

Centre for Healthcare and Communities

Post Graduate Research (PGR)
Handbook

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Centre Director:

Rosie Kneafsey
E: aa9398@coventry.ac.uk



PGR Lead:

Abiodun Adanikin
E: ad8665@coventry.ac.uk



Welcome:

Dear Postgraduate Researcher,

I would like to welcome you to the Centre for Healthcare and Communities (CHC). Choosing to do your MRes or PhD with us is a decision well made, as you join a community of friendly and accomplished clinical researchers and healthcare scientists of international repute. We very much look forward to supporting your personal research development and area of work.

As a team our aspiration is to foster a research culture that is supportive, motivating, and progressive and we will work in collaboration with you and others to achieve this. We value each other's experience, learn from one another, and strive for excellence in our work. We are known for producing original research evidence, and unflinchingly committed to positively impacting the society.

An important element of this is to work in a way which is ethical and fair, as we set about meeting our societal obligations and responsibilities as researchers in health. Thank you for joining the team and bringing your skills, knowledge, and experience with you. We hope you can help us to create a vibrant research centre which makes a difference to our world!

Professor Rosie Kneafsey
Centre Director



Centre Overview:

The Centre for Healthcare and Communities (CHC) sits within the Institute of Health and Wellbeing (IHW) and boasts a multidisciplinary team of clinicians, scientists and researchers. We are focused on researching priority topics in relation to health and social care in both clinical and community settings, as well as population health topics in the UK and globally.

We hold a vibrant collection of expertise in, nursing and midwifery, allied health, nutrition and dietetics, acute and critical care, physiotherapy, public health and epidemiology, medical statistics, health service research, workforce planning, health technology assessment, gender-related issues, mental health, and behavioural and implementation science. Our niche is using rigorous and robust research methodologies (including co-designing) and innovative technologies, to provide new, quality, and translational evidence to improve the service user's experience and outcomes.

Through avenues for capacity building and leadership development, research partnerships, education, innovation and enterprise, we work with the NHS, other universities, charities, and partners to create links between research and practice to make a difference to service user experiences at local, national and global levels.

Some of our research team members hold joint appointments via the Centre for Care Excellence for Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Health (CfCE), a unique partnership arrangement with the University Hospitals Coventry & Warwickshire NHS Trust (UHCW), and have been a crucial catalyst for change and improvement.

Our research teams are grouped into the following themes:

- Workforce, wellbeing and mental health
- Abuse and trauma
- Public health, inequalities and behavioural science
- Maternal and child health
- Care and rehabilitation

- Life-course epidemiology

Additionally, we work closely with the Centre for Intelligent Healthcare (CIH), the Centre for Physical Activity, Sport and Exercise Sciences (CPASES) and the Centre for Health and Life Sciences (CHLS) within the Institute for Health and Wellbeing.

Facilities:

CHC staff and PGRs are based largely at the 4th floor of Richard Crossman (RC) Building. The RC building is spacious, with light and airy atmosphere. It has many rooms suitable for desk research work, meetings, presentations, seminars and research discussions with stakeholders, collaborators, or partners.

The modern open space allows for relaxation and networking with other researchers. The 4th floor has two kitchens and ample space to store your lunch in the fridge, and there are facilities for making hot drinks and heating food.

Key Academic Staff Members:

Professor Deborah Lycett, *Institute Director for Health and Wellbeing*

Professor Rosie Kneafsey, *Centre Director (CHC)*

Professor Jenny Gamble ^a

Professor Ala Szczepura

Professor Petra Wark

Professor Lorna O'Doherty

Professor Amanda Adegboye

Dr Om Kurmi

Dr David McWilliams ^a

Dr Liz Lees Deutsch ^a

Dr Emma Murphy ^a

Dr Christine Grant ^b Dr Gemma Pearce

Dr Abiodun Adanikin ^b

Dr Sally Pezaro

Dr Maxine Whelan

Dr Ksenija Maravic de Silva

Dr Agnieszka Lewko

Dr Sally Abbott

Emeritus Professor Jane Coad

^a Holds joint appointment with the CfCE; ^b PGR co-leads



Themes:

Research Methods and Evaluation Unit

Led by Petra Wark

Workforce, Wellbeing and Mental Health

Led by Christine Grant

Abuse and Trauma

Led by Lorna Doherty

Public Health, Inequalities and Behavioural Science

Led by Deborah Lycett

Maternal and Child Health

Led by Jenny Gamble

Care and Rehabilitation

Led by Gordon McGregor

Life-Course Epidemiology

Led by Om Kurmi

Student Allowances:

In most cases this is the standardised approach for the centre, however, there can be exceptions (e.g., due to PhDs being funded via industry). The research student allowance (RSA) is designed to offer additional financial support to PGRs to fund their development as a researcher or to disseminate their research.

PGRs enrolled on a full-time Coventry University doctoral degree can claim a minimum **£875** for certain research-related activities or equipment. The RSA is available to all PGRs but will be pro-rata for those on shorter programme such as Master's by Research (MRes) or PhD by Publication (short route).

PGRs will need to discuss how they plan to use their RSA with their Director of Studies (DoS) and obtain the DoS approval in writing (email). RSA can be used

for research-related travel and accommodation costs, conference tickets, specialist workshops and the purchase of resources essential for your research (e.g., software, books or technical hardware, transcription services or vouchers for research participants). This list is not exhaustive; however, purchasing laptops, mobile phones, tablets, or any other items which PGRs would reasonably be expected to either provide themselves are not covered.

The RSA is a fixed sum and is available to use at any point in the academic year and at any time during a PGR's research degree until completion of study or the fund has been fully spent (whichever is earlier). Once you have the DoS approval, please forward the email along with invoices/receipts of purchase to the Operations Team, who will facilitate the PGR's claim and ensure the payment is made swiftly.

In addition, please note that PGRs are also entitled to request up to £300 to attend one conference at which they have had a paper accepted as principal author after two years (FT) or four years (PT) of registration.

All general enquiries relating to this procedure should be sent to either your Director of Studies or the Operations team via: ihw.admin@coventry.ac.uk.

Opportunities:

The CHC has several industry, government, charity, and health trust collaborations in place. We work on a range of activities from Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTPs) to research projects and consultancies (within the UK and internationally), which we will encourage PGRs to engage with during their studies.

The Centre is committed to providing a creative, supportive, and innovative research environment for our students, encouraging personal development, stakeholder engagement and collaboration with our own internal experts.

All general enquiries should be sent to the:

Institute of Health & Wellbeing Operations Team,
Centre for Healthcare and Communities,
Coventry University
Richard Crossman Building
Jordan Well

Coventry
CV1 5RW

T: +44 (0) 24 7765 9121

E: ihw.admin@coventry.ac.uk

W: <https://www.coventry.ac.uk/research/areas-of-research/healthcare-research/>

Staff Contact List:

Doctoral College

Kingfisher Room, first floor of Elm Bank, Mill Lane, Coventry CV1 2LQ

PGR Lifecycle Team

E: pgrlifecycle@coventry.ac.uk

Recruitment and Admissions Team

E: research.admissions@coventry.ac.uk

Research Capability and Development (ReCap) Team

E: RECAP@coventry.ac.uk

Collaborative Team

E: collaborative.phd@coventry.ac.uk

Research Operations Team

Karen Edwards

Operations Manager

E: karen.edwards@coventry.ac.uk

Abbie Cox

Operations Support Manager

E: abbie.cox@coventry.ac.uk

Lauren Wilson

Operations Officer

E: lauren.wilson@coventry.ac.uk

Anna Lloyd and Jayde Stafford

Operations Administrators

E: ihw.admin@coventry.ac.uk

Project Delivery Support Team

Joanne Lloyd

Research Delivery Support Partner

E: j.lloyd@coventry.ac.uk