

## News from the HSRC



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This update contains important information about research opportunities that are supported by the Health Services Research Centre (HSRC).

### HSRC research fellowships

The HSRC will be seeking applications for the inaugural HSRC research fellowship during early 2011. This will be centred around an evaluation of the impact upon patient safety and clinical outcomes, of reducing junior doctors' working hours as required by the European Working Time Directive (EWTD). The successful candidate will be awarded a one-year full-time fellowship at the National Institute of Academic Anaesthesia (NIAA) Health Services Research Centre, with an on-call commitment to critical care in a London hospital. The fellowship will involve developing skills in the analysis of large clinical databases, knowledge of statistical techniques in observational research, preparation of manuscripts, and presentation at scientific meetings. The opportunity to work towards a higher degree (MD/PhD) will be available for committed candidates. Minimum criteria for application

include success in the Primary FRCA and six months of critical care experience. Candidates will be expected to have some research experience and a familiarity with health services research.

Further details will be available on the HSRC website from 1 February 2011 (including a job description and timetable for applications).

### Systematic reviews in peri-operative care

Professor Andrew Smith (University of Lancaster) has recently been awarded funding to conduct a programme of reviews in the areas of peri-operative safety, quality and productivity, under the UK National Institute of Health Research Cochrane Collaboration Programme Grant Scheme. Several topics have already been chosen, but there remains an opportunity to identify and explore new questions of importance to practising anaesthetists.

The HSRC will be running a call for candidate ideas for this programme. Applications are invited from individuals or from collaborators, who would like to work with Professor Smith's team in producing a Cochrane Systematic Review addressing a novel question. Applications will be subject to peer review, based on the clinical importance of the question, its relevance to NHS priorities, the NIAA research prioritisation exercise, the availability of literature to review, and the existence of related Cochrane reviews. Applications for the first round will be available on the HSRC website from Tuesday, 1 March 2011, and applications will close at midday on Friday, 8 April 2011.

### European Surgical Outcomes Study adopted onto the UKCRN Portfolio

The European Surgical Outcomes Study (EuSOS) has now been adopted by the UK Comprehensive Research Network Portfolio.<sup>1</sup> EuSOS is a multi-centre, international seven-day evaluation of patient care and clinical outcomes, for patients undergoing major general surgery managed in the UK by the HSRC. Recruitment will take place between 9.00 am on 4 April 2011 and 8.59 am on 11 April 2011. More than 50 UK centres have now registered to take part in EuSOS. If you would like to be involved, please contact Morgan Cenani by email at [euosos@rcoa.ac.uk](mailto:euosos@rcoa.ac.uk), or by telephone on 020 7092 1680.

### 2nd UK Perioperative Clinical Research Forum (UKPCRF)

The 2nd UKPCRF will take place at the Nowgen Centre in Manchester on Monday, 28 March 2011. Further details are on the HSRC website.

### Official launch of the HSRC at the RCoA Anniversary Meeting

The official launch of the NIAA Health Services Research Centre will take place at the 63rd Anniversary Meeting of the Royal College of Anaesthetists at 5.00 pm on Wednesday, 16 March 2011 at The Royal Institution of Great Britain. It will be followed by a short drinks reception to which all are welcome.

### Reference

- 1 UK Perioperative Clinical Research Forum, or how to get funding for research within your trust... *RCoA Bulletin* 2011;65:46-47.