

PD Research Workshop

- How do Research Ideas change Clinical Practice?
 - Presentations on pathway
 - Group discussions
 - Brain storm for research questions
 - Priority areas for patients and carers

Dr Camille Carroll

- Research Question
- Grant Application

Prof. Carl Clarke

- Running a Trial
- Changes in Clinical Practice



Trial Design: from Research Question to Submitted Grant Application

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Movicol Trial

- Question arose from patient experience:
 - Constipation is not well treated in PD
 - Wouldn't it be better to treat with Movicol first rather than leaving it till other treatments fail?
- No evidence that Movicol is more effective in PD



- Discussion between PD nurses at DeNDRoN conference
 - We should do our own trial

 - Draft proposal
 - Enlisted help of
 - RDS (Research Design Service)
 - Experienced Trial Manager



RDS

- Exists to provide help for people preparing research proposals for submission to peer-reviewed funding competitions for applied health or social care research
- Such help is provided **free of charge**
- Priority will be given to NHS researchers applying to the NIHR Research for Patient Benefit (RfPB) funding scheme.

<http://www.rds-sw.nihr.ac.uk/>

Residential Research School, Brittany 20 - 26th April 2010

- Protected time dedicated to the development of research projects away from the distractions and demands of clinical practice
- The experience of working as part of a professional research team
- Their skills in writing research proposals honed and polished
- "Hands-on" experience of the methodological, technical, and practical issues in planning and conducting research



Project Design

- Outcome measures
 - Primary
 - Secondary
- Trial design – placebo controlled, crossover
- Sample size
- Inclusion and exclusion criteria
- How are patients going to be recruited
- Study Schedule – how many visits; what happens at each one
- Trial duration



Money

- Clinician
 - Help raise profile of study
 - Decide where to send application and target appropriately
- Sources of funding
 - Charities
 - PDS
 - National funding streams
 - NIHR
 - MRC
- PDS Innovation Grant



PDS Grant

- One centre pilot
- 30 patients
- Curtailed costs
 - £14,844
- Unsuccessful



RfPB

- National response-mode funding programme supports high quality, investigator led research that is relevant to the NHS
- Funds research related to day-to-day practice in areas identified and developed by health service staff
- Enlisted further help of RDS



- Formal meetings
 - Agendas and minutes
- Other team members
 - RDS staff
 - Statistician
 - Economist
 - Patient and carer representatives
 - Clinical collaborators
- As well as
 - Lead clinician
 - PD Specialist nurse
 - Clinical Trials manager



- Refined the protocol
- Shared responsibility for drafting sections of application

- Costings
 - Salaries
 - Clinical Lead at each site
 - Trial nurse
 - Project Co-ordinator
 - Trial manager
 - Statistician
 - Health economist
 - Qualitative researcher
 - Clinical collaborators (GP)
 - Medications – licensing and dispensing
 - Office consumables
 - Patient transport



- Two-centre Pilot
 - 60 patients
 - £198,280

How to make it happen

1. Choose an important issue
2. Formulate a clear question
3. Gather together a great team
4. Involve the RDS
5. Keep fingers crossed