

Update from NRS Reproductive Health and Childbirth Specialty Group

October 2022

Deer rutting in the Scottish Highlands



GOOD NEWS STORIES

Scientists awarded £1 million to help women make childbirth choices

Researchers from the University of Aberdeen have been awarded almost £1 million to fund research looking into how pregnant women can be supported to plan their birth.

The National Institute of Health and Care Research (NIHR) awarded more than £973,000 to the collaborative team made up of scientists, clinicians, members of the public and those with lived experience of childbirth from across the UK and Ireland.



Over the next two and a half years, the group led by **Dr Mairead Black**, University of Aberdeen, will develop an aid that can be used to guide discussion between pregnant women and health professionals during antenatal appointments.

Ultimately the goal is to develop a decision aid that will help pregnant women make an informed choice between vaginal or caesarean birth.

See Full Press release [here](#) and further information in the NIHR article [New trial launched to help women make childbirth choices | NIHR](#)



NIHR | National Institute for
Health and Care Research

STUDY RECENTLY OPENED IN SCOTLAND

STOP-OHSS



Shaping and Trialling Outpatient Protocols for Ovarian HyperStimulation Syndrome:

A randomised controlled trial to assess the clinical and cost-effectiveness of active management of Ovarian HyperStimulation Syndrome (OHSS). CPMS ID 51579, IRAS 298619.

This NIHR trial led by researchers in Sheffield (CI: Mr Mostafa Metwally) is now open to recruitment at NHS and private fertility units throughout the England and Scotland. The study aims to establish the clinical and cost-effectiveness, safety, and acceptability of outpatient paracentesis as an active management for women with moderate or severe OHSS. This is a multi-centre adaptive Randomised Control Trial (RCT) with both an internal pilot and an embedded qualitative study to assess the feasibility of conducting an RCT in this area.

In Scotland NHS Grampian is participating.

If you would like to find out more about this study please get in touch with a member of the team via the trial website at <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/scharr/research/centres/ctru/stop-ohss> or k.ridsdale@sheffield.ac.uk

Please keep sending your good news stories, queries, etc, to:

Abha (abha.maheshwari@abdn.ac.uk), NRS Clinical Research Lead, or

Txaro (maria.amezaga@nhs.scot), NRS Champion Support Manager



NHS Research Scotland (NRS) Career Research Fellowship Scheme



The next round of the NRS Career Research Fellowships is now open for applications.

Closing date Wednesday 30th November 2022.

The aim of this scheme is to support General Practitioners and NHS-funded clinical staff in developing a research career within their post. The award provides funding for protected time to contribute to, conduct and lead clinical research to strengthen the research culture in the NHS.

For more information, guidance and application forms please visit [NRS Career Researcher Fellowships – Chief Scientist Office \(scot.nhs.uk\)](#).

If anyone wishes to apply please contact us (abha.maheshwari@abdn.ac.uk, or maria.amezaga@nhs.scot) as soon as possible so we can put you in touch with previous successful applicants, who are more than willing to give tips for success, guide through application and do mock interviews.

We have had number of successful applicants in past from our Speciality. It will be good to have one every year!



National Research Network Clinical Lead Appointment for Reproductive Health and Childbirth



The Chief Scientist Office (CSO) is looking to appoint the National Research Network Clinical Lead for Reproductive Health and Childbirth. The remit of this role is to support the effective delivery of research projects in the corresponding topic area in the NRS Research Scotland (NRS) portfolio, including increasing the numbers of patients enrolled into trials. A key aspect of the role will be to work with CSO and NHS Research Scotland Central Management to ensure the resilience and growth of the NRS portfolio.

For this role the post holder will be an established clinician resident and working in Scotland, and must be able to demonstrate a proven track record in clinical or wider health research activity within the relevant topic area.

Applications, comprising a succinct CV (3-page maximum) and cover letter should be submitted to David Hood (david.hood@gov.scot) by the closing date 5pm on Friday 18th November 2022.

Interviews will be held remotely during November/ December 2022. Please contact Alan McNair (Alan.McNair@gov.scot) if you would like to discuss further prior to application.

For full details of the application and job description please follow this [link](#).



Reproductive Health and Childbirth Active Studies

For an update of Active Studies in Scotland per Health Board, Non-commercial (Eligible/Extended review) and Commercial, please follow this [link](#).



Information about Eligibility for NRS support [here](#).

In the NRS RH&C webpage, [Reproductive Health and Childbirth | NHS Research Scotland | NHS Research Scotland](#), Portfolio studies are highlighted in the [Study Portfolio section](#). RH&C Newsletters can be found [here](#).

For information about studies in the RH&C portfolio please contact Abha (abha.maheshwari@abdn.ac.uk) or Txaro (maria.amezaga@nhs.scot)