 Newsletter

# In brief:

 **Volume 5, Issue 2.** **28/04/23**

· **Pat Hoddinott and Jennifer McKell** are leading the Scottish site participation in the UK wide ABA-Feed Trial. Infant feeding teams in NHS Borders, Dumfries and Galloway and Lanarkshire are inviting and recruiting women who are expecting their first baby to try out a new way of supporting women with baby feeding decisions.  This NIHR article provides an overview [https://local.nihr.ac.uk/news/research-study-investigates-benefits-of-extra-infant-feeding-help/32999](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flocal.nihr.ac.uk%2Fnews%2Fresearch-study-investigates-benefits-of-extra-infant-feeding-help%2F32999&data=05%7C01%7Cp.m.hoddinott%40stir.ac.uk%7C28365373038c4499c54308db2ad8a714%7C4e8d09f7cc794ccb9149a4238dd17422%7C0%7C0%7C638150882237360702%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=yGYc6Ub3%2FPZLKVKn%2BFY3VdC%2Bvlgb867LLaozeL3nbfQ%3D&reserved=0) Please spread the word and share this link to register interest on-line <https://aba-feed.org/>

· **Eddie Duncan** was in Malawi in January for his ‘Chitetezo: improving adolescent road safety and reducing road traffic collisions project’.

· **Margaret Maxwell & Helen Cheyne** have just come back from Malaysia and Indonesia in relation to the Maternal Health in South East Asia Collaboration.

 **Mental Health in Farming study dissemination event**

 By Emma King

Farming Minds, our CSO-funded Mental Health in Farming study came to an end last summer and aimed to establish farming community preferences for interventions to support their mental health/wellbeing. It established views, up-take, and acceptability of two possible interventions: one delivering emotional/social support (including financial advice) and the other an on-line CBT-based therapy, which has been specifically developed for the farming community.

On 22nd March Emma King joined colleagues from our project partners SRUC (Scotland’s Rural College) and RSABI (a charity which provides emotional, practical and financial support to people in Scottish agriculture) for a post-study dissemination event at Dingwall mart. This was designed to be a drop-in event for farmers, farm workers, and families, with information to improve the wellbeing of everyone who lives and works in the farming community. As well as the in-person presence from SRUC and RSABI there was literature from the universities, vet schools, and Living Life to the Full (who designed the original mental health intervention). SRUC had also produced a video featuring our Unit Director Margaret Maxwell talking about the study. We had a good few hours speaking to farmers and some really good follow-up. Plus some excellent catering from the Mart’s cafe, on top of a very good cooked breakfast!

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Mental Health in Farming study dissemination event

**by Emma King**

The Multicath Trial

**By Sylvia Dickson**

A note from the Vice Chairperson of the RPG

**by Caroline Sincock**

 **The Multicath Trial** by Sylvia Dickson

The purpose of the Multicath trial is to test the safety, efficacy and user acceptability of mixed catheter use (a mixture of single and reusable catheters) compared with single use only in a large study of IC users (520 men and women). In the trial, we are using the silicone Cliny catheter which is licensed (CE marked) for re-use multiple times over 28 days when cleaned between uses.

The trial is funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) and is led by Professor Mandy Fader at the Bladder & Bowel Management Research Group, University of Southampton, and colleagues across England and Scotland. Recruitment is due to stop at the end of June 2023 and with 520 participants currently enrolled into the study and a number waiting to be enrolled, we are confident we will reach our target of 578.

Intermittent catheterisation (IC) is an important management option for people who cannot empty their bladder naturally. When IC first became a widely used treatment in the UK, plain uncoated intermittent catheters were routinely cleaned and re-used multiple times. The widespread use of hydrophilic coated catheters licensed for single use only and a lack of evidence-based cleaning guidance for re-use has led to all flexible intermittent catheters available in the UK being licensed for single use only.



**CATs are celebrating 10 years!**

* Lynne Gilmour and Louise Honeybul are involved in an exciting partnership project with Children in Scotland and Scottish Ensemble about live music and how it can support young people’s mental health and wellbeing. Over the next six months they will be hosting workshops in

Stirling, Inverness and

Glasgow, with children and young people, musicians, live music event organisers and mental health

practitioners to develop innovative ideas for live music interventions.

For more information please contact: **Dr Lynne Gilmour (Lyg1@stir.ac.uk) or**

**Louise Honeybul**

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By Jaclyn McArthur

In 2023 we celebrate 10

 years of **The Collaboration of Aphasia Trialists (CATs)**. We will soon be hosting a number of exciting activities and events to reflect on all of our fantastic achievements.

CATs aims to improve the quality, relevance, reliability, validity, and transparency of aphasia research. We

strive to co-ordinate international aphasia research effort and activities; we share

multidisciplinary and patient

expertise, augmenting aphasia insights from all perspectives; we enhance the methodological rigour and clinical impact of aphasia trials proposals, protocols, assessments, intervention descriptions, conduct, reporting and dissemination; we

establish international, multidisciplinary, consensus on the highest quality aphasia research practices (priorities, core outcomes and participant descriptors, intervention

description) which in turn improves the relevance, value and credibility of aphasia research, maximising its contribution to the evidence base and impact on international aphasia treatment guidelines and policies.

Recent publications

* Farquharson, B., Dixon, D., Williams, B., Torrens, C., McDermott, S., Laidlaw, H. and Philpott, M. (2023) The Psychological and behavioural factors associated with laypeople initiating CPR for out-of-hospital cardia arrest: A systematic review. BMC Cardiovascular Disorders, 23 (1), pp. 19.
* Johnston, W., Ware, A., Kuiters, W., Brown, J., Hagen, S., Corcoran, D., Cummings, M., Ramage, G. and Kean, R. (2023) In vitro bacterial vaginosis biofilm community manipulation using endolysin therapy. Biofilm (e-Pub Ahead of Print) Doi: 10.1016/j.Bioflm.2022.100101.
* Greiner, B., Leduc, C., O'Connor, C., Cresswell-Smith, J., Rugulies, R., Wahlbeck, K., Abula, K., Amann, B., Pashoja, A., Coppens, E., Maxwell, M., Corcoran, P., Ross, V., de Winter, L., Arensman, E. and Aust, B. (2022) The effectiveness of organisational-level workplace mental health interventions on mental health and wellbeing in construction workers: a systematic review and recommended research agenda. PLoS One, 17 (11), pp. e0277114.
* Malcolm, C., King, E., France, E., Kyle, R., Kumar, S., Dick, S., Wilson, P., Aucott, L., Turner, S. and

Hoddinott, P. (2022) Short stay hospital admissions for an acutely unwell child: a qualitative study of

outcomes that matter to parents and professionals. Plos One, 17 (12), pp. e0278777.

* Wallace, S., Worrall, L., Rose, T., Alyahya, R., Babbitt, E., Beeke, S., de Beer, C., Bose, A., Bowen, A., Brady, M., et al (2022) Measuring communication as a core outcome in aphasia trials: Results of the ROMA

-2 international core outcome set development meeting. International Journal of Language and Communication Disorders (e-Pub Ahead of Print) Doi: 10.1111/1460-6984.12840.

**Directors Blog:**

We start the new year with the nation facing many strikes, including those involving different NHS professionals, and all at a time when

demand for NHS services is ever increasing. It is without doubt that we need to value the staff working in the NHS and to give support to their careers. We also need to know that the NHS is delivering on efficient, safe, and effective care. This is where the clinical academic NMAHP

can make a big difference. However, we are lagging behind in Scotland in our support of NMAHP clinical academics. A recent paper on National Provision of Clinical Academic Training Awards for NMAHPs, Pharmacists, Psychologists, Healthcare Scientists and

Paramedics, on behalf of our Chief Nursing Officer for Scotland, showed the stark reality that investment for clinical academic training in Scotland was the lowest of all UK regions, with

England showing more than 5 times the investment. This means we miss out on research which can make a difference to direct patient care, but we may also be missing out on additional investment for NMAHP research in Scotland. Fewer clinical academics means research outputs and impacts within our HEIs are also lower, with the resultant loss of

potential REF income to Scottish institutions. Before our next newsletter the NMAHP-RU will have entered its final year of core funding from the Chief Scientist Office –alone this is a heavy blow for NMAHP research in Scotland. Our host HEIs will do their best to maintain the expertise we have built up over the past near 30 years, and we hope our strong

workstreams in important clinical areas will still attract research funding. However, now is the time for more investment in NMAHP research and careers in Scotland, not less.

## Best Wishes, Margaret Maxwell