

Newsflash

Your regular update
from the research
and development team



September 2024

Team updates

Welcome to Sarah

My name is Sarah Burn and I am seconded to the research and development (R&D) until end of April 2025 to manage the Mental Health Research Development Award project which is a project to review mental health services across Calderdale, Kirklees and Wakefield.



I have a wealth of research experience as I worked in Covance Laboratories (now LabCorp) as a programme manager overseeing portfolios of scientific research, early phase drug development studies.

I joined the NHS for the first time at South West Yorkshire NHS Foundation Trust in April 2018 following a career break after having my son who was born with Downs Syndrome and later received an Autism and ADHD diagnosis.

I have worked in children's secure mental health services as an admin manager as well as implementing and improving mental health pathways, Wakefield child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS) eating disorders team implementing the avoidant restrictive food intake disorder (ARFID) pathway and learning and development coordination and centre manager.

I am really excited to be back in research and development and excited for the growth of the Trust's R&D team and future expansions.

Spotlight on our research studies

EDGI: eating disorders genetics initiative

Recruitment for this study has been extended until 1 November. The study will help us to understand genetic and environmental risk factors for eating disorders. Individuals with anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, binge eating disorder or any other eating disorder are invited to take part. If you know anyone who would like to take part in this important study (aged over 16), please contact us for further information.



RECOLLECT 2



RECOLLECT 2 is a five-year programme of work to better understand Recovery Colleges in England. Over the last decade, Recovery Colleges have rapidly expanded. We want to explore how Recovery Colleges might benefit those that use them. The RECOLLECT 2 research team are made up of researchers from Kings College London, The University of Nottingham and The University of Manchester. The study invites both staff and students that have used the Recovery Colleges to participate in the study. If you would like further information please email – nirmala.ragbir-day@swyt.nhs.uk

Training and education opportunities

The National Institute of Health Research (NIHR) Application Development Award for health and care professionals opened on 29 February and closes on 26 September, so be quick if you would like to apply. They are looking for 10 application development awards (ADA) to carry out development work prior to research applications with a requirement for applicant teams to involve health and care professionals (HCP). If you are interested, more details can be found at: [24/20 NIHR Application Development Award for Health and Care Professionals | NIHR](#)

Community engagement

R&D manned a stand recently at The White Rose shopping centre to promote some of our studies, which proved fruitful in gaining recruits for some of our studies. We have other community events coming up over the next few weeks and will update you next month.

Spotlight of the month

Research study supports Abi into recovery

In July 2022 Abi Burton was admitted to Nostell ward in Wakefield after suddenly becoming unwell. A number of routine investigations were carried out, and none of them showed any abnormalities.

Abi's dad was approached by our research team about taking part in the PPIp2 study. This study aims to see how many people with psychosis may have a specific problem with their immune system.

Abi's test result was positive for two autoantibodies. Abi was transferred to Pinderfields hospital, where a diagnosis of encephalitis was confirmed. She spent a number of weeks in hospital receiving intense treatment before gradually starting to make a recovery.

Two years on and Abi has made a complete recovery and represented Great Britain at this year's Olympics in the rugby sevens. Abi's dad now seeks to highlight how important the clinical roles of research are, especially in being able to identify the early signs of a possible encephalitis.

Sign up for our newsletter, email

research@swyt.nhs.uk