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Introduction

This Research Directory accompanies the launch of the National Institute for Social Care and Health Research, Academic Health Sciences Collaboration (NISCHR AHSC). It provides information about the NISCHR AHSC mission, its aims, objectives and structures, as well as providing biographies to showcase just a few of the clinical academic researchers within AHSC partner organisations. These snapshots provide examples of just some of the outstanding researchers in Wales.

This Research Directory also provides the details of key individuals across the whole NISCHR Clinical Research Infrastructure, who help facilitate the development and delivery of high quality clinical research in Wales.

The contact details included in this Research Directory should help you to work with clinical academic researchers by maximising opportunities and to take full advantage of Wales’ research capabilities.

Wales is recognised as a centre for research excellence in many health related research areas. Existing centres of excellence include DECIPHER (Development and Evaluation of Complex Interventions for Public Health Improvement); Health Informatics Research Unit (HIRU); Institute of Life Sciences, the MRC Centre for neuropsychiatric genetics and genomics; SARTRE (Sevenside Alliance for Translational Research); Wales Gene Park; Wales Cancer Trials Network; and Wales Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience. Topic research areas of particular strength in Wales are cancer, genetics, primary care, infection and immunology, musculoskeletal and exercise rehabilitation. Other pockets of outstanding research can be found across the whole spectrum of health related research in Wales and these strengths cross discipline boundaries. Increasingly Wales is seeing the benefit of that research, not only for patient care but also for economic renewal and regeneration.

The Welsh Assembly Government continues to invest in the infrastructure to enable the clinical research strengths of NHS Wales to be fully harnessed. The National Institute for Social Care and Health Research (NISCHR), a one Wales commitment, is the Welsh Assembly Government body that develops, in consultation with partners, policy and strategy on research and development (R&D), to reflect health and social care priorities. A key principle is to streamline research in the NHS to simplify permissions, governance, speed up recruitment and improve retention to high quality studies. NISCHR also supports significant research in social care and in time, structures mirroring AHSC functions will be established for social care.

As a measure of Assembly commitment to NHS R&D in Wales, NISCHR’s budget has increased significantly over the last three years, with the total budget in 2010/11 being £43M. That funding serves to support research across the spectrum of translational, clinical, health services, social care, public health and primary care research. The NISCHR Clinical Research Infrastructure has also been extended and strengthened with a number of structures and processes being embedded to support a growing research portfolio and increasing grant capture. Wales’ research facilities and technical capabilities are improving, adding to our strengths to lead world class research. The components of the NISCHR Clinical Research Infrastructure are the NISCHR Registered Research Groups (RRGs), NISCHR Trials Units, NISCHR Clinical Research Centre (CRC), and NISCHR Infrastructure Support Groups (ISGs), all of which are included in this directory.

The most recent addition to the NISCHR Clinical Research Infrastructure is the NISCHR Academic Health Science Collaboration (AHSC) led by Professor Jonathan Bisson. NISCHR AHSC facilitates collaboration between NHS organisations, universities in Wales and industry to combine clinical research, both basic and translational research, clinical care and education to create world-leading improvements in healthcare. NISCHR AHSC will establish an all-Wales collaboration between NHS organisations and universities to strengthen clinical research capacity through maximising the use of the NHS R&D budget administered by NISCHR; and secondly to build links with industry and other research funders that will contribute towards the economic development of Wales through the creation of new business and high value jobs in Wales. The enhancement of the NISCHR Clinical Research Infrastructure and the launch of NISCHR AHSC are important initiatives to put Wales at the forefront of clinical research.

Professor Keith Lloyd, Head of NISCHR
Chief Medical Officer, Welsh Assembly Government

Dr Tony Jewell  
Chief Medical Officer for Wales  
Director of the Department for Public Health and Health Professions, Welsh Assembly Government

Dr Tony Jewell took up the post of CMO Wales in April 2006. Prior to this he was Clinical Director and Director of Public Health for Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Strategic Health Authority.

Dr Jewell trained as a GP and worked in East London for 10 years. He then trained in public health medicine in East Anglia becoming a Director of Public Health in Peterborough and Cambridgeshire before being appointed to the Strategic Health Authority. His professional interests include primary care, preventing accidents and injuries and reducing health inequalities.

NISCHR, Welsh Assembly Government: Key Contacts

NISCHR, Welsh Assembly Government is responsible for health and social care research and development (R&D) strategy and policy to maximise the health and wealth of the people in Wales. NISCHR also commissions and directly funds R&D activity, contract manages projects and initiatives to ensure that the highest standards are met.

Professor Keith Lloyd  
Head of NISCHR, Welsh Assembly Government

Professor Keith Lloyd took up post as head of NISCHR in June 2010. Prior to this he was professor of psychological medicine at Swansea University’s school of medicine and research director of its Institute of Life Sciences. He trained in medicine in London, then in psychiatry at the Bethlem and Maudsley Hospitals and the Institute of Psychiatry London before working for the department of health in the mental health policy branch. He then worked as a clinician and NHS R&D Director in Exeter before moving to Wales.
Carys Thomas
Head of NHS Funding, Governance and Ethics
NISCHR, Welsh Assembly Government

Carys is the Head of Team for NHS R&D funding, governance and ethics. Her role involves leading and developing a number of strategic policy areas and implementation of a range of NISCHR initiatives which includes the establishment of the NISCHR AHSC and streamlining the NHS research environment in Wales. Prior to joining NISCHR in 2002, Carys was a senior researcher at the Home Office with responsibility for planning, managing and reporting of results from the British Crime Survey. She has also worked as a research officer at the Women and Equality Unit, Cabinet Office, managing a range of research projects to support policy development on a range of gender issues. Whilst studying at University College London, Carys developed a specific interest in the potential treatment for persistent stuttering in children, the ethics of undertaking research on children, and issues dealing with confidentiality and consent.

Michael Bowdery
Head of Team – Infrastructure and Capacity Building
NISCHR, Welsh Assembly Government

Michael is Head of Team for Infrastructure and Capacity Building within NISCHR. His current role includes responsibilities covering the commissioning and contract management of the NISCHR Clinical Research Infrastructure, management of the NISCHR’s competitive grant schemes, and facilitation and monitoring of NISCHR’s involvement in UK funding programmes. Michael has seven years active research experience, working as a Research Assistant, Research Officer and Research Coordinator in the School of Psychology, University of Wales Bangor. His research interests include aspects of behavioural psychology, the development and modification of children’s food preferences and moral philosophy. He has also worked for Swansea County Council Social Services Department and has experience of working with children with learning disabilities and challenging behaviour in care, play and educational settings. Prior to joining NISCHR, Michael worked as a Media Officer in the Office of the Chief Medical Officer, with responsibility for both media relations and the management of the Chief Medical Officer’s website. He also has experience of crisis management, through secondments to the Welsh Assembly Government’s Agriculture Department and Foot and Mouth Inquiries Team.
NISCHR Academic Health Science Collaboration (AHSC)

Strategy

Aims
The aims of NISCHR AHSC can be grouped into the following four categories:

1. Supporting research excellence
   • co-ordinating the rapid translation of world-leading clinical and basic science into improved patient care;
   • attracting the best researchers and clinicians to Wales and retaining them;
   • leveraging additional clinical research support from industry, research councils and charities;
   • contributing to internationally recognised education and training, which is evidence-led, for all healthcare professions; and
   • building stronger links with International Institutions and seeking European funding.

2. Strengthening NHS capacity to support high quality research
   • supporting and growing NHS research capacity that is essential for cutting edge clinical research; and
   • providing a more effective coordination of capacity within the NHS and maximising the use of the NHS funding budget to support research excellence aligned to NISCHR priorities including NISCHR portfolio studies.

3. Fostering a strong culture of research in the NHS
   • informing policy developments and delivery of health care services; and
   • working with Welsh Assembly Government policy colleagues, and NHS and academic partners to secure improved clinical outcomes.

4. Promoting the NISCHR brand for clinical research in Wales to facilitate high quality research through effective collaboration
   • creating a signposting service for industry and other potential partners to undertake clinical research across the collaboration; and
   • bringing together research management and governance (RM&G) and the management of NHS R&D funding to increase the speed and simplicity of processes of undertaking clinical research including NHS permissions.

NISCHR AHSC Contact Details
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Tel/Ffôn: +44 (0)1874 712 450 Email/Ebost: AllWales.R&D@wales.nhs.uk
Objectives
NISCHR AHSC will:
• Define the requirements for capacity within the 
  NHS to support high quality R&D, in relation to 
  NHS support departments and protected time 
  for clinically active staff to become involved in 
  research;
• Co-ordinate and maximise the use of NHS research 
  resources by strengthening the R&D infrastructure 
  in NHS Wales through the strategic realignment 
  of existing NHS R&D funding so that the NHS is 
  better placed to lead and participate in research 
  excellence;
• Co-ordinate and maximise collaboration between 
  HEIs, NHS and Industry;
• Performance manage the effective use of NHS R&D 
  Funding both within primary and secondary care;
• Develop a consistent and standardised streamlined 
  system for researchers in receiving NHS R&D 
  permissions across Wales;
• Develop links with the clinical research 
  infrastructure to work towards common aims;
• Offer signposting, facilitation, and engagement and 
  communication functions with industry and the 
  wider R&D community;
• Develop and/or contribute to a work plan which 
  will address knowledge transfer in the NHS, in 
  collaboration with other relevant agencies;
• Implement, as requested by NISCHR Welsh 
  Assembly Government, any further strategies 
  related to the aims of the AHSC.

Regional Structure
NISCHR AHSC functions within a regional structure 
across Wales with 3 interlinked regional foci that cover 
all ten NHS organisations:

1. North (based in Bangor)
   • Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
   • Powys Teaching Health Board
   • Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust

2. South East (based in Cardiff)
   • Aneurin Bevan Health Board
   • Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
   • Cwm Taf Health Board
   • Public Health Wales
   • Velindre NHS Trust

3. South West (based in Swansea)
   • Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board
   • Hywel Dda Health Board

Mission
A new part of the NHS research infrastructure, NISCHR AHSC became an 
entity on 1 October 2010. Its mission is to facilitate collaboration in order to 
combine clinical research, both basic and translational research, clinical care 
and education to create world leading improvements in healthcare.
The NISCHR AHSC Team

Professor Jonathan Bisson
NISCHR AHSC Clinical Director

Professor Bisson is Clinical Director of NISCHR AHSC, Director of Research and Development for Cardiff University School of Medicine and Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, and an Honorary Consultant Psychiatrist. He developed his interest in traumatic stress during his time in the British Army and is an active researcher in this area. He has conducted various studies including two widely cited randomised controlled trials of early psychological interventions following traumatic events and four Cochrane systematic reviews in the traumatic stress field. He is currently involved in research concerning the neurobiology of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), the development of a Guided Self Help intervention for PTSD and has become increasingly involved in research concerning veterans. He was co-chair of the National Institute of Clinical Excellence’s Guideline Development Group for PTSD and sits on the Editorial Board of the British Journal of Psychiatry. He founded and leads Mental Health Research Network Cymru’s Traumatic Stress Clinical Research Group. He is also a member of Cardiff University’s Violence Research Group which won a 2009 Queen’s Anniversary Prize.

Helen Jones
(Acting) NISCHR AHSC Senior Manager

Helen Jones is the NISCHR PCU Lead/Acting AHSC Senior Manager where she has a key leadership role in the implementation, delivery and management of the NISCHR AHSC, including the NISCHR AHSC Unit and the NISCHR Permissions Co-ordinating Unit (PCU). Prior to this role, Helen was the Senior Manager for Western CLRN in Bristol where she was responsible for the creation, management and development of the research network by providing senior management expertise and input to support the CLRN’s strategic development and delivery. Before becoming Senior Manager, she was the Lead Research Management and Governance (RM&G) Manager for Western CLRN where she led on the effective delivery of the CLRN’s RM&G functions. Before joining Western CLRN, Helen was seconded from the NHS into the Wales Office of Research & Development for Health and Social Care (WORD) within the Welsh Assembly Government where she was a Senior Project Manager. In WORD, she had deputy responsibility for the research governance and ethics agenda, as well as leading on the primary care R&D strategy for Wales. She has also worked for the former primary care research network for Wales, where she coordinated an RM&G consortium and managed the R&D portfolio, as well as having worked in several research posts in the public, private and voluntary sector.
The NISCHR Clinical Research Infrastructure

NISCHR AHSC is part of the NISCHR Clinical Research Infrastructure in Wales which is shown in Figure 1 below:

- **NISCHR Advisory Board** (Governance)
  - NISCHR Associate Directors and NISCHR reference group (Expertise & advice)
- **NISCHR Welsh Assembly Government** (Strategy, policy, commissioning, funding, monitoring)
- **NISCHR Operational Steering Group** (Operational management and delivery)

### NISCHR Clinical Research Centre
- Supports RRGs & Trials Units
- Manages the Research Professional Network
- Training
- Portfolio management, PPI, diversity & welsh language support

### NISCHR Registered Research Groups (RRGs)
- Networks of researchers
- Generate proposals
- Win grants
- Deliver & disseminates

### NISCHR Trials Units & Infrastructure Support Groups (ISGs)
- Supports RRGs
- Generate proposals
- Win grants
- Deliver & disseminates

### NISCHR Academic Health Science Collaboration
- NHS R&D funding
- Coordinating of HEI, industry & NHS activity
- Clinical research time competition
- NHS Support call
- Streamlining NHS permissions

### NISCHR Biomedical Science Centre of Excellence
- Supports & delivers high quality research & research excellence

### NISCHR Academic Social Services Collaboration
- Supports & delivers high quality research & research excellence

### NISCHR Social Services Centre for Research Excellence
- Supports & delivers high quality research & research excellence

### NISCHR Academic Social Services Collaboration
- Coordination of HEI, LA activities
- Capacity building
NISCHR Permissions Co-ordinating Unit (PCU)

One of the specific objectives of NISCHR AHSC is to develop a consistent and standardised streamlined system for researchers receiving NHS R&D permissions across Wales. In summer 2011, the NISCHR Permissions Co-ordinating Process (PCP) will be introduced for all research being undertaken in NHS Wales.

NISCHR PCP

The NISCHR PCP co-ordinates the process of gaining research permissions from NHS organisations across Wales. The process will provide a streamlined, co-ordinated and consistent review process for gaining research permission from NHS organisations in Wales.

NISCHR PCP will:
- Provide a single point of access for applying for NHS R&D permissions through the Integrated Research Application System (IRAS);
- Reduce the administrative burden on researchers and NHS R&D by enabling the electronic transfer of R&D applications from IRAS into a Wales-wide IT system;
- Provide clear channels of communication for researchers by providing a single point of contact for study wide queries relating to multi NHS organisation research;
- Reduce the duplication associated with gaining NHS R&D permission by centralising the completion of checks that only need to be done once;
- Provide consistency and standardisation in the governance review process across NHS Wales by introducing a national system with defined checks and national operating guidelines;
- Promote a consistent approach to scientific review, contracts and agreements and the identification of NHS costs for research in Wales;
- Help reduce the time it takes to gain NHS R&D permission by introducing a tracking system to monitor time targets; and
- Facilitate the process of gaining NHS R&D permission for UK wide studies by close collaboration with other UK nations.

NISCHR Permissions Co-ordinating Unit (PCU):

The NISCHR PCU will be launched in summer 2011 to expand the All Wales Primary Care Research Management and Governance (RM&G) Office’s remit to co-ordinate the process of gaining research permissions from NHS organisations across Wales. It will work alongside NHS organisations in Wales who, as legal entities, are responsible for the research undertaken in their organisations.

NISCHR PCU will:
- Co-ordinate the NISCHR PCP;
- Advise and support NHS Wales R&D staff; and
- Operationally manage the research ethics system in Wales.

The work of the NISCHR PCU is led by an Operational Steering Group (OSG) and is contract managed and funded by NISCHR, Welsh Assembly Government.
Research Ethics in Wales

Responsibility for Research Ethics policy in Wales falls to NISCHR, Welsh Assembly Government on behalf of the Minister for Health and Social Services. Research Ethics Committees (RECs) are convened to provide independent advice on the extent to which proposals for research comply with ethical standards.

The purpose of a REC in reviewing the proposed study is to protect the dignity, rights, safety and well being of all actual or potential research subjects. Ethical approval from the appropriate NHS Research Ethics Committee is required for any research proposal involving:

- patients and users of the NHS. This includes all potential research participants recruited by virtue of the patient or user’s past or present treatment by, or use of, the NHS. It includes NHS patients treated under contracts with private sector institutions;
- individuals identified as potential research participants because of their status as relatives or carers of patients and users of the NHS, as defined above;
- access to data, organs or other bodily material of past and present NHS patients;
- foetal material and In Vitro Fertilisation (IVF) involving NHS patients;
- the recently deceased in NHS premises;
- the use of, or potential access to, NHS premises or facilities; and
- NHS staff recruited as research participants by virtue of their professional role.

There are currently 8 NHS RECs in Wales including:

- 2 committees in North Wales;
- 3 committees in South East Wales;
- 1 committee in Dyfed Powys;
- 1 committee covering Swansea, Bridgend, Port Talbot and Neath; and
- 1 committee called REC for Wales (formally MREC).

The NISCHR PCU Team

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NISCHR PCU Contact Details

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Examples of Research Excellence in Wales

One of the key aims of NISCHR AHSC is to support research excellence. There is a significant amount of health related research being undertaken within NHS organisations and higher education institutions in Wales which is recognised as world-leading.

The areas of research excellence identified in Wales through the Science Policy for Wales (2006) and the Research Assessment Exercise (2008) can be summarised as follows:
- Cancer
- Cardiorespiratory / diabetes
- Genetics / genomics
- Infection, inflammation and immunity
- Neuroscience / mental health
- Primary care
- Public health

Some of the clinical academic researchers within the AHSC partner organisations in each of the areas of research excellence can be found below and are listed in alphabetical order. The biographies provide information on individuals who are among some of the outstanding researchers in Wales; other clinical academic researchers will feature in subsequent updates of this directory.
Professor Alan Burnett (Cardiff)

Professor Burnett graduated from Glasgow University and trained in Internal Medicine and then Haematology in Glasgow. He undertook a Fellowship in the Ben May Lab for Cancer Research at the University of Chicago under Professor Charles Huggins, Nobel Laureate, working on experimental models of leukaemia. He became a consultant haematologist in Glasgow, established the Scottish Bone Marrow Transplant Service, developed methods of storing haemopoietic cells for transplant and undertook the first autologous transplants for acute myeloid leukaemia (AML) as part of first line treatment which has become an established technique. In Wales he further developed a programme of research in AML, which involves the national (MRC/NCRI) trials. Over the 23 years of Cardiff leadership these have become the largest in the world with international participation. In recent years earlier stage trials have been incorporated, supported with strong translational research which has resulted in over 300 publications and many invited lectures around the world. He has received the Gold Medal of the British Society for Haematology and is a past President of it, is a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Science and in 2008 was appointed MBE for services to healthcare.

Professor Malcolm Mason (Cardiff)

Professor Mason is the Cancer Research Wales Professor of Clinical Oncology at Cardiff University. He is a clinician who specialises in the management of urological cancers, in which capacity he is the Chairman of the UK National Cancer Research Institute’s Prostate Cancer Clinical Studies Group. He is an experienced Clinical Researcher, has been the Chief Investigator for a number of Medical Research Council trials, and he has over 250 publications in his field. For the UICC (International Union Against Cancer) he Chairs the UK TNM Committee, and sits on the Core Group and the Prognostic Factors Task Group. Since 2003 he has been the Director of the Wales Cancer Bank, the UK’s first population-based tumour and blood sample collection, which to date has recruited over 3,900 patients. He also has laboratory research interests in prostate cancer, focused on immunology and on cancer metastasis.
Cancer

Professor John Wagstaff (Swansea)

Professor Wagstaff was trained as a Medical Oncologist at the Christie Hospital in Manchester and on becoming a consultant took up a position as a Senior Lecturer at the Free University Hospital in Amsterdam in 1986. In 1994 he was appointed as the Karl Landsteiner Professor of Medical Oncology at the Free University. In 1998 he became head of Haematology and Oncology at the University of Maastricht in the Netherlands. Dr Wagstaff is currently Chair of Medical Oncology and Academic Head of Department of the South West Wales Cancer Institute within the School of Medicine, Swansea University. He is also Honorary Professor of Medical Oncology at University Hospital Maastricht. Professor Wagstaff has co-authored over 127 papers in International Peer reviewed journals. His main areas of research interest are colorectal and renal cancers, melanoma and sarcomas. He is interested in immunotherapy and the interaction between the immune system and the neo-vasculature within tumours. His main focus has been in developing clinical trials for patients with the above diseases and conducting translational research to better understand the effects of new treatments on patients with cancer.

Cardiorespiratory/Diabetes

Professor Steve Bain (Swansea)

Professor Bain is Director of Research & Development for ABM University Health Board and Clinical Lead for the Diabetes Research Network, Wales. He trained in Cambridge and London before moving to the Midlands. After a Medical Research Council Lectureship he became a Senior Lecturer/Honorary Consultant Physician in Birmingham in 1993, was promoted to Reader in Diabetic Medicine in 1998 and appointed to a newly created Chair in Medicine (Diabetes) at the University of Wales Swansea in 2005. His clinical interests include the genetics of diabetic nephropathy, new therapies for diabetes and the provision of diabetes services within the community. From 2003-2008 he was the Human Genetics Commission’s (HGC) nominated representative on the National DNA Database Strategy Board and led the HGC report on DNA testing in 2009. In 2007 he was invited to sit on the newly formed National DNA Database Ethics Group, an advisory Non-Departmental Public Body established under the authority of the Secretary of State for the Home Department. He chairs the Clinical Research Unit in ABMU Health Board and leads the new Clinical Research Facility being established in Swansea University, funded by European Convergence Funds, to be opened in 2011.
Cardiorespiratory/Diabetes

Professor Julian Halcox (Cardiff)

Professor Halcox is Professor of Cardiology at Cardiff University and Honorary Consultant Cardiologist at the University Hospital of Wales. He is the Director of Cardiovascular Research Group-Cymru and Vice-Chair of the Cardiff University Cardiovascular Sciences Interdisciplinary Research Group. He has a strong track record in translational vascular science including the role of the endothelium in the initiation and progression of atherosclerosis, non-invasive arterial imaging, vascular epidemiology and clinical trials on the prevention of arterial disease. His main priority currently is to expand collaborative, multidisciplinary research into mechanisms and prevention of premature vascular events across the social gradient in Wales. Professor Halcox is on the Scientific Nucleus for Exercise, Basic and Translational Science of the European Association of Cardiovascular Prevention and Rehabilitation (EACPR), he recently chaired the National Multidisciplinary Working Group on Cardiovascular Disease Prevention and has contributed to the development of several major European heart disease management guidelines. He is a member of the Project Grant Committee of the British Heart Foundation, the Welsh Cardiovascular Society Executive Committee and the All-Wales Familial Hypercholesterolaemia Cascade Screening Program Steering Group. He currently sits on the NIHR-UKCRN Cardiovascular Speciality Subgroup and is Chairman of the Heart Research Fund for Wales.

Professor Michael Rees (Bangor)

Professor Rees is the Chair of Cardiovascular Studies at Bangor University. He is also a consultant cardio-radiologist and nuclear medicine specialist in the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board. He has research interests in cardiovascular imaging and intervention, has published over 100 peer reviewed papers and book chapters in these subjects. He has lectured extensively internationally. He is the President of the European Society of Cardiac Radiology and co-founder of that society. He is Co-Chair of the Medical Academic Staff Committee of the BMA and previously served as Chair. He is on the Editorial Board of the International Journal of Cardiovascular Imaging and Insights into Imaging. He is a member of the UK Health Education Advisory Committee and the Health Education National Strategic Exchange. He has previously held Chairs at the University of Bristol and Keele University and a consulting Chair at Stanford University California. He is a visiting Professor at the University of Ioanina Greece. He founded the School of Medical Sciences at Bangor University and served as the Head of School. He has been involved in clinical academic training in England and Wales and has served on the NIHR faculty development committee, the Walport implementation committee and the Clinical Academic Careers Panel UK.
Genetics/Genomics

Professor David Cooper (Cardiff)

Professor Cooper is Chair of Human Molecular Genetics at Cardiff University. He obtained his PhD in molecular biology from Edinburgh University in 1983. Having worked on the molecular genetics of inherited disorders of thrombosis and haemostasis at the University of London, he took up his present position in 1995. His research interests are largely focused upon elucidating the mechanisms of mutagenesis underlying human genetic disease, but include genotype–phenotype relationships in various inherited conditions, as well as human evolutionary and population genetics. He has published over 300 papers in the field of human molecular genetics and has co-authored or co-edited a number of books including Human Gene Mutation (1993), Nature Encyclopedia of the Human Genome (2003), Molecular Genetics of Lung Cancer (2005), Handbook of Human Molecular Evolution (2008) and Copy Number Variation and Disease (2009). He curates the Human Gene Mutation Database (http://www.hgmd.org), a comprehensive database of mutations causing human inherited disease, which is marketed internationally through a commercial partner, BIOBASE GmbH. Professor Cooper is European Editor of Human Genetics and Editor of the Genetics & Disease section of Wiley’s Encyclopedia of Life Sciences. He is also a member of several Editorial Boards including the Journal of Medical Genetics and Human Mutation.

Dr Edgar Hartsuiker (Bangor)

Dr Hartsuiker is a Senior Lecturer in Cancer Biology at the School of Biological Sciences, and is chairman of the North West Cancer Research Fund Institute at Bangor University. He developed an interest in meiotic recombination and DNA repair during his studies at Wageningen University, the Netherlands (MSc) and University of Bern, Switzerland (PhD). During his time as a postdoc in the lab of Prof. Carr at the Genome Damage and Stability Centre at Sussex University, he continued to work on these subjects and became interested in DNA repair mechanisms that repair DNA damage caused by clinically important cancer drugs. His work on the removal of topoisomerases in cells which have been treated with clinically important cancer drugs was funded by a project grant from Cancer Research UK, and formed the basis for his recent successful application for a Cancer Research UK Career Establishment Award. He has recently been awarded a North West Cancer Research Fund project grant, to study DNA repair mechanisms that provide resistance to treatment with nucleoside analogues, another group of clinically important cancer drugs. He is a member of the North West Cancer Research Fund Scientific Committee.
Genetics/Genomics

Professor Julian Sampson (Cardiff)

Professor Sampson is Chair of Medical Genetics and Head of the Department of Genetics, Haematology and Pathology at Cardiff University, Chairman of the Wales Gene Park and an Honorary Consultant in Clinical Genetics with Cardiff and Vale University Health Board. He heads the Institute of Medical Genetics which in 2007 won a Queen’s Anniversary Prize for Higher Education. His research interests are in the clinical and molecular genetics of disease. His work has established a novel mechanism of carcinogenesis that links defective base excision DNA repair to cancer, developed molecular diagnostic tests for inherited disorders that have been adopted internationally and most recently exploited post-genomic knowledge to investigate molecularly targeted treatments for inherited disease in clinical trials. He is a past Chairman of the British Society for Human Genetics and a current Research Champion for the Academy of Medical Sciences.

Infection, Inflammation and Immunity

Professor Dietrich Mack (Swansea)

Professor Mack holds the Chair in Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases at the College of Medicine at Swansea University and is an Honorary Consultant Microbiologist with Public Health Wales and Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board in Swansea. His central research projects are focused on the elucidation of the molecular basis of colonization of implanted medical devices by staphylococci and their importance in the pathogenesis of medical device-related infections. His group discovered three fundamental mechanisms of Staphylococcus epidermidis biofilm accumulation. Further interests are rapid diagnostic tests and the molecular characterization of nosocomial pathogens as well as the diagnosis and epidemiology of important antibiotic resistance mechanisms like ESBL and methicillin resistance. His work has been recognised by several awards including the Max von Pettenkofer Prize “Biofilms in Medicine” (2003). He serves as Scientific and Research Secretary on the Council of the British Infection Association (former British Infection Society/Association of Medical Microbiologists) and is a member of the Department of Health Rapid Review Panel and the Diagnostics Advisory Committee of the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE). He is Associate Editor of the Journal of Medical Microbiology and sits on the Scientific Committee of Clinical Microbiology and Infection.
Infection, Inflammation and Immunity

Professor Gareth Morgan (Swansea)

Professor Gareth Morgan is Professor of Paediatrics and Immunology and Head of the College of Medicine at Swansea University. Gareth began his career at Great Ormond Street Hospital in London, where his main work involved the treatment of otherwise fatal genetic immunodeficiency disorders by stem cell transplantation. This work culminated in him leading the clinical team that performed the first gene therapy in the United Kingdom and the setting up of the UK regulatory body for gene therapy. Gareth was seconded as a Wellcome Trust Lecturer in Tropical Diseases for two years at the Medical Research Council (MRC) unit in The Gambia, West Africa. There he developed a separate but related interest in the effect of starvation on immunity and since then his main research work has been on the effects of nutrition on immunity. Gareth is a Fellow of the Royal Colleges of Physicians, Pathologists and Paediatrics and Child Health. He is a member of the European Society for Immunodeficiency (ESID), the Allergy, Infectious Diseases and Immunology Group of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, the British Society of Immunology, the British Association of Perinatal Medicine and the Association of Clinical Pathologists.

gareth.morgan@swansea.ac.uk

Professor B. Paul Morgan (Cardiff)

After graduating from the Welsh National School of Medicine, Professor Morgan completed a PhD in Cardiff and two years post-doctoral research in the USA. He was a Wellcome Senior Clinical Fellow in Cardiff for 15 years, appointed to a Chair in 1995 and Head of Department in 2001. He is currently Dean and Head of the School of Medicine, Cardiff University. His research is focussed on the complement system, crossing the spectrum from basic biology through to roles in human disease. His particular disease focus is in neuroinflammation and neurodegeneration. Recent work has focussed on identifying mechanisms by which complement contributes to pathology in diseases like multiple sclerosis and Alzheimer’s disease, identifying complement biomarkers and exploring the potential of anti-complement therapies for these diseases. He has published extensively in the above areas and has been an invited speaker at diverse International Conferences to explain roles of complement in disease. He was elected to Fellowship of the Academy of Medical Sciences in 2000. Among many committee roles locally and nationally, he is President of the International Complement Society and Chairs the Wellcome Trust Clinical Interviews Committee.

morganBP@cf.ac.uk
**Professor Andrew Sewell (Cardiff)**

Professor Sewell relocated to Cardiff University School of Medicine from the University of Oxford in 2006. He is a Distinguished Research Professor and currently represents the School of Medicine on Senate, the Innovation and Engagement Committee and various ad hoc University bodies. His research is focused on adaptive immunity and the T-cells that control it. Research in this area resulted in the process of vaccination and is estimated to have saved many times more human lives than all other medical research combined. Unfortunately, there are no effective vaccines for infections that top league tables as causes of human mortality such as HIV, malaria and tuberculosis. The Sewell research group (www.tcells.org) are exploring technologies for next generation non-biologic vaccinations. T-cells are also believed to cause all autoimmunity and to hold the key to cancer clearance. The Sewell research team have helped to engineer T-cells that limit HIV escape and that exhibit improved anti-cancer killing. They are also exploring using soluble T-cell receptors as drugs via a collaboration and Knowledge Transfer Partnership with Immunocore Ltd. and are delineating the causes of autoimmunity with a view to providing early diagnosis. Professor Sewell maintains strong links with the biotechnology industry.

**Dr Stefan Siebert (Swansea)**

Dr Siebert is Clinical Senior Lecturer in Rheumatology in the College of Medicine, Swansea University and an Honorary Consultant Rheumatologist with Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board. He is the current Director of the NISCHR Welsh Arthritis Research Network (WARN). Dr Siebert trained in Medicine at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa and has been working in Rheumatology in Wales since 1999. Dr Siebert’s principal research interests include the secondary use of routinely-collected data for research, Ankylosing Spondylitis, mechanisms of inflammatory diseases, optimising clinical research in NHS settings, in addition to participating in clinical trials of new therapeutic agents for inflammatory arthritis. He currently sits on the UKCRN Musculoskeletal National Specialty Group, as well as the Arthritis Research UK and BSR Ankylosing Spondylitis groups and Mediwaless Life Science Advisory panel.
Neuroscience/Mental Health

Professor Mike Owen (Cardiff)

Professor Owen works on the genetics of major psychiatric and neurodegenerative disorders including schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, Alzheimer’s disease, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), dyslexia and depression. His work has used a combination of molecular genetic approaches including genome-wide association, copy number variant analysis and second generation sequencing to identify the specific genetic variants that confer risk to psychiatric and neurodegenerative disorders. His group has identified novel genetic risk factors for schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, Alzheimer’s disease, ADHD and dyslexia. This has allowed him to study the impact of genetic risk factors across diagnostic boundaries and to influence contemporary attempts to re-define the boundaries of major mental disorders. His most recent research activities have focused on the translation of genetic findings into benefit for patients through research on disease mechanisms, classification and diagnosis as well as in public engagement and communication. He is the Director of the Medical Research Council’s Centre for Neuropsychiatric Genetics and Genomics and of the Cardiff University Neuroscience and Mental Health Research Institute as well as being Head of the Department of Psychological Medicine and Neurology in Cardiff University’s School of Medicine.

Professor Mark Rees (Swansea)

Professor Rees is Chair of Neurology and Research Director of the Institute of Life Science at the College of Medicine at Swansea University. His research interests include epilepsy, movement and neurodegenerative disorders, cardiac arrhythmias and sudden death syndromes in the young. Professor Rees gained his PhD at the University of Wales College of Medicine in Cardiff and spent 5 years working with Professor Mike Owen in Psychological Medicine, Cardiff before moving to a 6-year post in the University of Auckland Medical School, New Zealand. Since his return to Wales in 2004, Professor Rees has become Founder and Director of the Wales Epilepsy Research Network, and Deputy Director of the Cardiovascular Research group – Cymru. Professor Rees is Deputy Chair of the Epilepsy Research Scientific Advisory Group and represents Wales at the NIHR Nervous Systems comprehensive network. He is a Fellow of the Royal College of Pathologists (FRCPPath) and an Honorary Fellow of the Association of British Neurologists.
Professor Anne Rosser (Cardiff)

Professor Anne Rosser is Professor of Clinical Neuroscience and Honorary Consultant Neurologist at the University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff. She is also joint Director of the University’s Brain Repair Group. Professor Rosser has worked in the area of neurodegeneration since 1994 and brings to the Research Institute specialist knowledge in Huntington’s disease (HD), in particular the development of new therapies for this and related neurodegenerative conditions. She leads the South Wales HD clinical service, which provides care for HD patients at all stages of the illness and supports clinical research activities ranging from observational to interventional clinical studies. Professor Rosser is the current Chair of the UK HD network (UKHDN); lead for the English-speaking sector of the European HD network (EHDN); and Chairs the EHDN scientific and advisory committee. Her research activities, based in School of Biosciences, are focused on cell replacement therapies and the potential of stem cells as a donor source for neural transplantation. As part of these activities she is joint co-ordinator of a UK pilot trial of neural transplantation in HD and an active member of the international TRANSNEURO initiative for neural transplantation in Parkinson’s disease.

Professor Julie Williams (Cardiff)

Professor Williams has published widely in the field of AD. Early research findings include linkage to chromosome 10 in late-onset Alzheimer’s disease (LOAD) (Myers A et al, 2000 Science, 290(5500): 2304-2305) and susceptibility factors for LOAD (Li Y et al, 2004 Neuroscience Letters 366(3):268-271; Myers AJ et al, 2004 Am J Med Genet B Neuropsychiatr Genet; 124(1): 29-37). She led the collection of 1400 AD cases and 1400 controls from the UK as part of the MRC genetic resource for late onset AD. Her group has received MRC funding for the last fourteen years, mostly at programme level, as well as substantial funding from the Wellcome Trust, the Welsh Assembly Government and the Alzheimer’s Research UK. She has also collaborated with industry on projects to identify new genetic susceptibility variants for AD and imaging biomarkers for disease progression (Celera Diagnostics and GlaxoSmithKline). She also gives time to meeting and speaking to the public at a variety of events aimed at promoting a greater understanding of Alzheimer’s disease. As Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board at ART she has worked with her colleagues to establish new ways of funding young scientists, new innovation and larger grants to broaden the scope of research supported through fellowships, to encourage scientists from outside the field to work on dementia.
Professor Bob Woods (Bangor)

Professor Woods is Professor of Clinical Psychology of Older People at Bangor University and acting Head of its Institute of Medical & Social Care Research. He is an Honorary Consultant Clinical Psychologist with Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, and has been Director of NEURODEM Cymru since its inception in 2005. His research has involved the systematic development of evidence-based psychosocial interventions for people with dementia and their care-givers. This has included randomised controlled trials of reminiscence therapy and cognitive stimulation as well as the development and evaluation of training in psychosocial approaches for care home staff. He is now leading the CFAS-Wales study, funded by the ESRC and HEFCW, which will provide up-to-date information on prevalence and incidence of cognitive impairment in older people in Wales, and the psychosocial factors influencing its presentation and course. He led the development of a guide to improving dementia care for the ‘1000 Lives plus’ campaign in Wales, and is the academic member of the National Mental Health Programme Board for NHS Wales, and of its dementia sub-group. He has received awards from the Alzheimer’s Society (2004) and the British Psychological Society (2006) in recognition of his contribution to this field.

b.woods@bangor.ac.uk

Professor Chris Butler (Cardiff)

Professor Butler is Head of the Department of Primary Care and Public Health and Dean of Research in the School of Medicine, Cardiff University. He has two main research interests, common infections and the appropriate use of antibiotics, and health behaviour change. He trained in Medicine at the University of Cape Town and his doctoral work was a randomized controlled trial and qualitative research into health behaviour change and clinician-patient communication. He trained in Clinical Epidemiology at The University of Toronto. He is Chief Investigator on the MRC funded STAR and PRE-EMPT studies and HTA funded PAAD and co-CI of DUTY studies. He leads a Workpackage and the development of the clinical platform in 13 countries for the EU FP6 funded GRACE Network of Excellence. He serves on the Editorial Board of the British Journal of General Practice, is Associate Director for the NISCHR Clinical Research Centre, a member of the Department of Health National Expert Panel for New and Emerging Diseases, and practices as a GP in Mountain Ash in the South Wales Valleys. He is the Foundation Director of the Wales School of Primary Care Research. He holds honorary Professorships at McMaster University and the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

ButlerCC@cf.ac.uk
Primary Care

Dr Richard D Neal (Wrexham)

Dr Neal is Clinical Senior Lecturer in General Practice at the North Wales Clinical School, Cardiff University. His research interests are in the interface between cancer and primary care, especially with regard to the diagnosis of symptomatic disease, and the effects of delays in diagnosis on stage and survival. He is also undertaking research into models of cancer follow-up in primary care. He is a founding member of Ca-Pri (Cancer and Primary Care Research International Network), and a member of other national Boards and Panels, including: HTA Community and Psychological Therapies Panel; NCRI Primary Care Studies Development Group; RCGP Centre for Innovation and Research Board; NICE Lung Cancer Guideline Development Group; National Coordinating Centre Cancer Management Board; and the Department of Health Lung Cancer and Mesothelioma Advisory Group. He is Welsh lead for Modules 3 and 4 of the International Cancer Benchmarking Partnership and associate editor BMC Health Sciences Research. He is a Fellow of the RCGP and won the Society for Academic Primary Care (SAPC) travel prize for best oral presentation at the 2007 annual scientific meeting. He undertakes clinical work in general practice in deprived practices in north-east Wales.

Professor Helen Snooks (Swansea)

During a twenty year career in health services research, Professor Snooks has attracted more than £15 million pounds of research funding, with £9 million as lead investigator. Her main research interests and expertise lie in the fields of emergency and unscheduled care, chronic conditions management, Health Services Research, and research support. In these areas, the focus of her work is to plan, design and carry out evaluations of new treatments and models of service delivery. These complex interventions often involve changing roles and working across boundaries between service providers. Her work is strongly patient-focused and collaborative, and uses mixed methods to achieve study aims. She leads the NISCHR funded Thematic Research network for emergency, UnScheduled and Trauma care (TRUST), and is Deputy Director of the West Wales Organisation for Rigorous Trials in Health (WWORTH). She leads three NIHR portfolio experimental studies in emergency and primary care including the implementation of Predictive Risk Stratification in Wales and the emergency care of older people who fall. She also manages a trial of a parenting intervention in community sites in South Wales. She has published extensively and has contributed widely to peer review mechanisms across journals and research funders.
Public Health

Professor David Cohen (University of Glamorgan)

Professor Cohen is Chair of Health Economics, Director of the Health Economics and Policy Research Unit at the University of Glamorgan. His interest in the economics of health began at Aberdeen University where he worked for five years as a Research Fellow at the Health Economics Research Unit. He has published widely on a variety of issues in health economics and been a member of numerous committees and working parties including the Royal College of Physicians’ Working Party on Preventive Medicine and the Department of Health Advisory Group on Genetics Research. He has acted as specialist adviser to the World Health Organisation and to the House of Commons’ Select Committee on Welsh Affairs. David has been a member of several research commissioning panels including the MRC Health Service and Public Health Research Board. He has also served on both the NIHR Health Technology Assessment (HTA) and Service Delivery and Organisation (SDO) national R&D Programmes. David is currently a member of the Scientific Committee of the National Prevention Research Initiative which is administered by MRC on behalf of 11 major UK funding bodies.

dcohen@glam.ac.uk

Professor Ronan A Lyons (Swansea)

Professor Lyons is Professor of Public Health at the College of Medicine, Swansea University and an Honorary Public Health Consultant with Public Health Wales NHS Trust. He is also Co-Director of the UKCRC funded DECIPHer Public Health Research Centre of Excellence (Cardiff/Swansea/Bristol collaboration) and the NISCHR funded Health Information Research Unit (HIRU). His main research interests are in the prevention and treatment of injuries, the influence of the social and physical environment on health, the development and evaluation of complex interventions, and the use of health information to support research. He led the Wales Vitamin D Fracture Trial, the Advocacy in Action Study cluster randomised trial of improving road safety and the UK Burden of Injuries Study. His current research portfolio includes leadership of the Wales Electronic Cohort for Children (NISCHR), evaluation of a major housing improvement on health (NIHR), and a key component of Joint Action on Monitoring Injuries in Europe (EU). He is also a co-investigator in a number of major national and international observational and interventional studies. He is a board member of the UK Trauma Audit Research Network (TARN), member of the International Scientific Board of Monash University Accident Research Centre in Australia, and International Advisor to the Canadian Institute of Health Research Strategic Team in Child and Youth Injury Prevention.

r.a.lyons@swansea.ac.uk
Public Health

Professor Laurence Moore (Cardiff)

Professor Moore is Chair of Public Health Improvement at Cardiff University. He is a social scientist and statistician with a particular interest in interventions to improve public health. He has led a number of trials of such interventions, including cluster randomised trials of fruit tuck shops, peer-led smoking prevention (the ASSIST trial), the free breakfast initiative in Wales and smoking cessation in pregnancy. He has also evaluated the Smoking Cessation Service in Wales, smoke free legislation in Wales, and the National Exercise Referral Scheme. Professor Moore leads the Public Health Improvement Research Network (PHIRN) in Wales, the success of which led to the funding in 2009 of DECIPHer, a UKCRC Public Health Research Centre of Excellence, which is a strategic partnership between Cardiff, Bristol and Swansea Universities. The DECIPHer centre uses the framework of the socio-ecological model of health as a basis to Develop and Evaluate Complex Interventions for Public Health Improvement. Professor Moore is member of the scientific boards of the MRC National Prevention Research Initiative and the NIHR Public Health Research Programme. He is an honorary Principal Fellow at the University of Melbourne.

Professor Stephen Palmer (Cardiff)

Professor Palmer trained in communicable disease epidemiology at the Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre (CDSC), Colindale and the Centres for Disease Control, Atlanta. In Wales in 1983 he set up and directed the CDSC Wales unit. He also developed chemical hazard surveillance and chemical incident support for the health service nationally and WHO internationally. In 2003, he set up and directed the Chemical Hazards and Poisons Division of the Health Protection Agency. From 2006-2009 he directed the Local and Regional Services Division of the HPA. He was awarded the UK Faculty of Public Health’s Alwyn Smith medal in 2008. He was Cardiff University’s Director of the Welsh Combined Centres for Public Health from 1993, Mansel Talbot Professor of Epidemiology and Public Health from 1998 and in July 2010 was appointed as the first Archie Cochrane Professor in Epidemiology and Public Health. He has published widely on infectious disease epidemiology and control and has more recently been developing new research areas in non-environmental hazards and social epidemiology, particularly in relation to the built environment, health neighbourhoods and housing. He leads the “Health and Connected Communities” research theme in the new Cardiff University Sustainable Places Research Institute.
NISCHR Registered Research Groups (RRGs) are the creative engines of the NHS R&D infrastructure. They provide the functions of:

- generating research proposals in areas of topical significant and opportunity
- winning grant funding
- generating a growing research portfolio of high-quality, ‘people focused’ research; and
- engaging and collaborating with UK-wide groups (where they exist and where participation is beneficial to Welsh R&D or to patient and service users in Wales).

There are 17 Registered Research Groups in Wales which are listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NISCHR Registered Research Groups (RRGs)</th>
<th>Tel/Ffon: +44 (0) 2920 687456 • Email/Ebost: <a href="mailto:kotechas@cardiff.ac.uk">kotechas@cardiff.ac.uk</a> • Web: <a href="http://www.link-wales.org.uk">www.link-wales.org.uk</a></th>
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<tr>
<td>Children &amp; Young People’s Research Network (CYPN)</td>
<td>Telephone: +44 (0) 2920 744187 • Email/Ebost: <a href="mailto:kotechas@cardiff.ac.uk">kotechas@cardiff.ac.uk</a> • Web: <a href="http://www.link-wales.org.uk">www.link-wales.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes (DRN)</td>
<td>Telephone: +44 (0) 2920 744187 • Email/Ebost: <a href="mailto:kotechas@cardiff.ac.uk">kotechas@cardiff.ac.uk</a> • Web: <a href="http://www.link-wales.org.uk">www.link-wales.org.uk</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>Telephone: +44 (0) 2920 687456 • Email/Ebost: <a href="mailto:griffithsg@cf.ac.uk">griffithsg@cf.ac.uk</a> • Web: <a href="http://www.wctu.org.uk">www.wctu.org.uk</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cardiovascular (CvRG-C)</td>
<td>Telephone: +44 (0) 2920 743489 • Email/Ebost: <a href="mailto:halcoxjp@cardiff.ac.uk">halcoxjp@cardiff.ac.uk</a></td>
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NISCHR Registered Research Groups (RRGs)

**Epilepsy Research Network Wales (WERN) / Rhwydwaith Ymchwil Epilepsi Cymru**

Professor Mark I Rees (Chair of Molecular Neuroscience, Swansea University)

Tel/Ffon: **+44 (0) 1792 602203** • Email/Ebost: **m.i.rees@swansea.ac.uk** • Web: **www.wern.swan.ac.uk**

**Kidney (AWKRN)**

Professor Aled O Phillips (Director, Institute of Nephrology, Cardiff)

Tel/Ffon: **+44 (0) 2920 748467** • Email/Ebost: **phillipsao@cf.ac.uk**

**Learning Disabilities and Autism (LDAN) / Anabledau Dysg ac Awstitiaeth**

Professor David Felce (Welsh Centre for Learning Disabilities, Centre for Health Sciences Research, Cardiff University)

Tel/Ffon: **+44 (0) 2920 687204** • Email/Ebost: **felce@cf.ac.uk** • Web: **www.ldancymru.org.uk**

**Lung**

Dr Kim Harrison (Respiratory School of Medicine, University of Swansea)

Tel/Ffon: **+44 (0) 1792 703213** • Email/Ebost: **Kim.Harrison@abm-tr.wales.nhs.uk**

**Mental Health Research Network Cymru (MHRNC)**

Rhwydwaith Ymchwil Iechyd Meddwl Cymru

Professor Peter Huxley (School of Human Sciences, Swansea University)

Tel/Ffon: **+44 (0) 1792 602548** • Email/Ebost: **info@mhrnc.org** • Web: **www.mhrnc.org**
NISCHR Registered Research Groups (RRGs)

**Microbiology & Infection**

Professor Timothy R Walsh (School of Medicine, Medical Microbiology, Cardiff University)
Dr Robin Howe (Public Health Wales)

Tel/Ffon: +44 (0) 2920 744725 (TW) • Email/Ebost: WalshTR@Cardiff.ac.uk
Tel/Ffon: +44 (0) 22920 744515 (RH) • Email/Ebost: Robin.Howe@nphs.wales.nhs.uk

**Older People & Ageing Research & Development Network (OPAN)**
Ymchwil Heneiddio Cymru

Professor Judith Phillips (Department of Applied Social Sciences, Swansea University)
Dr Sue Lambert (School of Health Sciences, Swansea University)

Tel/Ffon: +44 (0) 1792 602341 (JP) • Email/Ebost: Judith.e.phillips@swansea.ac.uk
Tel/Ffon: +44 (0) 1792 295498 (SL) • Email/Ebost: s.e.lambert@swansea.ac.uk • Web: www.opanwales.org.uk

**Patient Safety PSHQRQ**

Professor Stephen Palmer (Department of Primary Care & Public Health, Cardiff University)

Tel/Ffon: +44 (0) 2920 687250 • Email/Ebost: palmersr@cardiff.ac.uk

**Primary Care**

Professor Chris Butler (Professor of Primary Care Medicine/Head of Department, Department of Primary Care and Public Health, Cardiff University)

Tel/Ffon: +44 (0) 2920 687168 • Email/Ebost: Butlercc@cardiff.ac.uk
NISCHR Registered Research Groups (RRGs)

Public Health Improvement Research Network (PHIRN)
Rhwydwaith Ymchwil I Wella Iechyd Y Cyhoedd

Professor Laurence Moore (Director, Cardiff Institute of Society, Health and Ethics, Cardiff University)
Tel/Ffon: +44 (0) 2920 875387 • Email/Ebost: moore@L1@cf.ac.uk • Web: www.phirn.org.uk

Thematic Research Network for Emergency and UnScheduled Treatment (TRUST)
Rhwydwaith Ymchwil Thematig ar gyfer Triniaeth Frys a Thriniaeth Heb ei Threfnu

Professor Helen Snooks (Centre for Health Information Research and Evaluation (CHIRAL), Swansea University)
Tel/Ffon: +44 (0) 1792 602346 • Email/Ebost: H.A.snooks@swansea.ac.uk • Web: www.trustresearch.org.uk

Wales Arthritis Research Group (WARN)
Dr Stefan Siebert (Swansea University)
Tel/Ffon: +44 (0) 1639 862358 • Email/Ebost: s.siebert@swansea.ac.uk
Web: http://medicine.cf.ac.uk/en/departments/medicine/rheumatology/warn/

Wales Dementias and Neurodegenerative Diseases Research Network (NEURODEM Cymru)
Rhwydwaith Ymchwil Demensia a Chlefydau Niwroddirywiol Cymru (NEURODEM Cymru)

Professor Bob Woods (Dementia Services Development Centre, Bangor University)
Tel/Ffon: +44 (0) 1248 383719 • Email/Ebost: b.woods@bangor.ac.uk • Web: www.neurodemcymru.org
NISCHR Trials Units

The NISCHR Trials Units offer advice and methodological support at the early stages of the trial development and the grant application process, and further involvement in the development and delivery of funded studies. In addition, the Trials Units have a remit to develop their own portfolio of Unit-led projects in areas of particular interest and expertise. The Trials Units in Wales are:

North Wales Organisation for Randomised Trials in Health (N-WORTH)
Sefydlad Gogledd Cymru ar gyfer Profion ar Hap mewn lechyd
Dr Huw Roberts (Trials Unit Manager, Institute for Medical & Social Care, Bangor University)
Tel/Ffon: +44 (0) 1248 383238 • Email/Ebost: Huw.roberts@bangor.ac.uk
Web: www.bangor.ac.uk/imscar/nworth

South East Wales Trials Unit (SEWTU) / Uned Ymchwil De-ddwyrain Cymru
Professor Kerry Hood (Department of General Practice, School of Medicine, Cardiff University)
Tel/Ffon: +44 (0) 2920 687163 • Email/Ebost: hoodk1@cf.ac.uk

West Wales Organisation for Rigorous Trials In Health & Social Care (W-WORTH)
Dr Kymberley Thorne (School of Medicine, Swansea University)
Tel/Ffon: +44 (0) 1792 606611 • Email/Ebost: wworth@swansea.ac.uk

Wales Cancer Trials Unit (WCTU) / Uned Ymchwil Clinigol Cymru
Gareth Griffiths (Wales Cancer Trials Unit, Cardiff)
Tel/Ffon: +44 (0) 29 2068 7457 • Email/Ebost: wctu@cf.ac.uk • Web: www.wctu.org.uk
The regional research networks can provide a range of support to researchers that will vary from project to project. Examples include:

- Promoting awareness among clinicians, potential participants and researchers
- Liaising with local health and social care teams and visiting clinics to recruit new investigators and collaborators
- Identifying potential research participants through database searches, note-screening and direct liaison with clinicians and voluntary agencies
- Recruitment of participants
- Ensuring potential research participants have enough information about studies to make a fully informed decision about whether to take part
- Ensuring research complies with research management and governance, ethical and ICH-GCP requirements
- Providing information and support, including dissemination of results
- Screening and checking eligibility
- Conducting assessments and follow-up appointments
- Taking samples (including venepuncture)

NISCHR Clinical Research Centre (CRC) Team

Professor Chris Butler (Clinical Director)

Tel/Ffon: +44 (0) 02920 687168 • Email/Ebost: Butlercc@cardiff.ac.uk

Professor John Wagstaff (Deputy Clinical Director – Cancer)

Tel/Ffon: +44 (0) 1792 285299 • Email/Ebost: John.wagstaff@swansea.ac.uk

Lucy Seago (Director of Operations)

Tel/Ffon: +44 (0) 2920 316228 • Email/Ebost: Lucy.seago@wales.nhs.uk
NISCHR CRC Research Network Managers

Jayne Jones (Research Network Manager North Wales)
Tel/Ffon: +44 (0) 1745 448681 • Email/Ebost: Jayne.jones3@wales.nhs.uk

Jackie Morris (Wales Cancer Research Network Manager North Wales)
Tel/Ffon: +44 (0) 1745 448720 ext 7667 • Email/Ebost: Jackie.morris2@wales.nhs.uk

Sue Figueirido (Research Network Manager South East Wales)
Tel/Ffon: +44 (0) 2920 196802 • Email/Ebost: Susan.figueirido@wales.nhs.uk

Sara Shankland (Wales Cancer Research Network Manager South East Wales)
Tel/Ffon: +44 (0) 2920 196193 • Email/Ebost: Sara.shankland@wales.nhs.uk

Kathy Malinovszky (Research Network Manager South West Wales)
Tel/Ffon: +44 (0) 1792 602880 • Email/Ebost: K.m.malinovszky@swansea.ac.uk

Jayne Caparros (Wales Cancer Research Network Manager South West Wales)
Tel/Ffon: +44 (0) 1792 285200 • Email/Ebost: Jayne.caparros@wales.nhs.uk

NISCHR CRC Contact Details
NISCHR Clinical Research Centre, 3rd Floor, 12 Cathedral Road, Cardiff, CF11 9LJ
Tel/Ffon: +44 (0) 2920 196821 • Email/Ebost: nischr-crc@wales.nhs.uk
NISCHR Infrastructure Support Groups (ISGs)

NISCHR Infrastructure Support Groups (ISGs) offer specialist support primarily to researchers within Registered Research Groups (RRGs). This includes engagement at the project conception, project design, and grant writing stages of the research process, and where appropriate, involvement in the ongoing delivery of projects for which funding has been secured. The ISGs may also have other functions related to the development of capacity and capability in their areas of expertise. The ISGs in Wales are:

**Health Information Research Unit (HIRU)**

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