

## Update from NRS Reproductive Health and Childbirth Specialty Group December 2020



### Message from the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC)

**Workshop to explore the barriers and enablers in making sure that women's lived experience and health and care needs are addressed in research.**

DHSC are putting together a workshop to explore the barriers and enablers in making sure that women's lived experience and health and care needs are addressed in research. They will be specifically focusing on two aspects of the research journey: the setting of research priorities and the dissemination and engagement of research findings.

Within this workshop they hope to gain actionable insights (positive and negative) to take forward with health research funders (in a follow up workshop) to enrich the representation of women and women's health in research and to hopefully improve women's health and care experiences. At present the workshop is likely to be held at the end of January, virtually.

We are looking for researcher participants who can represent women involved covering a range of women's health topics – not just maternity or gynaecological topics.

If you are interested please contact [Amelia.Walker@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:Amelia.Walker@dhsc.gov.uk) and [Rebecca.Black@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:Rebecca.Black@dhsc.gov.uk) and they will send you an invitation in due course.

### "You and Your Baby" Survey 2020

This survey run by the Nuffield Department of Population Health, University of Oxford is open until the end of January 2021. '[You and your baby survey](#)'



The aim of the survey is to find out about mums and babies, their health and wellbeing, and the care they have received during the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic. The survey will assess how maternity services were affected by the coronavirus pandemic. The research team is hoping as many eligible women who gave birth between March and August will take part. This survey is funded by the NIHR Policy Research Programme. Further details: <https://www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/maternity-surveys>

### STUDY LOOKING FOR NEW SITES

Sheffield Teaching Hospitals are looking for sites to take part in a Randomised Controlled Trial to determine the clinical and cost-effectiveness of hysteroscopic removal of submucosal fibroids and endometrial polyps, in women presenting with infertility and recurrent pregnancy loss.

The study will recruit 560 patients with fibroids and 560 patients with polyps over a 2.5 year period, aiming to start in April 2021. This trial is funded by the NIHR HTA and research activity costs will be funded from the grant.

To register interest or for more information please contact:

Kirsty McKendrick ([Kirsty.mckendrick@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:Kirsty.mckendrick@sheffield.ac.uk)) or Clare Pye ([clare.pye1@nhs.net](mailto:clare.pye1@nhs.net)).



Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and  
a very Happy New Year 2021!



Abha and Txaro

## GOOD NEWS STORIES



### RCOG ANNUAL ACADEMIC AWARD 2020

**Congratulations** to Professor Hilary Critchley who has been selected to be the winner of the “RCOG Annual Academic Award” for 2020. This prize has been awarded by the RCOG in recognition of her distinguished service to academic obstetrics and gynaecology, in particular her outstanding contributions to scientific discovery, pre-clinical and clinical research, academic education and training. Hilary will be presented with her award at the RCOG Annual Academic Meeting on 25-26 February 2021 where she will also be giving a lecture about her lifetime work.

## ENDOMETRIOSIS RESEARCH FUNDING

### DIAMOND trial

Professor Kevin Cooper, NHS Grampian, supported by a research team from Aberdeen Health Service Research Unit, has been successful in securing funding of £1.5 M from the National Institute of Health Research, NIHR HTA, to undertake a multicentre randomised trial comparing surgical versus medical treatment for women suffering from deep endometriosis. Start date is January 2021, with recruitment starting in the summer of 2021, COVID-19 dependent.



### ‘FEMaLe- Finding Endometriosis using Machine Learning’

Dr Lucky Saraswat, NHS Grampian, has been awarded £363K from the European Commission’s Horizon 2020 scheme. This project forms part of an EU consortium led by Aarhus University, Denmark. The network has been awarded ~6 million Euros in total. The project will use the Scalable Multi-Omics Platform (SMOP) that converts multi-omics person population datasets into a personalised predictive model to improve intervention along the continuum of care for people with endometriosis.



## LOCI Trial. 1<sup>st</sup> PATIENT RANDOMISED IN SCOTLAND



Letrozole Or Clomifene for Ovulation Induction. CPMS 42795. IRAS 257918.  
CI: Professor Arri Coomarasamy, Univ. of Birmingham. Funder: NIHR.

**Aberdeen Fertility Centre randomised the First Patient in Scotland.**

Please send us your good new stories and feedback:

Abha ([abha.maheshwari@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:abha.maheshwari@abdn.ac.uk)) or Txaro ([maria.amezaga@nhs.scot](mailto:maria.amezaga@nhs.scot))