

BRUNEL PARTNERS ACADEMIC CENTRE FOR HEALTH SCIENCES Q3 PROGRESS REPORT

Paper Title:	BPACHS Quarterly Report – Q3 2021
Paper Summary:	Directors report on progress for Jul-Oct 2021

Progress over last period

This status report updates on activities across the partnership with the following progress made:

Strategy and Governance update

- I. New governance structure agreed, to include monthly Leadership Group meetings, quarterly Executive Steering Group, and annual Partnership Board
- II. Budget reviewed for 2022/23 and new proposal to be discussed at next steering group on 23/11
- III. Delivery plan updated following feedback from all partners, to be submitted for agreement at the next steering group on 23/11

Recruitment

- I. JD developed for Innovation post. 2 days per week to start.
- II. GH announced his retirement with effect from end March 2022. Development of JD for replacement under discussion.

Workstream - Workforce

- I. Workforce planning
 - a) Apprenticeships – Students identified and commenced on Nursing Associate (NA) programme in October. NA apprenticeship business case agreed with THH for March start and interviews in progress.
 - b) Project underway to look at whether Brunel can be more agile to support demand led apprenticeships to meet partner’s needs. Draft document developed.
 - c) Widening participation – Ongoing programme of developing Harrow and Uxbridge College students for employment in NHS organisations. Functional skills training being offered to THH and Chelsea and Westminster staff. Digital and IT skills training taken up by HHCP staff.
 - d) Proposal was presented to the Hillingdon Workforce Steering Group enabling HHCP organisations to align the core mandatory training across all organisations.
 - e) Development of potential joint academic / clinical post in Neurology between BUL and THH
- II. Training and Development
 - a) Delivered mindfulness seminar in June, and based on positive feedback, a repeat event was planned for November. There is a further waiting list for this of >50 people.

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- b) Upper limb rehabilitation seminar delivered in September. Successful participation of 40 individuals, with strongly positive feedback. Interest expressed in a follow-up event in 2022.
- c) Public health event planned for October, but cancelled by HHCP due to constraints in releasing staff due to COVID pressures. Event to take place on a virtual basis in November.
- III. Workforce gaps - Nursing degree oversubscribed for September commencement.
- IV. Patient and Student Placement Backlogs – Innovative approach developed for providing clinical services staffed by University students and Clinical NHS Staff, utilising Brunel estate capacity over the summer. Successful project delivered. Recognition and discussion of the model at London wide AHP leadership groups and within HEE.
- V. MBA scholarships – Three new students commenced in September. One further student initially deferred to a January start, and then has dropped out due to personal circumstances. A replacement is being sought.

Workstream – Research

- I. 3 triad projects underway with RBHT (student/clinician/academic)
 - a) Evaluation of physiotherapy intervention for patients referred for breathing pattern disorder
 - b) Evaluation of physiotherapy services for Systematic Assessment of Asthma
 - c) Evaluation of effects of Kaftrio on treatment outcomes in people with CF
- I. CELEB Trial - RCT comparing endobronchial valves to lung volume reduction surgery. Working with Prof Pallav Shah and Prof Nick Hopkinson. Patients recruited from RBHT - writing up for publication.
- II. Eden-Ox - randomised crossover Trial comparing nitrate rich beetroot juice to placebo in hypoxemic COPD patients - colleague working on revisions for publication in Thorax.
- III. Oxehealth studies - a) Ward based data collection of remote monitoring tech to record vital signs. Paper in draft (with Oxehealth atm). This work is to be presented as a platform presentation at VPUK in November. Patients recruited at RBHT b) Systematic review of non-contact monitoring of sleep (with Oxehealth atm). Prof Mike Polkey at RBHT also on paper.
- IV. WHAM - RCT singing and home exercises vs home exercises only for chronic respiratory disease patients after completing pulmonary rehabilitation. Plan to recruit patients at RBHT with good throughput expected there. Research Physio Post to interview on Monday, eventual person will sit in Dr Will Mans (Harefield) Team.
- V. BRIEF - music therapist led vs physiotherapist led breathing exercises in Breathing Pattern Disorder RCT - Lizzie Grillo is a clinical specialist physio from RBHT who will provide the physiotherapy intervention on the trial.
- VI. Research placement at RBHT during the Summer now being written up into paper for publication.
- VII. Funded research projects ongoing with seconded trust staff (1 from THH, 1 from CNWL) working as research assistants on the projects. Notable these staff also continue to work at least one day a

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week in their NHS role and so sharing of knowledge and learning is bringing mutual benefits to partners.

- VIII. Innovation fund grant (funded by Research Support and Development Office, Brunel) achieved for collaborative Brunel / CNWL project (VR SWELL).
- IX. CNWL staff member has applied for a £10k a starter grant (a CNWL only specific grant) following direct encouragement and support from CK.
- X. Confirmation of monthly Research Network Group to be started in January 2022, to be jointly hosted by Prof Simon Conroy (CNWL) and CK (BPACHS).
- XI. CK Engaged Prof Simon Conroy (CNWL/UCL) onto a trial steering committee looking at Frailty and physical exercise. This is a funded project that also has a seconded physiotherapist from CNWL working as a Research Assistant 3/days a week.
- XII. Met/engaged with therapists from THH regarding early research ideas to develop into pre-reg MSc physio projects. N=4 projects planned for THH.
- XIII. 56 staff from THH participated in AHP National Survey circulated by CK in conjunction with THH R&D dept.
- XIV. CK supporting work on a potential grant application between Brunel and CNWL (CAST unit).
- XV. CPD opportunity shared with partners to join CSP scientific panel – CK currently supporting 4 applicants from RBHT.
- XVI. CNWL paediatric service to be a participant identification centre (PIC) for Oxford/Brunel study. Site initiation visit held and approvals being processed via R&D channels.
- XVII. CK Undertaking PPI with final year physio students at Brunel to inform service planning and improvement for CNWL.
- XVIII. Joint THH/Brunel presentation to the Patient Engagement Forum at THH related to service improvement project (at Daniels Rehab unit – DRU). This was then presented by THH at the National Neurological Conference.

Workstream – Digital and Innovation

- I. Design4Health projects have been progressing with some in the final stages now.
 - a) The Pharmacy Trolley project for the RBHT is now in the final production stage with a planned delivery of Dec 21.
 - b) Peter Griffen, a design student who developed a foot rest for patients with oedema in collaboration with RBHT has been awarded a Young Innovator award. This will contribute to the cost of making a fully working prototype that will be evaluated in the hospital from December.
 - c) Three new intra-disciplinary projects commenced for 2021-22 academic year.

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- II. Innovation links
 - a) BPACHS represented on Digital Innovation Group at CNWL.
 - b) Two academics engaged with the Digital Development group for the new hospital at THH.
 - c) Modelling project underway for outpatients in the THH new hospital build.
 - d) Research bid developed with Brunel Digital Futures institute and NHS partners (THH) and further bid in development.

Membership Update

- I. Productive discussions with Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Trust undertaken. Further discussions to take place after commencement of their new Director of Nursing in January.
- II. Initial discussions with London North West University Healthcare NHS Trust undertaken. For further follow-up in next period.