



North Wales Organisation for
Randomised Trials in Health & Social Care
Sefydliad Hap-Dreialon Iechyd
a Gofal Cymdeithasol Gogledd Cymru



PRIFYSGOL
BANGOR
UNIVERSITY

North Wales Organisation for Randomised Trials in Health & Social Care (NORTH)

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Ymchwil Iechyd
a Gofal **Cymru**
Health and Care
Research **Wales**



Ariennir gan
Lywodraeth Cymru
Funded by
Welsh Government

2018-19 Annual Report

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FOREWORD

The North Wales Organisation for Randomised Trials in Health and Social Care, (NORTH), is funded by Welsh Government through Health and Care Research Wales, (H&CRW).

The North Wales Organisation for Randomised Trials in Health and Social Care, (NORTH), is funded by Welsh Government through Health and Care Research Wales, (H&CRW). As we enter into the final year of our current infrastructure grant, (2015-2020), we can reflect on NORTH's achievements, developments and activities over the period to date.

NORTH's mission is to improve the health and well-being of the people of Wales and beyond by evaluating interventions in health and social care. We also aim to advance the theory and practice of randomised controlled trials and other rigorous methodologies.

NORTH continues to perform strongly in achieving this mission. We now have a portfolio of 22 active studies with increasing total grant value (average total grant value in this funding period has increased by 36%), with a consistent success rate of over 36%, (i.e. over a third of all outline applications are awarded). Our Return on Investment for H&CRW is currently 2.6:1 for Wales and 13.6:1 for income across the United Kingdom (UK).

This report highlights our work over the past year, (2018-2019) and demonstrates how we have surpassed all targets set in 2017 in terms of our portfolio development and grant capture. During 2018-19, we were awarded six new studies with a total grant value of over £9.94 million.

Our success across the range of the NIHR Evaluation, Trials and Studies Coordinating Centre (NETSCC) portfolio (76% of NORTH's studies) highlights our ability to work with different types of stakeholders, from service re-design (NIHR HS&DR), to the evaluation of health technologies (NIHR HTA), to working with care-homes (NIHR PHR) and the development of new approaches to care (NIHR PGfAR).

Three of our recent or on-going dental studies have led to policy-relevant initiatives and were included in the response by the Chief Dental Officer to 'A Healthier Wales' (All-Wales Faculty of Dental Care Professionals; Welsh Dental Research Network and Welsh Contract Reform).

In Year Four, we launched our PARC –Bangor public involvement group. PARC-Bangor consists of members of the public who work with us to input, advise and comment upon our research design and development, research priorities, work practices and research materials.

Year Four has seen further progress in methodological research at the Unit. We have won funding to establish a Core Outcome Set (DEvelopment of a Core outcome set for orAl health services research involving DEpendent older adults: DECADE) and have completed a work stream for a European Union Coordination and Support Action (Horizon SC1-HCO-06-2016), on behalf of the Welsh Government.

This report captures some of the highlights of our work over the 2018-19 period. In the pages that follow, you will see how NORTH works to support research excellence in Wales via its development and delivery of clinical trials of the highest quality. Behind all of NORTH's achievements is a dedicated team of specialist staff who continually seek ways to innovate, improve and transform how trials are delivered to enable quality, efficiency and impact.



Professor Paul Brocklehurst
Director of NORTH

LAY SUMMARY

Who are we and what do we do?
NORTH is one of three Clinical Trials Units in Wales. We are funded by Health and Care Research Wales, (part of Welsh Government). Clinical Trials Units, (CTUs), are research units which design, manage and deliver clinical trials and other studies.

A clinical trial is a type of study that is used to test whether an intervention works or not. Interventions can be treatments, therapies or medicines. Clinical trials help us to understand if these interventions improve people's health. This can include research to understand how interventions or medicines work. We can learn if they make people better, reduce their symptoms or improve how they feel.

Clinical trials can also help us to understand if there are any unwanted side effects to interventions or treatments. They help us to understand whether the benefits of a treatment outweigh the risks of that treatment. They can tell us what groups of people might benefit most and how much interventions will cost.

NORTH consists of a team of experts who work together to design, co-ordinate and deliver complex clinical trials.

NORTH consists of a team of experts who work together to design, co-ordinate and deliver complex clinical trials. This includes Statisticians, Researchers, Data Managers, IT Specialists, Trial Managers, Quality Assurance Officers, Methodologists and Administrators. NORTH works with research teams both in Wales and across the United Kingdom.

Because NORTH has the expertise and experience needed to support clinical trials, we can make the process of carrying out a clinical trial easier for research teams. We make sure that studies are designed and delivered to the highest quality. This means that the evidence produced at the end is more robust and more likely to make a change to practice.

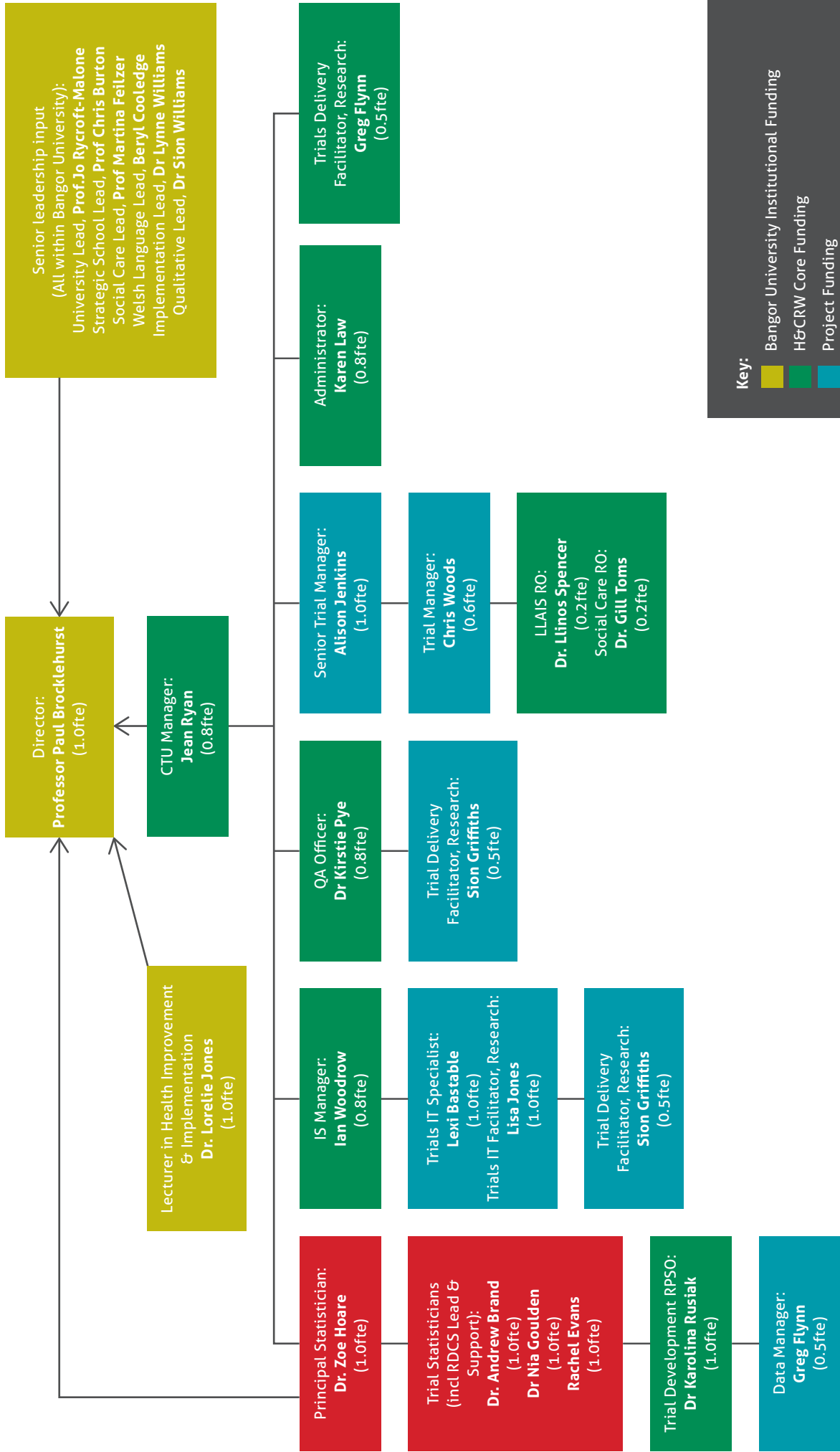
A key benefit of working with NORTH is that our team of experts has come across most problems that occur with clinical trials before. They can therefore come up with solutions quickly, with the input of a number of team members.

Clinical Trials are often difficult and challenging. They are delivered by teams and they need teams of experts in many areas to allow them to be successful. Having a Clinical Trials Unit available to support this complex process makes a real difference. It means that researchers have security and stability throughout their journey from trial design to trial delivery.

The following report provides a summary of NORTH's work over the past year. We hope you enjoy reading it.



NWORTH ORGANOGRAM



Key:

- Bangor University Institutional Funding
- H&CRW Core Funding
- Project Funding
- Mixed Funding

THE TEAM



NWORTH consists of a multidisciplinary team, which is divided into four main functions: Information Technology, Trial Management, Statistics, and Quality Assurance.

The Unit is overseen by the NWORTH Executive with senior leadership input from colleagues in the School of Health Sciences at Bangor University. NWORTH is a key Research Group in the Bangor Institute for Health and Medical Research, (BIHMR). As such, the Unit is located within a broader University structure, with an over-arching research strategy and strong links with other Research Groups.

NWORTH's Core Operations Group, (COG) meets weekly and monitors all studies being delivered by NWORTH. It also reviews all collaboration requests coming into the Unit and ensures we are performing to plan and delivering to target.

Core Operational Group Team Members (L-R): Alison Jenkins, Paul Brocklehurst, Ian Woodrow, Jean Ryan, Zoe Hoare.



COG Members:

- **Professor Paul Brocklehurst**, (CTU Director & Chair)
- **Jean Ryan**, (CTU Manager & Operations Lead)
- **Dr Zoe Hoare**, (Principal Statistician & Statistics Lead)
- **Ian Woodrow**, (Senior Software Engineer & IS Lead)
- **Alison Jenkins**, (Senior Trial Manager & Trial Management Lead)
- **Dr Kirstie Pye**, (QA Officer & QA Lead) / **Debbie Skelhorn**, (QA Officer Maternity Cover & QA Lead)

NWORTH Staff

Statistics:

- Dr Andrew Brand
- Dr Nia Goulden
- Rachel Evans

Information Systems:

- Lexi Bastable
- Sion Griffiths
- Lisa Atkins

Trial Management:

- Chris Woods
- Hana Pavlickova

LLAIS & PARC-Bangor:

- Dr Llinos Spencer

Social Care Lead:

- Dr Gill Toms

Trial Development:

- Dr Karolina Rusiak
- Greg Flynn

Administration:

- Karen Law

HIGHLIGHTS:

2018 – 2019 has been another very busy year for NWORDH. Some of our highlights are summarized below...

Portfolio Development

We continue to build a strong portfolio of studies with increasing total grant value (average total grant value in this funding period 2015-2020 has increased by 36%). We have consistently maintained our funding success rate at over 36%, i.e. over a third of our outline applications are awarded. This highlights the quality of our grantsmanship and internal processes.

During 2018-2019 we submitted 16 funding applications and added six large-scale studies to our portfolio – with a total grant value of £9.94M.

We currently have 22 active studies on our portfolio with a total grant value of £21.84M. Our pipeline of development has a further four studies currently in submission – all at full stage and with a total grant value of £3.16M.



REMEDY Trial

This is a multi-centre, parallel-arm, single-blinded, randomised trial. The aim of the study is to investigate whether changing anti-psychotic medication, among people with schizophrenia, can improve sexual dysfunction. The study is funded by NIHR HTA and is being led by Professor Mike Crawford from Imperial College London.

During 2018-19 we successfully achieved the activation of the REMEDY Trial's Electronic Data Capture System, Online Survey and Randomisation Systems one month ahead of schedule. This included the design and delivery of a bespoke survey system in addition to the usual MACRO database and randomisation system. In order to achieve the 'go-live' of three systems ahead of schedule, new approaches to systems validation and team working in parallel were used to compress the usual testing timeframes. This work enabled study recruitment to commence smoothly and efficiently and recruitment is currently on-going.



IDEAL Study

During 2018, we successfully completed the data management for the IDEAL study. This brings to an end four years of data entry and data management for this longitudinal cohort study. IDEAL is led by Professor Linda Clare at the University of Exeter and is the largest study of living well with dementia in the UK. The evidence produced from this study will enable the development of new policy, interventions and initiatives to transform the lives of people with dementia and their carers.

The number of booklets NWORDH input to MACRO for the IDEAL data set was 15,943. This included 8,682 booklets for persons with dementia and 7261 for carers.

The data entry and data management system developed for the IDEAL project included the design of a bespoke booklet tracking system, the design and validation of a teleform data scanning system and the design and validation of a data transfer system to upload the scanned data to the MACRO study database which was also designed and validated from scratch using the MACRO electronic data capture system.

In terms of staff resources, this has taken a mammoth effort – chiefly from our IT team, Data team and QA team. The knowledge developed and the sheer volume of testing and validation activities to ensure all systems functioned appropriately and resulted in a seamless data entry and data management system for almost 16,000 booklets has been a testament to NWORDH's teamwork.

Wash Study

In order to reduce the risk of bowel cancer, the NHS Bowel Cancer Screening Programme invites 55 year-olds for a sigmoidoscopy. The Wash Study, (Water Assisted Flexible Sigmoidoscopy in National Bowel Scope Screening), is led by Professor Matt Rutter, (North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust) and will assess whether using water to minimise bowel distension, instead of gas, will make the procedure more comfortable.

If proven effective in UK practice, the research team hope that by reducing pain, people will have a better experience, which may increase public participation in national screening programmes. The study successfully reached its recruitment target and recruited its 1,100th patient to the study this year. This has been a huge achievement and is a great reflection of the hard work of the research team and the willingness of study participants to take part. NWORD will begin analysis of the data in the Autumn.

H-T Study

NWORD is currently running the NIHR HS&DR-funded study: "Can Hygiene-Therapists maintain the oral health of routine low-risk dental recall patients in "high-street" dental practices: a pilot study". As a result of emerging data from the study, the Chief Dental Officer commissioned an All-Wales Faculty of Dental Care Professionals (£406,872 over five years). This will provide a platform to enrich the training environment and the capability, well-being and engagement of the dental care professional workforce across Wales (www.awfdcp.ac.uk). This is linked to the on-going NHS Dental Contract Reform programme, which the Director is also evaluating.

Update on ADENOMA and B-ADENOMA Studies

In last year's annual report we outlined the success of the Adenoma and B-Adenoma studies in early detection of bowel cancer. Both studies investigated the Endocuff Vision device to enhance mucosal visualisation. NICE guidance is currently under review for Endocuff Vision for assisting visualisation during colonoscopy. The process has an expected publication date of guidance on 7th June 2019 and ADENOMA is considered to be a pivotal study.

Northern Ireland NHS Contract Evaluation

From 2015 to 2018, the Director led an NIHR HS&DR study "Evaluation Of The Impact Of Changing Provider Remuneration On The Technical Efficiency And Quality Of Care Provided By NHS General Dental Practitioners in Northern Ireland" (£478,918). This study investigated the impact of a change in remuneration on clinical activity in the NHS General Dental Services across the province and any impact on the quality of care that was provided, due to the change.

Completed in 2018, the results showed that significant and rapid changes in the patterns of care occurred when 'high-street' NHS dentists moved from fee-for-service to a capitation-based remuneration system.

The results have informed the on-going plans for NHS contract reform in Northern Ireland and influenced the on-going NHS contract reform process in Wales. As above, it led to the Director being further commissioned to undertake a NHS contract evaluation for the Welsh Government (started in April 2019).

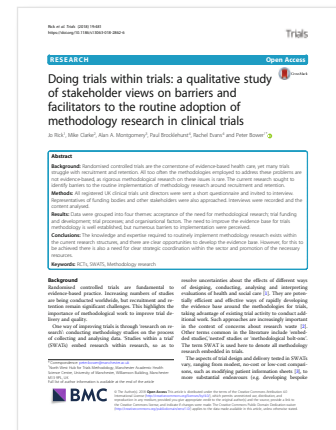
Quality Assurance

Quality underpins everything that we do. Our quality assurance processes allow us to monitor performance, regulatory compliance and risk management.

During 2018-2019 we reviewed and updated 26 of our standard operating procedures, (SOPs). 100% of our SOPs are in date. We also updated eight work instructions. 27 internal audits were carried out – none with critical findings.

Significant time has been spent this year on NWORD archiving systems. We are in the process of reconditioning additional space in order to expand our archiving space and allow for sufficient secure

storage for the impending archiving of the IDEAL study. The GREAT study archiving was completed and the FOLATED trial archive has been prepared for destruction.



Methodological Development

One of the key functions of any trials unit is the contribution it can make to methodological research and our understanding of how trial processes can be improved. To this end, NWORD strives to contribute to the knowledge-base in trial methodology, exploring innovative approaches to trial design.

In July 2018, the Director and Principal Statistician delivered an NWORD Trials Masterclass at the Bangor University School of Health Sciences Summer School. We appointed a new Lecturer in Implementation Science, Dr. Lorelei Jones in September 2018. Dr. Jones is currently reviewing the use of theoretical and implementation frameworks in on-going and planned trials of complex interventions and has submitted an abstract to the fifth International Clinical Trials Methodology Conference taking place in Brighton in October.

Our work with Pete Bower on Studies Within A Trial was published in Trials: Rick, J. et al "Doing trials within trials: a qualitative study of stakeholder views on barriers and facilitators to the routine adoption of...

HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED...

methodology research in clinical trials” *Trials* 2018, 19(1): 481.

The Director is a co-applicant on an MRC funded study to look at Studies Within A Trial (PROMETHEUS), led by Professor David Torgeson from York University. The Director has also won funding to establish a Core Outcome Set (DEvelopment of a Core outcome set for orAl health services research involving DEpendent older adults: DECADE) and completed a work stream for a European Union Coordination and Support Action (Horizon SC1-HCO-06-2016), on behalf of the Welsh Government.

Our Principal Statistician presented a poster at the H&CRW conference in October entitled: “An unbiased view of recruitment rates in external pilot studies: A CTU perspective”.

Building Collaborations

The profile of the Unit and ongoing success of our portfolio is dependent on building collaborations which lead to large-scale successful funding applications ultimately resulting in high quality clinical trials with impact.

Our success across the range of the NETSCC portfolio (76% of NWORDH’s studies) highlights our ability to work with different types of stakeholders, from service re-design (NIHR HS&DR), to the evaluation of health technologies (NIHR HTA), to working with care-homes (NIHR PHR) and the development of new approaches to care (NIHR PGfAR).

We reviewed 17 collaboration requests at COG this year with 13 progressing to further proposal development, (over three quarters). Much of the business coming into the Unit is via repeat business from previous collaborators or via recommendations from existing Chief Investigators, (CIs).

We continued to meet regularly with the Interim Director of R&D at Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, (BCUHB) and attended and presented at the launch of the North Wales Clinical Research Centre in Wrexham in June 2018 in order to link to key researchers and promote NWORDH and the Research Design and Conduct Service, (RDCS). We also took part in the Health Board’s BCUQI Improvement hub launch in September and presented at its BCUQI Conference in April. We met with and presented to the BCUHB Research Workforce Senior team in order to brainstorm on best approaches to research development within the Health Board.

Research Design & Conduct Service

Our work on the RDCS relates to our on-going support of BCUHB and Powys Teaching Health Boards. Here, we support their health and social care staff to develop high-quality research proposals, which can then be submitted for funding. The RDCS provides advice and guidance in accordance with the RDCS Charter to enable potential researchers to identify appropriate sources of funding and develop their research idea or proposal to a high standard.

The response and uptake of the service in North and Mid-Wales remains low. However, we still had a busy year as we focused on promotion of the service and engagement with potential researchers.

The RDCS provided input and advice to 18 unique referrals, (two were developed into Pathway to Portfolio applications and one was submitted as a NIHR HTA application). RDCS team members attended eight meetings with the respective Health Boards, provided seven face-to-face drop in sessions across North and Mid Wales, and attended nine events to promote the service.



The NWORDH RDCS website was completely updated and a new Panopto presentation completed, (in English and Welsh), to advise of the support available. Further promotional materials were purchased to increase our visibility with potential researchers.

Dr Llinos Spencer, representing LLAIS (Language Awareness Infrastructure Support), has continued to contribute fully to the all-Wales RDCS service and has attended and presented at a number of events to highlight the availability of Welsh Health Measures and promote language awareness to researchers across Wales.

LLAIS

NWORTH is committed to language and cultural sensitivity, and via our Language Awareness Infrastructure Support (LLAIS), we translate and linguistically validate at least one health measure per year for the research infrastructure across Wales. We ensure that research being carried out by NWORTH in Wales meets the linguistic needs of the people of Wales and complies with the requisite statutory obligations.

We were pleased to welcome Beryl Cooledge as the new Director for LLAIS in 2018. Dr Llinos Haf Spencer and Beryl Cooledge presented a session on Welsh language awareness at the School of Healthcare Sciences Summer School, Bangor University on 4th July 2018.

The PROMIS -10 is a global health questionnaire containing 10 questions. The linguistic validation of the PROMIS-10 measure, commissioned by Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, was completed in the summer of 2018 and is now available on the micym.org website. Validation activities included the input of twelve members of the public in focus groups and interviews. A poster detailing this work was presented at the Health Measures User Conference in Chicago on 5th June 2019.

A LLAIS questionnaire was circulated to 196 stakeholders in February 2019. Following this, and with further consultation with colleagues at BCUHB, it has been agreed to linguistically validate the Stroke Impact Scale, (Duncan, 2003), along with the LegA, (Ashford et al, 2016) and ArmA, (Ashford et al, 2015) in the coming year. These instruments will be used widely with the bilingual stroke population in North Wales.

There are now 45 Welsh language measures listed on Mesurau Iechyd Cymraeg interactive web-site <http://www.micym.org/llais/static/index.html>



Social Care

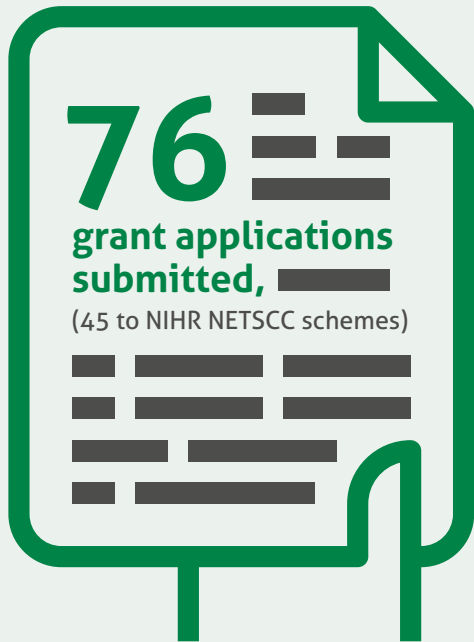
NWORTH takes the strategic lead for social care as part of the All-Wales RDSCS. Challenges remain regarding eligibility requirements in this area, as many who approach the RDSCS are not working towards funding applications.

As a result, Dr. Gill Toms, our Social Care Lead, has produced public-facing social care methodology guides, highlighting some of the qualitative and participatory methods used in social care research. Gill has provided social care input and advice for five projects in development and for one pathway to portfolio grant application from BCUHB. However, much of the support being requested by social care practitioners is for small-scale or in-house activities. Only one request this year actively sought to develop their proposal for research funding. The majority of enquiries received are from Masters or PhD students who are not eligible for RDSCS support. Gill has also run a training session on social care research for our PARC-Bangor members.

We actively link with the Wales School for Social Care Research and have regular quarterly teleconferences. The Director is now involved in the implementation plan for the 'Social Care Research and Development Strategy for Wales' and is on the Advisory Group for 'Workforce and Organisational Development'.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Key metrics of our cumulative performance for 2015-2019 are summarised below:



grants awarded
(36.8% success rate)



of grants being funded between 2015-2018



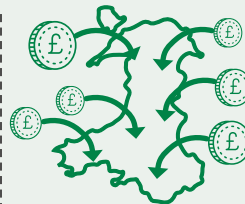
88 articles published in peer-reviewed journals,
(average impact factor = 3.07)



235 public involvement opportunities offered



currently in submission



Our return on investment to Wales is...

2.56:1



£250k commercial income generated

Key Performance Metrics developed inductively within the Unit are

all green



PARC-BANGOR

One of NWORDH's biggest achievements in 2018 has been the launch of PARC-Bangor. PARC-Bangor was established as NWORDH's forum for public involvement in June 2018.

PARC-Bangor helps to ensure that research ideas are developed with members of the public, in order to create a robust and relevant funding application.

We held a "Have Your Say" event to launch PARC-Bangor and mark the celebrations of the 70th birthday for the NHS and 3rd birthday of Health and Care Research Wales. The event was well attended by the public, which included attendees from across North Wales.

PARC-Bangor owes its name to Swansea Trials Unit who created the Population Advice for Research Committee, (PARC), and on which we modelled our own public involvement group.

All members are invited to all meetings and all receive information about possible involvement opportunities on a regular basis.

PARC-Bangor actively links with Rebecca Burns from H&CRW, who has attended three of our four events so far to provide details about how the public involvement network can provide support and training to people interested in contributing to the research process.

All new studies in development which are being led by NWORDH are presented to the group and members are invited to become PPI representatives and input to study development from the earliest stages.

A communications plan has been developed with the group, led by individual PARC-Bangor members. A PPI audit has been completed at NWORDH with input from two PARC-Bangor members. Since June 2018, six studies have benefited from the input of PARC-Bangor with one member becoming a Co-Applicant on a recent HTA funding submission.

The purpose of PARC-Bangor is to:

1. Provide insight and a public perspective to the development of research questions;
2. Ensure documents and information associated with a study are easy to understand for patients and the public taking part in the research;
3. Discuss and comment on the research process described in funding applications to ensure patient perspectives are accounted for; and
4. Provide a 'patient voice' to NWORDH's Executive.

Our second "Have Your Say" event is being held on 11th July 2019.



COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS

During 2018-19 we developed our Community of Scholars initiative. This is a joint enterprise between NWRTH, the Bangor Institute of Health and Medical Research and BCUHB.

Many clinicians find it difficult to know where to start in research, so this initiative aims to help people who might be interested in becoming more involved. The Community of Scholars is a project that we are piloting on behalf of Health and Care Research Wales, as a possible pan-Wales strategy to promote 'First-into-Research' clinicians.

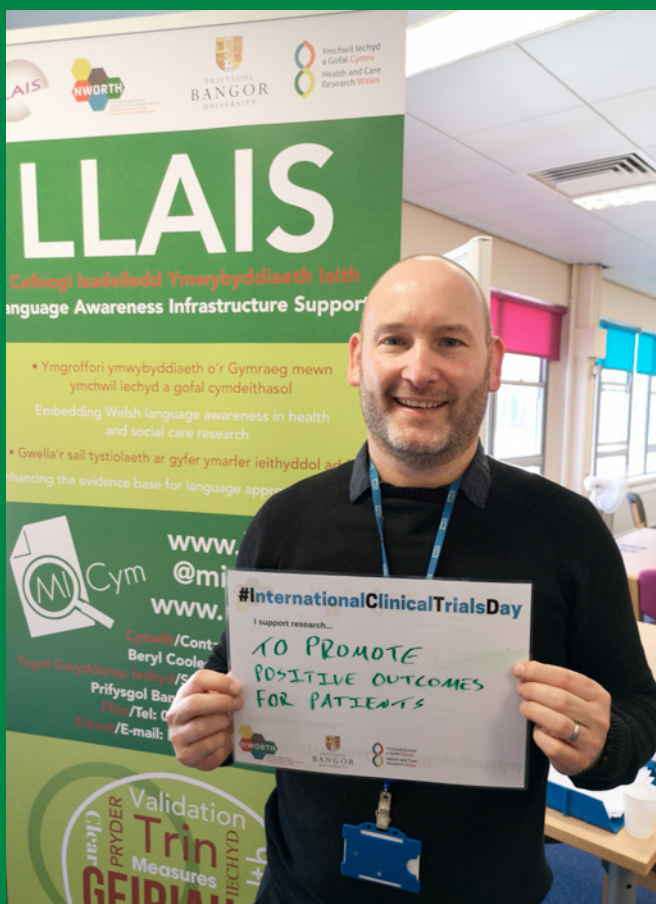
The project started with a co-production meeting in December 2018, where we brought a number of interested clinicians together to find out what they wanted. We discussed what the needs, purpose, values and outcomes should be of the new network. We have subsequently run another co-production workshop to refine the ideas generated in the first workshop.

The aim of the Community of Scholars is to develop a supportive peer-based environment to help develop clinicians' interest in applied health research. It will provide a supportive environment for local clinicians from all types of specialties across North Wales, including doctors, dentists, nurses and all other allied health professionals. Members of the network will be provided with grant-writing skills and learn about research leadership in order to build capability and capacity. It will also facilitate networking and personal development through a mentorship programme.



DISSEMINATION AND ENGAGEMENT

It has been a particularly busy year for us in terms of promotional and engagement activities. We have promoted and celebrated the NHS' 70th birthday and Health and Care Research Wales' third birthday. We have taken part in Health and Care Research Wales' "12 days of research" social media campaign and also recently celebrated International Clinical Trials Day.



In September 2018, we launched our new logo and our branding has been very well-received.

Our activity on Twitter has increased significantly thanks to the appointment of Dr Karolina Rusiak, who is responsible for all promotion and engagement activities.

- 317 total tweets
- 162,774 impressions
- 1,294 engagements
- 90 new followers gained

The potential for PARC-Bangor to become engaged in our engagement activities and social media presence is an interesting extension of their role and something we are considering, in order to help promote NWORD to the broader public.



LOOKING AHEAD

1

Sustain Our Grant Success Rate

We will aim to sustain our current grant success rate (36% from outline), which is well above the national average for NETSCC applications.

2

Expanding Our Project pipeline

We will be active in expanding our project pipeline and furthering our growth by targeting UK-wide collaborators with an active plan of business development in key strategic areas of strength.

3

Develop New Networks

We will seek to develop two new academic networks, bringing together expertise and developing capability and capacity for new applications (gerodontology and multiple sclerosis).

7

Complex Health Settings

We will explore the role of implementation frameworks in the planning and running of trials in complex health settings.

8

Develop Our Staff

We will continue to develop our staff by supporting continued professional development and cross-disciplinary training.

9

Promotion of The RDCS

Our promotion of the RDCS will continue and we would hope to be able to support more grant applications via the RDCS in the coming year.

13

Maintain the Quality of Our Internal Processes

We will maintain the quality of our internal processes so that studies continue to run to time and target.

4

Collaborations with Clinicians

As a direct result of the Community of Scholars pilot and Bangor University's Clinical Academic Pathway, we will also be building collaborations with clinicians within BCUHB.

5

Increase Our Outputs

We will increase our methodological outputs and promote our increasing knowledge of Studies Within a Trial.

6

Exploratory Work

We will publish exploratory work on the use of composite outcome measures in trials of complex interventions. We will also progress a workstream on the visualization and interpretation of evidence.

10

LLAIS Validation

LLAIS will translate and linguistically validate two patient reported outcome measures in the coming year.

11

Welsh Language Awareness

LLAIS will continue its work to embed Welsh language awareness in health and social care research through its language awareness activities and via the RDCS.

12

PARC-Bangor

PARC-Bangor will be central to all of our activities and will enable members of the public to make a meaningful contribution to our research portfolio and the running of the unit.

CONCLUSIONS

2018-2019 has been another successful year for the NWORDTH team. We have increased our success rate and return on investment for yet another year.

I would like to congratulate and thank all the NWORDTH staff for their hard work and achievements this year. Thanks are also due to our colleagues in the School of Health Sciences at Bangor University and also our funders, Health and Care Research Wales.

We are indebted to our external stakeholders for their inputs and special thanks this year go to our PARC-Bangor members who have made such a difference to the Unit.

We are continually looking at ways to develop, grow and improve the Unit and we look forward to working with all of our team, colleagues and stakeholders in the coming year to build on our current successes.



Professor Paul Brocklehurst
Director of NWORDTH Clinical Trials Unit





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