

USRG Population Health-Exemplar Research Grants 2013/ 2014

	Research Grant Details
Project Title	<i>CLAHRC: Collaborations for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care, Wessex</i>
Name of the Funder	NIHR
Amount of Funding	£9million
Length of the grant	5 years
Description	Researchers from the University of Southampton and University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust, along with the Wessex Academic Health Science Network and other local NHS partners, have formed the NIHR CLAHRC Wessex and are starting work on their ground-breaking projects. They will tackle some of the South's most pressing health problems including: Respiratory care, Aging and Dementia, Fundamental care in hospitals, Public health and primary care, Engagement with self-directed support, Complexity and end of life care. This investment will help make sure patients benefit from innovative new treatments and techniques which could revolutionise future health care. It is hoped the financial boost will also help stimulate the research economy and attract more research funding in the future.
Principal Investigator	Dr Anne Rogers
Team members	Prof Paul Roderick, Dr Julie Parkes, Prof Lucy Yardley, Prof Carl May, Dr Anne Kennedy, Prof Mandy Fader, Prof Mike Thomas, Prof Peter Griffiths, Prof Sally Brailsford, Dr Mike Moore
Project Title	<i>Sustaining groundwater safety in peri-urban areas</i>
Name of the Funder	NERC / DFID
Amount of Funding	£53,317 (to Southampton)
Description	Groundwater2030 (http://www.soton.ac.uk/groundwater2030) is a pilot project that aims to assess how far the poor in Kisumu, Kenya, are exposed to unsafe groundwater, both now and in the future. The initial project phase will involve pilot activities such as limited groundwater quality testing, and an initial feasibility study looking into different future population and land use scenarios and their impact on groundwater quality. In particular, a sample of groundwater sources tested for bacterial and chemical contamination over a decade ago will be resurveyed as part of the study. In this way, the project will develop understanding of the effect of rapid urbanisation on groundwater quality and use.
Length of the grant	12 months (starting September 2013)
Principal investigator	Dr Jim Wright
Team members	Joseph Okotto-Okotto (Victoria Institute for Research on Environment and Development, Kenya), Dr. Lorna Okotto (Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology, Kenya), Dr. Steve Pedley (University of Surrey), Prof. S Gundry (University of Bristol)

Project Title	<i>Enhancing the (cost-) effectiveness of diabetes self-management education: A comparative assessment of different educational approaches and conditions for successful implementation</i>
Name of the Funder	European Union
Amount of Funding	454 684 Euros
Description	The Diabetes Literacy study aims to contribute to building the evidence base to increase the effectiveness of diabetes self-management education in the EU Member States. The objective of the Southampton work-package is to investigate how web-based materials can be made accessible and engaging for people with lower levels of health literacy.
Length of the grant	3 Years
Principal investigator	Professor Lucy Yardley
Team members	Dr Ingrid Muller, Ms Ali Rowsell, Prof Don Nutbeam Prof Paul Little Prof Chris Byrne, Dr Elizabeth Murray
	See project website for more detail: http://www.diabetesliteracy.eu/project
Project Title	<i>Epigenetic processes and the developmental origins of health and disease</i>
Name of the Funder	Medical Research Council. University Unit Partnership Grants
Amount of Funding	£841,392
Description	<p>There is now evidence that developmental influences have lifelong effects on cardiovascular, metabolic and skeletal function and that elements of the familial component of susceptibility to cardiovascular disease, obesity and other non-communicable diseases (NCD), can be transmitted across generations by non-genomic means. Such concepts are fundamental to current lifecourse strategies to the prevention and treatment of NCDs.</p> <p>The portfolio of scientific projects proposed will lead to greater understanding of the molecular mechanisms and pathways underlying relationships between early environment and later phenotype previously observed in epidemiological studies. Analysis of epigenome-wide array data to inform specific candidate site approaches, together with the expertise and skills necessary to pursue functional validation of these systems at the molecular level, should ensure a comprehensive investigation of the structure and regulation such processes. Greater understanding of the mechanisms underpinning the early life environmental influences will help inform the development of potential early biomarkers of late adverse health and of novel interventions in early life aimed at optimising development through childhood towards improved health in older age.</p>
Length of the grant	April 2013 – 31 March 2018
Principal investigator	Prof C Cooper
Team members	Prof Avan Aihie Sayer, Dr Sheila Barton, Dr Graham Burdge, Prof Philip Calder, Prof Caroline Fall, Prof Keith Godfrey, Prof Mark Hanson, Dr Nicholas Harvey, Dr

	Joanna Holbrook, Dr Karen Lillycrop, Prof Richard Oreffo, Dr Graham Roberts, Prof Jonathan Tobias, (Bristol) Dr Chittaranjan Yajnik (KEM Hospital, Pune, India)
Project Title	<i>Achieving sustainable health behaviour change in adolescents</i>
Name of the Funder	BUPA (formerly The BUPA Foundation)
Amount of Funding	£307,165
Description	Educational attainment is strongly linked to the quality of diets and other health behaviours of adolescents and young people, profoundly affecting not only their health but that of the next generation. However, purely school-based health promotion programmes have only achieved modest effects, which are often not sustained. In Southampton and Auckland, we developed a novel approach building on educational research showing importance of context-specific, interactive learning. It integrates contextual learning resources for schools with hands-on experiences at a university/hospital lab. Students learn about the science underpinning NCD risks by conducting authentic practical investigations, meeting scientists and engaging with scientific research. Curriculum-linked teaching and learning resources designed jointly by science educators, researchers and clinicians, are contextualised in on-going research enabling students to explore scientific data, re-imaged for 11-14 year olds. Associated teacher professional development explores pedagogical and scientific thinking to support engagement. Our preliminary studies show improved attitudes and behaviour in school students, and evidence that they are acting as agents of health-related change within their families. We now need to show that attitude and behaviour improvements are sustained over a longer period, and this is the aim of this application. Such demonstration of efficacy is necessary before use of this approach more widely, using interactive e-learning and school-science partnerships.
Length of the grant	2012-2015
Principal investigator	Prof M Hanson
Team members	Hanson M, Inskip H, Grace M, Barker M, Godfrey K, Griffiths J, Bay J, Mora H, Gluckman P, Woods-Townsend K, Morton S
Project Title	<i>UBhave: ubiquitous and social computing for positive behaviour change</i>
Name of the Funder	EPSRC
Amount of Funding	£1,463,061
Length of the grant	2011-2015
Description	UBhave is a project that received funding of £1.5 million from EPSRC to promote cross-disciplinary research. Our aim is to investigate the power and challenges of using mobile phones and social networking for Digital Behaviour Change Interventions (DBCIs), and to contribute to creating a scientific foundation for digitally supported behaviour change.
Principal Investigator	Prof Lucy Yardley
Team members	Mark Weal (ECS), Peter Smith (SR3I), Cecilia Mascolo and Jason Rentfrow (Cambridge), Mirco Musolesi (Birmingham), Susan Michie (UCL, Dave de Roure (Oxford).

Project Title	<i>A longitudinal study to explore the impact of pre-service teacher health training on early career teachers' roles as health promoters.</i>
Name of the Funder	Leverhulme Trust
Amount of Funding	£56,630
Length of the grant	18 months from 2014
Description	This project explores the impact of an innovative health education programme during pre-service teacher training at University of Southampton. An online questionnaire will be sent to three consecutive cohorts of pre-service, newly qualified and early career teachers and one year later to assess their attitudes, confidence and competence to teach and promote health and how this changes over time. Semi-structured interviews will be used in a purposive sample from each cohort to explore factors that influence their role in actively engaging as health promoters. Findings will be used to assess the feasibility, and guide the design of a controlled longitudinal study.
Principal Investigator	Dr Jenny Byrne
Team members	Sue Dewhirst, Dr Karen Pickett, Dr Jonathan Shepherd, Dr Viv Speller, Dr Marcus Grace, Prof Paul Roderick