

## NRS Reproductive Health and Childbirth

### Specialty Group Newsletter

June 2024/ An t-Òg-mhìos 2024

The red admiral (*Vanessa atalanta*), migrates early in the year northward from North Africa and continental Europe to arrive in spring to all parts of Scotland, common in gardens and a wide variety of habitats



**A UK general election will take place on 4 July 2024. Communications during the pre-election period will be limited. NRS RH&C newsletter will continue to provide a factual round-up of published updates that are beneficial for the Specialty awareness**

### GOOD NEWS STORIES

#### The results of the Pre-Empt trial have been recently published in the BMJ:

Long acting progestogens versus combined oral contraceptive pill for preventing recurrence of endometriosis related pain: the PRE-EMPT pragmatic, parallel group, open label, randomised controlled trial | The BMJ



Professor Kevin Cooper

BMJ 2024; 385 doi: <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj-2023-079006> (Published 15 May 2024)

The PRE-EMPT Trial: Preventing REcurrence of Endometriosis by MEans of long acting Progestogen Therapy, was led by Professor Kevin Cooper, NHS Grampian.

Funded by the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR).

Participating sites in Scotland included NHS Ayrshire & Arran, Forth Valley, Grampian, and Lothian. In the UK, overall 37 study sites recruited to the study.

The results of this trial show that a policy of prescribing a long acting progestogen (LAP) or the combined oral contraceptive pill (COCP) is equally effective in reducing pain three years after endometriosis surgery, and reinforce current guidance recommending routine postsurgical hormonal treatment in this context. Women undergoing laparoscopic surgery can be informed that either class of hormonal drug reduces pain over a three year period and that LAPs could lower the risk of further surgery. Healthcare providers can note that prescribing LAPs reduces the need for further second line treatments.

#### NIHR Associate PI Scheme - UK Update

Please see UK-wide update on the performance of the RH&C National Specialty Group (data cut 17/04/2024) in interactive Infogram at this [link](#).

If the link is blocked in your Health Board, please see data as PDF [here](#).



#### NIHR Associate PI Scheme - Scotland Update

For an update on the RH&C Studies in Scotland registered to the Associate PI Scheme, which have Trainees On-Tenure or have Completed the Scheme (data cut 14/06/2024), please click [here](#).

#### NIHR Research Learning Lecture series - Register via Eventbrite [here](#).

The [NIHR Associate Principal Investigator \(PI\) Scheme](#) is continuing to host the Research Learning Lectures; a series of lectures for anyone in Health and Social Care interested in learning more about research.

Upcoming: 'Drug development and early phase trials'. 27 June 2024, 1:00am-2:00pm.

More lectures coming after the summer. For further details please contact: [associatepisceme@nihr.ac.uk](mailto:associatepisceme@nihr.ac.uk)



## NHS Research Scotland Reproductive Health and Childbirth Event 2024

Date: 04/10/2024 to 05/10/2024 Venue: ONE BioHub, Aberdeen

The NRS Reproductive Health and Childbirth Event will take place at the ONE BioHub, Aberdeen as part of the 2024 NHS Grampian Research Conference, 4 and 5 October

The Grampian conference will be an in-person event over two days, including dinner on Friday evening. The overarching theme of the meeting will be "Mind the Gap"; from idea to getting evidence, how can we reduce long gaps?

For further information, please contact [gram.conf24@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.conf24@nhs.scot).

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### Programme Grants for Applied Research (PGfAR) Scotland Outreach Events

In the autumn of 2023, the [NIHR opened available funding to health and social care researchers in Scotland](#).

The [Programme Grants for Applied Research \(PGfAR\)](#) and [Programme Development Grants \(PDG\)](#) funding schemes are excited to welcome applications from Scotland. See full communication [here](#).

In order to share this new opportunity with researchers we are running a webinar on the **24th June 2024 at 11:00-13:30** to outline the remit and scope of these funding awards and answer researchers' questions. You are more than welcome to join us and please share the [registration link](#) to those that may be interested too.

We are also hosting two face to face events at the University of Glasgow on the 3rd October 2024 at 10:00-16:00 and the University of Edinburgh on the 4th October 2024 at 10:00-16:00.

The link to register for the University of Glasgow event can be found [here](#) and the University of Edinburgh [here](#) if you could please circulate to those that might be interested.

Please let Sana Bestwn ([sana.bestwn@nihr.ac.uk](mailto:sana.bestwn@nihr.ac.uk)) know if you are interested in attending any of the events and she will send you a calendar invite with all the details.

### Programme Grants for Applied Research (PGfAR) – Competition 45

[NIHR Programme Grants for Applied Research \(PGfAR\)](#) Competition 45 is inviting Stage 1 applications for research proposals to develop individual programmes of applied health research.

### Funding Opportunities Reminder:

**Wellbeing of Women 2024 [Entry Level Scholarships](#) and [Postdoctoral Research Fellowships](#). Deadline: 11 July 2024 at 1pm.** Please visit WoW [website](#) for all their funding opportunities.

For queries please contact [research@wellbeingofwomen.org.uk](mailto:research@wellbeingofwomen.org.uk) or call 020 3697 6346.

## Reproductive Health and Childbirth Studies

Find an update of Active Studies in Scotland per Health Board at this [link](#)

In the NRS RH&C [webpage](#), Portfolio studies are highlighted in the [Study Portfolio section](#)

RH&C Newsletters can be found [here](#).

For information about studies in the RH&C portfolio please contact Abha ([abha.maheshwari@nhs.scot](mailto:abha.maheshwari@nhs.scot)) or Txaro ([maria.amezaga@nhs.scot](mailto:maria.amezaga@nhs.scot))



Your good news stories, queries, feedback, are always welcome:  
Abha ([abha.maheshwari@nhs.scot](mailto:abha.maheshwari@nhs.scot)), NRS Clinical Research Lead, and  
Txaro ([maria.amezaga@nhs.scot](mailto:maria.amezaga@nhs.scot)), NRS Champion Support Manager