing,

mergers, and acquisitions. Additionally, he has experience with financing, securitization, and capital markets. Prior to his in-house roles intellectual property law. He has an undergraduate degree (BSc Hons) in Pharmacology from the University of Leeds, was called to the Bar in 1992 (Middle Temple) and requalified as a solicitor in 2002 (England & Wales).

Dr Dimitri Varsamis

Dimitri Varsamis works at NHS England on health strategy and policy.

He has worked in a variety of roles across the healthcare sector, as well as NHS England he has held roles at the Care Quality Commission, the Healthcare Commission and a number of health trusts. He has a background in academic research, as well as previous experience in non-executive and advisory roles. He joined the Pharmacy Research UK trustee board in 2019.

Our Scientific Advisory Panel

The Scientific Advisory Panel was established to advise the Board of Trustees on the development of Pharmacy Research UK's research grant giving strategy and policies. It also provides an independent review of proposals for research funding and makes recommendations to the Trustees for the allocation of research funds.

Professor Adam Todd (Chair)

Reader in Pharmaceutical Public Health Adam Todd is a Reader in Pharmaceutical Public Health, and Deputy Head of the School of Pharmacy at Newcastle University. He is a qualified pharmacist registered with the General Pharmaceutical Council, and a Fellow of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

He was previously a Senior Lecturer at Durham University where he held the roles of MPharm Programme Director, Director of Education, and Deputy Director of the Centre of Health and Inequalities Research (CHIR). Adam is actively involved in delivering the MPharm Programme at Newcastle; he approaches pharmacy education in an integrated way, and combines both science and practice elements in his teaching. Using this integrated approach, Adam has published two international books focusing on antibacterial and anticancer therapeutics.

Rebecca Harmston PPI member

I am a parent of two school aged children and a frequent user of local pharmacy services for both advice about my families help and medicines. I was diagnosed with Crohn's Disease 13 years ago and arthritis a few years later. I used to be a scientist and have worked at both

Cancer Research UK and Cambridge University.

I have over seven years of patient involvement in research experience and am currently involved in over thirty medical projects or committees all over England and Wales. I have been involved in pharmacy research studies including one looking at the role of pharmacists in an urgent care setting.

I am a lay member on a number of grant funding panels including Research for Patient Benefit (RfPB), The NIHR Health Technology Assessment Panel, the All Wales Research Panel (AWRP) and also the RfPBB in Wales. My main interests are making sure that patients understand study information sheets, reviewing grant applications and helping academic researchers write clear grant applications or study proposals.

I see my role on the committee as providing PRUK with a patient perspective on pharmacy research and grant applications and am happy to advise any researchers on patient involvement in their studies.

Dr Heather Barry

Lecturer in Pharmacy Practice
Heather is a Lecturer in Pharmacy Practice at Queen's University Belfast. She is a qualified pharmacist registered with the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland and is a member of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society. Heather is a health services researcher whose research focuses on rational prescribing and medicines management for older people, particularly those with dementia and frailty, in primary care settings. She has significant experience of utilising both quantitative and qualitative methods in her research and is an Editorial Board member of the journal BMC Health Services Research

Professor Katherine Payne

Professor of Health Economics
Katherine's current research focus involves using and developing quantitative and qualitative research methods to understand the economic value of health care interventions with a specific interest in precision medicine and genomic technologies. She has had a key role in multi-disciplinary research programmes and projects with funding from MRC, NIHR, Department of Health and Charities (Versus Arthritis and Cancer Research UK). She was the lead economist on a number of large MRC-funded consortia looking at using targeted approaches (developing prescribing algorithms) for biologics and other medicines (for lupus, psoriasis, Rheumatoid Arthritis). Other work includes applied 'NIHR' funded projects involving generating 'early' economic evidence (NIHR i4i) and translating research into patient benefit (NIHR:

HTA; PGfAR; RfPB; HS-DR).

She has worked on several EU-funded grants as the UK-workpackage economics lead. Katherine is one of the three Manchester co-applicants on the Research Design Service (tender 3) proposal and line manage frontline advisors.

Dr Amanj Kurdi

Senior Lecturer in Pharmacoepidemiology and Pharmacy Practice
Amanj is a clinical pharmacist by training. His research interest is pharmacoepidemiology and Drug Utilisation Research in cardiovascular, diabetes and antibiotics areas as well as adherence/persistence to medications using secondary database analysis and patient level data through applying various statistical and analytical techniques. He is also interested in Health service research and evaluating the impacts of health policies and clinical guidelines.

Professor Kristian Pollock

Professor of Medical Sociology
Kristian is Professor of Medical Sociology at the Nottingham Centre for the Advancement of Research into Supportive, Palliative and End of Life Care (NCARE). She studied social anthropology at the universities of Edinburgh and Cambridge, and completed a PGCHE at Keele University in 2007. She has carried qualitative research in a wide range of health service settings, often involving sensitive topics and vulnerable populations and has experience of undertaking observation, interviews, focus groups,

and case studies as well as mixed methods research. Kristian's research interests centre on the study of death in society, including public attitudes towards, and patient experience of, death and dying, place of death, Advance Care Planning, medicines management and dementia. She is also interested in communication between patients and health professionals in medical consultations.

Dr Jignesh Patel

Reader and Honorary Consultant Pharmacist in Anticoagulation
Jignesh Patel is a clinical academic, specialising in anticoagulant drug therapy and is based between the department of haematological medicine, King's College Hospital and the Institute of Pharmaceutical Science, King's College London. Jignesh's research is concerned with the optimal use of anticoagulant therapy in clinical practice and primarily focuses on addressing anticoagulant drug dosing issues where uncertainties exist. This work involves pharmacokinetic modelling of the anticoagulants, including the direct oral anticoagulants. A particular focus for Jignesh's research is anticoagulation therapy in the context of women's health.

Theresa McGrady

PPI member
I am a disabled person & co-carer and have used pharmacy services for several years. I have worked in the public and third sectors for a number of years, including being involved with a variety of panels & groups (including the local ICS; Integrated Care System), supporting the co-production of essential local services.

I value the benefits that disabled people and the wider public can bring, as experts by lived-experience. I am interested in health-care research and how this can lead to improved

services and wider health benefits for the public, helping to meet the changing & ever-increasing demands upon the NHS. I am keen to utilise my long-term knowledge & experience of pharmacy services to assist the panel in its work, helping to ensure that the interests of the public remain at the forefront of pharmacy research.

Professor Reem Kayyali

Head of Department of Pharmacy
Reem's current research interests focus on public health and medicines optimisation. The emphasis is on evaluating the use of innovative technology to streamline and optimise public health and the care of patients with long term conditions. She also has a special interest in issues related to cardiovascular disease, diabetes and obesity. As a pharmacist, her research interests also focus on building the evidence of the role of this profession in disease prevention and management and public health. As an academic, she is also interested in healthcare professionals' and patients' education and the use of simulation and serious games in this regard with a hope to build a strategy for pharmacy education that ensures their recognition as an integral part in the healthcare team.

Our funding priorities

We want to ensure that our resources deliver the greatest possible impact. To ensure that the research we fund addresses key current issues and can help drive positive change, we have agreed a broad set of themes and issues as a focus for the work that we fund.



The pharmacist – workforce/skills

Exploring the current and future needs of pharmacists, the nature of the role and the people who practice.



The future of pharmacy

Research investigating the role of pharmacy in the future, and how it can develop to deliver increased patient benefit, given the changing landscape of healthcare.



Pharmacy and patients

Research exploring the way in which pharmacists and other professionals in pharmacy engage with and support patients, and how this might change and develop.



Safe medicines use

Research exploring medicine safety and efficiency, understanding the role of pharmacists and other service providers in ensuring the best use and outcomes from pharmaceutical care.



Mental health and pharmaceutical care

Research exploring how pharmacists can best support and work with people with mental health conditions.



Pharmacy and long-term conditions

Research exploring how pharmacists can best support people with long-term conditions.

What we fund

In 2023, PRUK offered funding through the following schemes:



Research Development Awards

Development Awards were 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.



Research Training Bursaries

The bursary scheme was intended to support pharmacists who have an interest in developing their skills in conducting research relating to everyday practice. From undertaking a research module, to undertaking a master's degree, the bursaries offer support in a range of training and educational opportunities.



BOPA-PRUK Research Award

This award, co-funded by the British Oncology Pharmacy Association, 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

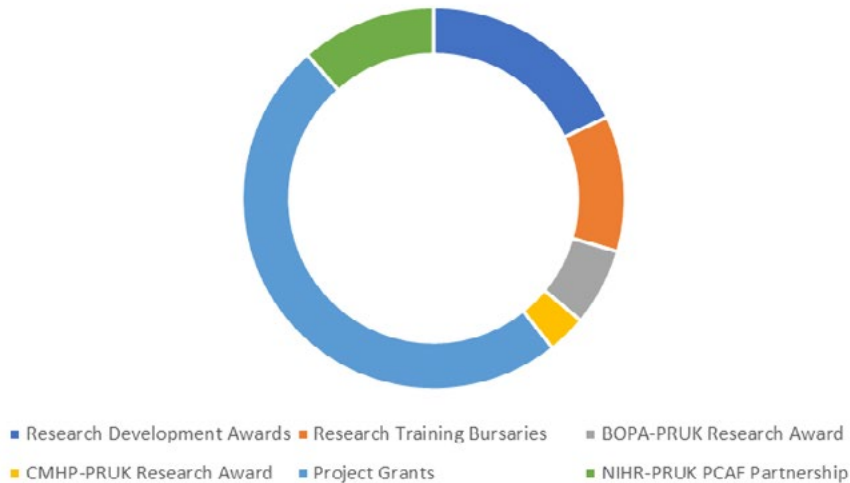
This award, co-funded by the College of Mental Health Pharmacy, is to support research showcasing the benefit that pharmacy can have in mental health research and improving the lives of patients who suffer from poor mental health.



Research impact

We are pleased to have funded more than £2million of research across project grants, developmental awards and training bursaries, providing opportunities for pharmacists to develop their research skills and showcase how pharmacy can benefit patients in a wide range of areas.

PRUK Funding Distribution: 2012-2023



In 2023 alone, at least 25 outputs have been published from the research awards funded by PRUK.

The vast majority of publications were submitted as original journal articles accepted across a range of journals, from the British Medical Journal, to the International Journal of Pharmacy Practice.

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 50 pharmacy professionals have been supported by us to further develop their research skills and obtain a range of qualifications to help them progress onto the next stages of their research career.

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. This includes a partnership with the National Institute for Health and Care Research, to support their Pre-Doctoral Clinical Academic & Practitioner Fellowship.



We are delighted to have continued our partnership with the British Oncology Pharmacy Association (BOPA). 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 research. This funding is designed to enable pharmacy professionals to gain further exposure and experience in conducting their own research



We are working 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.



We have partnered with the NIHR on their Pre-Doctoral Clinical Academic & Practitioner Fellowship scheme. This scheme is available to professionals who wish to develop clinical academic careers. The PCAF is open to early career researchers who can have salaried time to prepare an application for funding, in order to provide the skills necessary to access doctoral level funding.



We partnered with Diabetes UK to offer funding towards their project grant round, welcoming applications from researchers investigating pharmacy research into Diabetes. We recognise the value that pharmacy services offer to individuals with Diabetes and this partnership highlights the importance that pharmacy research has in this important health area.

Guy Parckar, chief executive of PRUK said: We are absolutely delighted to be working on Diabetes UK with this new partnership. Pharmacists can play a crucial role in supporting people with diabetes – from diagnosis to ongoing management.



We partnered with Wellbeing of Women this year to offer joint project grant funding into women's wellbeing, including reproductive and gynaecological health. Pharmacy professionals are often at the forefront of addressing issues in women's health and we appreciate that more pharmacy research is needed into this important and under represented area.

2023 in numbers

18 Active projects

9 newly contracted research projects

£100k of funding committed



50 pharmacists supported to conduct research

PRUK Strategy

In April 2023, the PRUK Board of Trustees and the Scientific Advisory Panel Chair gathered together to discuss PRUK's future, including reviewing PRUK's research strategy and the funding schemes that we currently offer. This meeting was pivotal, as the future of pharmacy research priorities were considered alongside the ways in which PRUK could maximise the impact of the funding opportunities available.

Upon reviewing the funding schemes that PRUK offer, which included the research development award, training bursaries and partnership awards – the Board agreed that we need to go even further to support pharmacy professionals in their journey towards enhancing their professional development through research. Two major changes have been agreed at this meeting, which will provide significant positive benefit to aspiring researchers in pharmacy. PRUK will be extending funding support to pharmacy technicians, as well as pharmacists. This means that pharmacy technicians are now eligible to apply for PRUK funding, meaning that we can support the profession as a whole to maximise research funding opportunities available.

The second major change is that PRUK will be offering fully funded PhD studentship awards, which will cover full-time and part-time PhD proposals. Funding will include stipend and research costs, enabling pharmacy professionals to undertake a PhD course to develop their research skills and accolades, creating the avenue to pursue a research career further down the line.

This is a significant moment in our history, as we extend the scope of funding available and encourage unity by allowing UK registered pharmacists and pharmacy technicians the opportunity to apply for funding from us.

Guy Parckar, PRUK CEO, says....

"We have agreed some really important changes across our work for the coming years, that I hope can make a real difference. In particular I am so pleased to open up our awards across all pharmacy professionals – this is something that we have been working on for a long time, and I am delighted that we are able to make this change now. And I am incredibly excited about our new PhD Studentship – this will be a major new award for us, and will help build on so much of our work over the years."

PRUK Case Study

The research will build the evidence base for community pharmacy depression services. The importance of this is illuminated by the increasing prevalence of depression in UK. The research will consolidate the international evidence on community pharmacy-led depression services by conducting a systematic review. Thereafter, the research will identify which community pharmacy depression services should be a UK priority using a consensus method called the eDelphi technique, which will involve people with lived experience, healthcare providers, policy makers, third sector organisations and social workers.

The funding has supported me to become an established, independent researcher, and has allowed me time and focus to pursue a research topic I am passionate about. This was my first post-doctoral project where I led from initial conception and acted as Principal Investigator, which has involved adopting a plethora of new tasks such as Project Managing, developing a Project Advisory Group, and acting as a line manager for a

Research Associate we hired. I am grateful that this experience has helped towards my progression from 'researcher' to 'leader'.

This experience has acted as springboard to future research. I now supervise a PhD student, Mr Hisham Alshammari, who will feasibility test a community pharmacy depression service in practice building about the PRUK research. Our goal is for the service to be incorporated within community pharmacy contractual frameworks across the UK. I was also recently awarded a place on the NIHR GROW Mental Health Incubator programme which has connected me with researchers across the UK, which I'm certain was supported by this funding. In the future I wish to support PRUK through their mentoring programme or as a peer reviewer. My next steps are to apply for larger, more ambitious funding to increase the accessibility of mental health care within the UK.



Natalie Weir

PRUK Case Study

My research focuses on utilising electronic health records from GP practices to investigate the safe and effective use of medications in real-world populations. This new challenge has provided me with the opportunity to contribute to the advancement of pharmacy research leaders. Recognising the importance to continually develop my research skills and capabilities, I applied for the PRUK research training bursary (Level 1). This generous award funded several short courses in advanced epidemiological methods and the application of statistical software programming for complex analytical techniques. These courses gave me the essential skills and confidence to strategically plan, manage and execute my research projects from inception to completion. I became capable of independently conducting investigations, formal analyses and data curation for my studies. During my PhD journey, the support from PRUK enabled me to make substantial contributions to the field of pharmacy research. I had the privilege of generating valuable

new insights into drug therapies for the prevention and treatment of diseases. These contributions have been disseminated through several peer-reviewed publications in international journals, further reinforcing the impact of pharmacy research in the academic community. The funding from PRUK also supported my attendance at an international conference, where I had the opportunity to present my research findings. This experience allowed me to network with fellow researchers, establish new working relationships and showcase the invaluable contribution of pharmacists to the realm of research on an international stage. Looking ahead, I plan to continue my career in the field of research. The knowledge and experience gained through the courses funded by the PRUK bursary have empowered me to aspire to be a pharmacy research leader in the field of real-world evidence. I am grateful to PRUK for their support and encourage all pharmacy professionals with a passion for research to consider applying for the PRUK bursary scheme.



Matthew Adesuyan

PRUK Case Study

The jointly funded PRUK and HEE-NIHR Pre-doctoral Clinical and Practitioner Academic Fellowship 09/22-24, is enabling me to develop a PhD proposal associated with antimicrobial personalisation in critically unwell patients. The PCAF contributes towards my salary for protected research time, conference, supervision and MRes fees. I am also grateful to have been awarded the PRUK Training Bursary, which has significantly assisted me given my financial situation. The Bursary covers my outstanding MRes in Antimicrobial Resistance costs and further contributes to conference/PPI activities. To date, funding has empowered me to develop the skills required to construct and gain ethical approval for my feasibility study protocol. This provided me with an opportunity to develop my PPI expertise, methodological design considerations (including endpoint/sample size selection) and legislative knowledge <https://classic.clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT05950984>. Recruitment data collection and analysis is developing my transferable skills, which I am using to further establish the UKAR study at my hospital <https://bsac-ukar.org/> as an associate Principal Investigator. My MRes/conference attendance has further provided me with specialist subject matter knowledge, skills and collaboration opportunities. Including a systematic review contribution, leading/publishing a qualitative study and published local/international quality improvement work (resulting in a

National Patient Safety Award <https://www.hqip.org.uk/news/caaw23-patient-safety-announce/>). Such activities have contributed to an upcoming UK Clinical Pharmacy Association keynote speaker invitation at the Federation of Infection Societies conference.

The next step of my research is to continue facilitating my study and using results to learn advanced pharmacokinetic/statistical analysis techniques. I intend to publish an antimicrobial personalisation proof of concept arising from this work, which will support my PhD application and PPI focus group intentions. I will also draw on my supervisory team, implementation science, economic, digital, and clinical contacts from conferences. Together, we will co-develop an implementation strategy to embed into my envisaged PhD/consultant pharmacist outputs as part of my PhD proposal.



Robert Oakley

PRUK Case study

I am a final year PhD candidate and the second phase of my programme was funded by PRUK. The second phase of my PhD involved a study which was looking to understand the causes of preventable medication safety incidents affecting patients with mental illness in primary care. PRUK provided funds to support university, living, and associated research costs which helped ensure the project was delivered on time and to a high standard.

The study adopted a qualitative approach and to conduct data collection, analysis, and writeup, it required a breadth of research skills which needed to be developed and refined. First and foremost, funding enabled me to secure a healthy work-life balance which helped me to rebalance my external clinical hours with my PhD study time. Having increased hours dedicated to my PhD commitments allowed me to undertake additional training funded by PRUK. I was able to develop my qualitative interviewing techniques, enhance data collection/analysis skills, practice and perfect manuscript writing, disseminate my research, and gain more university teaching experience.

Going forward, I intend to utilise all of the skills I have acquired to shape a split clinical and academic career. It is my goal to be able to use my knowledge in clinical practice, as well as share my knowledge amongst university students to help train professionals of the future.



Matthew Ayre

Our team

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 am based at PRUK's office in the Royal Pharmaceutical Society in London.

Guy Parckar , Chief Executive

My role is to manage the research commissioning and monitoring processes for the charity. This involves preparing the funding calls and working with our partners to ensure that the research priorities are relevant. I ensure that the applications for funding are reviewed by our internal panels and external reviewers, ensuring compliance with the Association of Medical Research Charities principles. I work closely with the researchers and the contracting organisations to ensure timely completion of contracting and awarding procedures. I enjoy seeing the results of the research we fund and am proud to see pharmacists developing their research skills further, for the benefit of patients and health service research overall.

Desh Mofidi , Research Manager

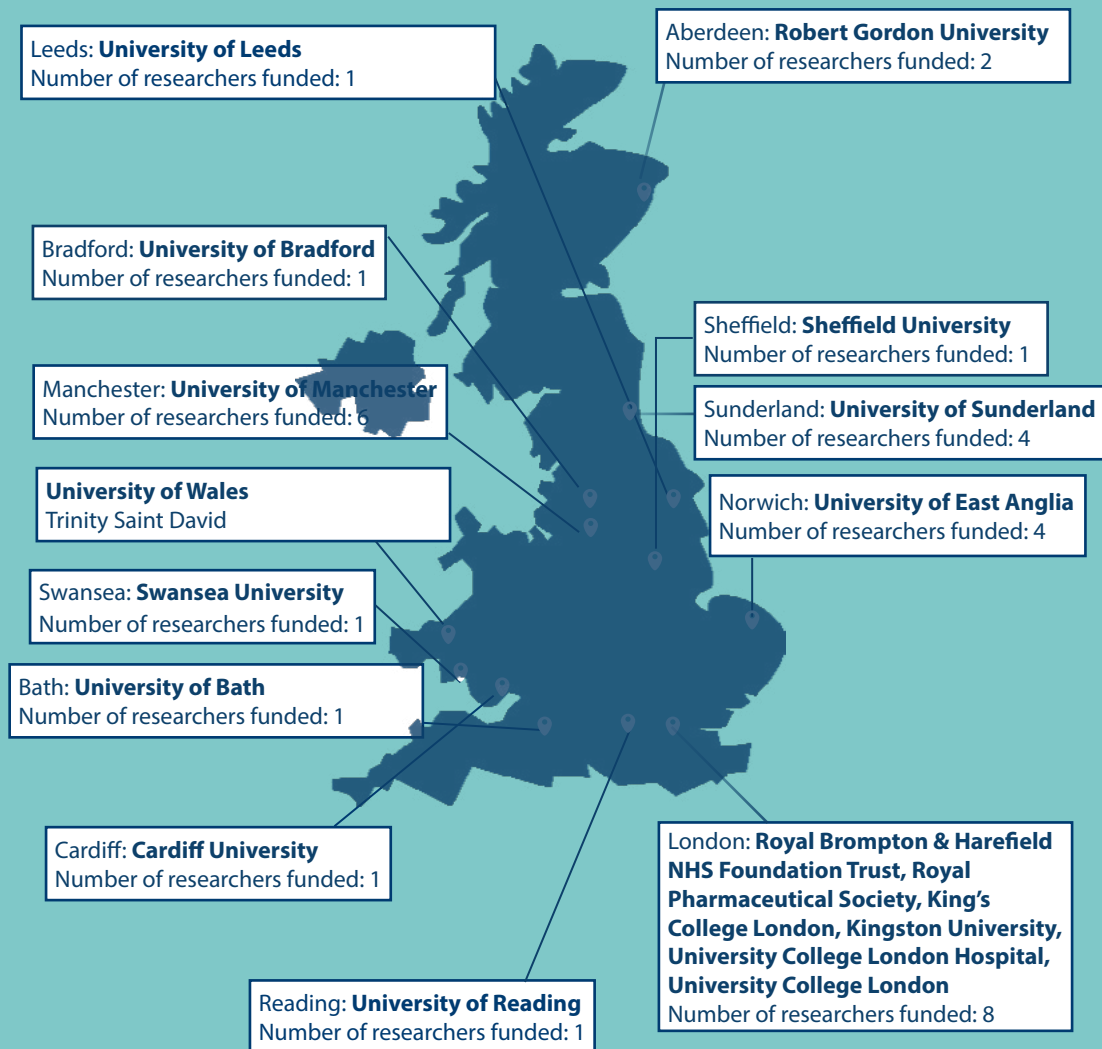
I am responsible for managing the daily financial operations for the organisation, as well as assist with daily administrative tasks. My role is to send daily tweets including any latest developments or upcoming events. I work with the PRUK team to support fundraising initiatives and also monitor the social media, including the webpage. My aim is to help PRUK to grow & patients to get the best medical care needed.

Halima Begum, Research Coordinator



Our projects

Our research has explored large scale issues of national interest through to smaller projects that have informed local practice.



2023 Research Projects






Scheme	Investigator	Institution	Title
Galen award	Laura Karim	Robert Gordon University	Exploring the integration of pharmacist independent prescribing for common clinical conditions within community pharmacy
Level 1	Rafia Jamil	University Of Wales Trinity Saint David	Doctorate in professional practice
BOPA-PRUK	Pinkie Chambers	University College London	What are the outcomes of the patients that have ceased chemotherapy at five cycles due to toxicity?
CMHP-PRUK	Sion Scott	University of Leicester	Development of The Determinants of Metabolic Side Effects Questionnaire (DMS-Q)

HSRPP 2023

Pharmacy Research UK is proud to support the annual Health Service Research and Pharmacy Practice (HSRPP) conference, as part of our commitment to supporting the development of early career researchers. The 2023 conference was hosted by the University of Bradford, chaired by Professor Liz Breen and Professor Peter Gardner. The conference was focussed on Advancing Sustainable Medicines Optimisation. This conference was the first in-person conference since the pandemic and was very positively received by delegates. The 2024 conference will be hosted by University College Cork, Ireland, by Dr Kieran Dalton and Dr Suzanne McCarthy.



Looking forward....

-  Launch the all-new PRUK PhD Studentship Awards;
-  Open our funding to pharmacy technicians, supporting UK registered professionals in pharmacy to apply for pre-doctoral research funding;
-  Continue to develop new funding partnerships, allowing us to extend the reach and impact of our funding;
-  Continue to support the annual HSRPP conference, as secretariat, promoting the important research of early career pharmacy and health service researchers;
-  Ensure that PRUK remains in a solid, sustainable position to continue supporting pharmacy research and continues to implement the review standards as set by the Association of Medical Research Charities.



Pharmacy Research **UK**

66-68 East Smithfield,

London, E1W 1AW

Web: www.pharmacyresearchuk.org

Email: office@pharmresuk.org.uk

Tel: 07342791824

Twitter: @PharmResUK