

Building Clinical Research Capacity and Capability through Education

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Research and Development Strategy

Research – A Core Activity

2022–2027



Strategic objective 1: developing a sustainable research workforce. Supporting, nurturing and building on research in areas of strength will provide staff with the tools and opportunity to take part in the delivery of research at a local level.

Strategic objective 2: investing in staff and infrastructure will ensure support is in place for the right people to deliver the right research, at the right time, in the right place.

Strategic objective 3: aims to develop a streamlined, efficient and innovative research programme, fully integrated at an operational level. The research programme will support the delivery of our three-year plan by conducting research that aims to address health inequalities and meet the needs of our local population.

The strategy aligns to the "Health and Care Research Wales support and delivery strategic framework", "CRESt: cancer research strategy for Wales" and the "UK 10-year vision for research: Saving and Improving Lives: The future of UK clinical research delivery".

Education

The Specialist Research & Development Team will lead an awareness and education programme for the wider ABUHB workforce to engage, explain and encourage recruitment of patients into existing research plus participation in and development of new research.

Strategic Action 2:

Develop and deliver a training programme for all research active staff and those aspiring to become researchers, including:

International Conference on Harmonization Good Clinical Practice

International Conference on Harmonization Good Clinical Practice (ICH GCP) training is mandatory for anyone involved in clinical research that involves human subjects. It is the international ethical and scientific quality standard for designing, conducting, recording and reporting such trials. ICH-GCP aims to provide a unified standard for the ICH regions to facilitate the mutual acceptance of clinical data by the regulatory authorities in these jurisdictions.

Both the Health Research Authority (HRA) and the Medicines and Health Products Regulation Agency (MHRA) advocate a proportionate approach to the application of GCP to the conduct of research and the appropriate training of staff involved, including those seeking consent from potential participants.

'ABUHB specialist research delivery team members will be trained to facilitate and deliver bespoke, proportionate GCP training for ABUHB staff leading/participating in clinical research activities.'

Research Apprenticeship

Research apprenticeships is to support the integration of clinical research into clinical care by offering opportunities for nurses and Allied Health Professionals to step into clinical research within their chosen specialty, supported by a specialist delivery team member. Through continuing to develop this scheme, clinical capacity will be built in specialist areas, in turn increasing the opportunities for staff to participate in research and embed clinical research into ABUHB clinical care.

The Application of Good Clinical Practice to Training for Researchers (HRA, MHRA, Devolved Administrations, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales) 10 Feb 2020

CPD Events

CPD events are aimed at current and potential researchers. Training is proportionate to the research experience of the participant and aims to provide them with the knowledge and skills required to progress their research careers. That may be at ward level, supporting the specialist research team and local PI, getting involved in a simple evaluation, progressing to PI or taking on the more senior role of CI. Participants will be introduced to the research and development framework, the local infrastructure, available tools and signposted to the most appropriate training opportunities, for example HCRW Clinical Research Time Awards.

- Participation in senior leader education programmes including the Senior Clinician CPD sessions and Physicians Associate CPD sessions.
- Bimonthly Principal Investigator Training programme. Supporting new and established Principal Investigators through taught content and facilitated group learning.
- Bespoke consent training for multi-disciplinary teams new to research. Building quality research capacity through training and development.

Student placements

One of the pillars of university designation is to educate our future workforce. The R&D team regularly provide placements for student nurses, who through training and mentorship are made aware of research as a career pathway. The benefits are that the student will grow to understand what being involved in research means not only to them but also to their patients. Students who do not choose a career in clinical research but go on to work in clinical areas will be able to put their learning into practice working alongside the specialist research team as research is embedded into routine clinical care.

- Active student placement in the Registered Nurse Training Programme - Cardiff University and University of South Wales.
- Opportunities to explore Allied Health Professionals Training programmes - Cardiff University and University of South Wales.
- Working with MSc students.

NIHR Associate Principal Investigator (PI) Scheme

The Associate PI Scheme is a six month in-work training opportunity, providing practical experience for healthcare professionals starting their research career. Staff who would not normally have the opportunity to get involved in clinical research in their day-to-day roles have the chance to experience what it means to work on and deliver an NIHR portfolio trial under the mentorship of an enthusiastic local PI.

- The local research delivery facilitator will raise awareness and provide support for both potential learners and mentors to participate in the NIHR Associate PI scheme.

NIHR Clinical Research Practitioner (CRP) registration programme

The NIHR CRP programme provides the opportunity to develop and upskill non-registered practitioners to perform clinical roles. Wales CRPs registration and accreditation working group (HCRW) research delivery roles that involve direct contact with patients. CRPs are now identified as an occupational group in health and care. Accredited registers of people who work in health and social care. Registration for CRPs was approved by the PSA as part of the Academic Science (AHCS) Accredited Register.

- Participate in the HCRW steering group aimed at developing career

Enhanced skills – specialist delivery team

The Health Boards investment in a new clinical research centre provides research, clinical trials and interventions to be managed on site. The specialist team can perform clinical tests: for example, phlebotomy, spinning and processing samples; treatments; for example, infusion or chemo therapies and also specialist research team enables the Health Board to take full advantage of the facility and opens up opportunities for R&D to offer a wider range of studies, trials and interventions to our patients.

- Developing the specialist delivery team to ensure research nurse competencies in infusion, chemotherapy and pump skills are in place and maintained to deliver II – IV clinical trials.

Develop the research officer role; either within the specialist team or within the NIHR operational teams to take observations, venepuncture and ECGs to support the research team.

The complexity of research activity will determine the level of specialist R&D Team support a directorate will need to run a particular study. The R&D Team maintain oversight of all research activity and will raise the level of support if necessary. The levels of specialist R&D support include:

Strategy

- 1 Low complexity, low risk:**
Directorate operational team with light touch research specialist team.
- 2 Medium complexity, medium to low risk:**
Research specialist team working alongside directorate operational team in tandem.
- 3 Complex research requiring specialist knowledge with low-risk elements** that can be undertaken by directorate operational team: Specialist research team with light touch directorate operational team.
- 4 Highly complex, medium to high risk:**
Specialist Delivery Team supporting PI. Trial run by specialist research team.

Low complexity, low
risk studies

Research Delivery
Specialist Nurse,
Non-supported studies
Offering set up **support,**
coaching, mentoring and
signposting

Poster. Take a look.
Bringing non-supported
studies in from the cold



NIHR Clinical
Research
Practitioner
Registration

- Early adopter
- Member of the HCRW Steering Group
- 1st CRP in Wales
- Working towards becoming a verifier for CRP registrants.



In-house training
programme- whole
team

- Induction, mentoring and competencies
- Clinical Research skills
- Performance
- Governance
- Leadership development

"Entire team provided such an enriching learning experience for me, I would wholeheartedly recommend the team as a placement for future students."

Researchers of the
future

- Student Nurse placement
- MSc long term placement



Specialist Nurse/
Research Officer
PI's

Significant emphasis on Delivery staff taking on the role of PI



Art project

- Staff and public engagement
- Gwent arts Project
- Branding & raising the profile

**Medium complexity,
medium to low risk**

or

**Complex research
requiring specialist
knowledge with low risk
elements**

Apprentiships

Directorate team- research champions-
Proportionate GCP and study based
training.

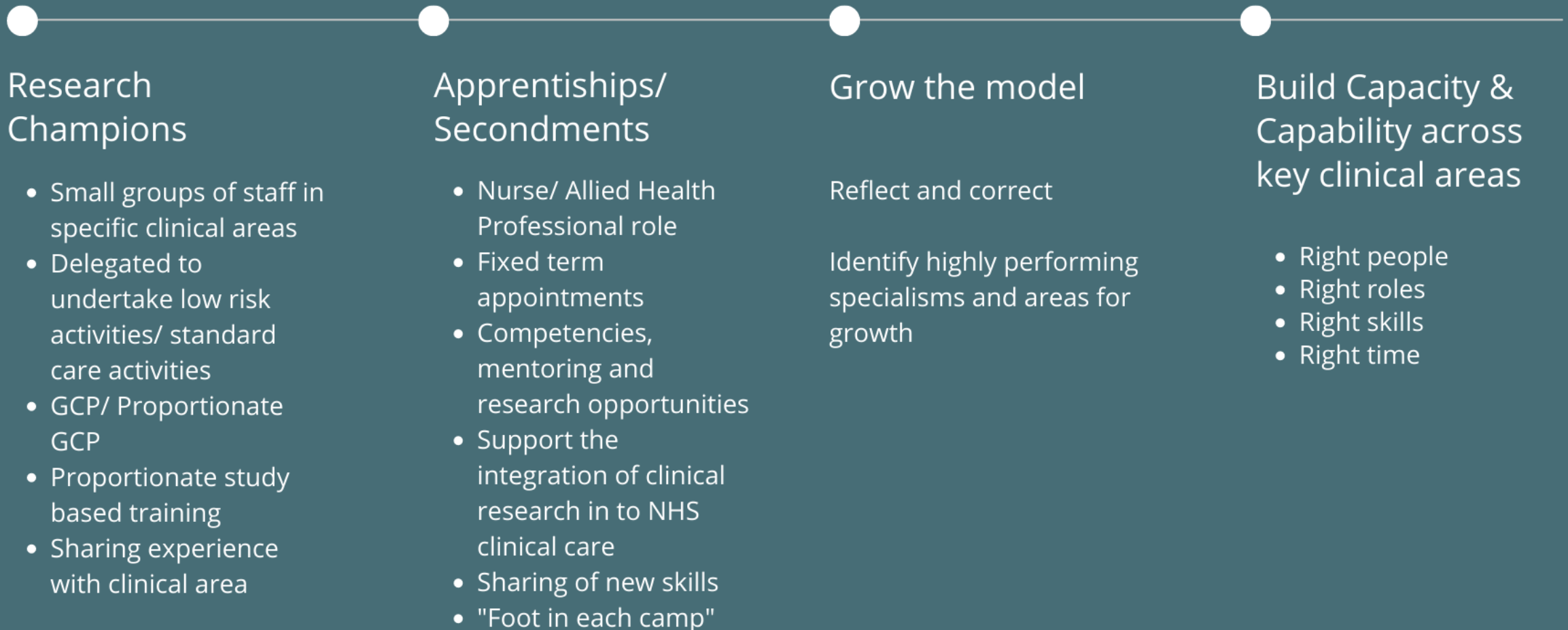
CPD Events.
Participation in the senior leader education
programme, Consultant Nurses, Specialist
Nurses, Physician Associates, Open day

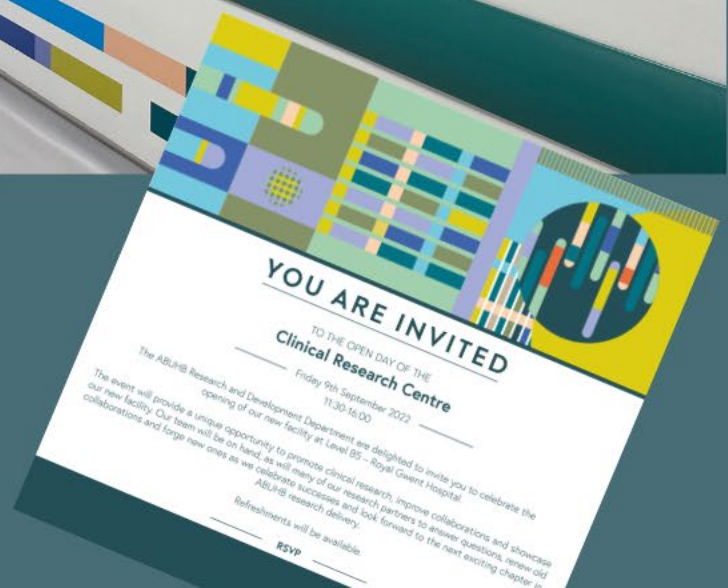
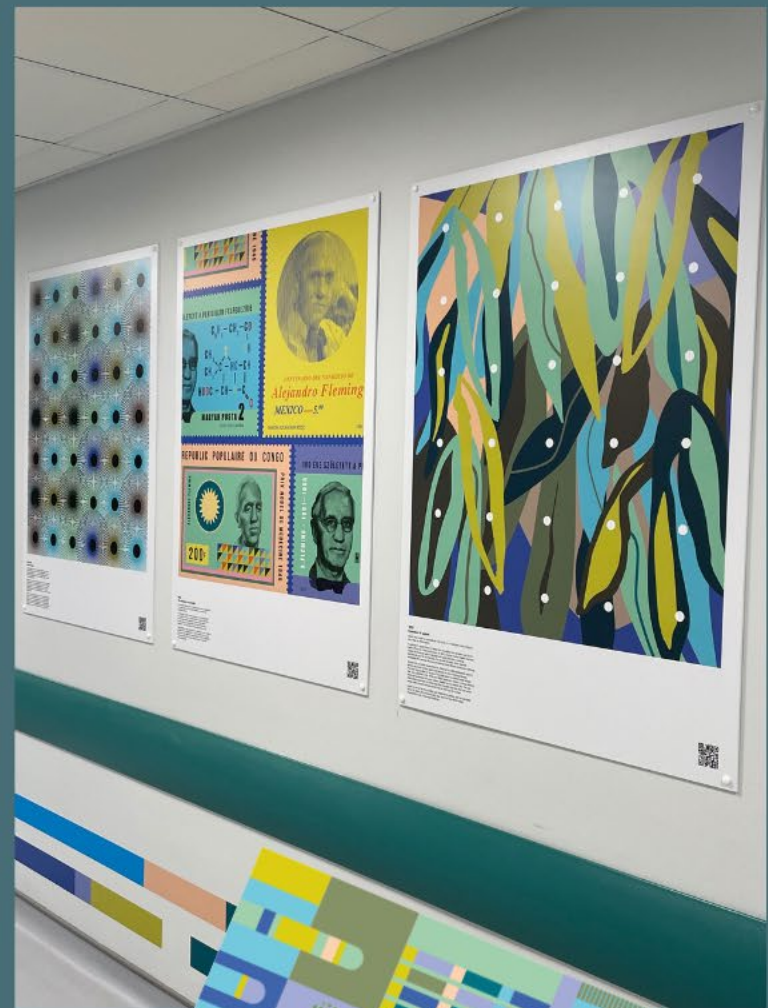
Local PI training

NIHR Physicians Associate Champion-
Facilitation & raising the profile of the
scheme

Collaboration Events-
Sharing best practice, supporting peer
mentors, specialist seminars

Research Champions & Apprenticeships

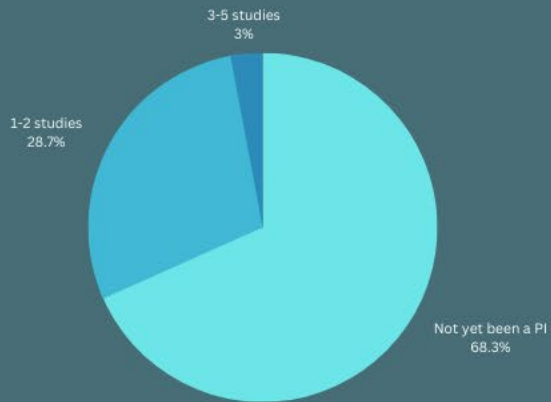




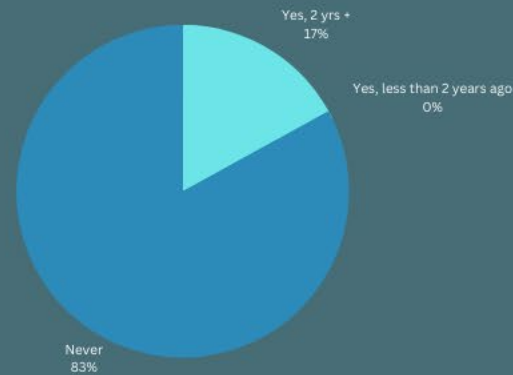
Local PI Training

- Initially designed during the pandemic to support for PI's
- Specific to the needs of health board staff
- 100 plus member of staff have attended

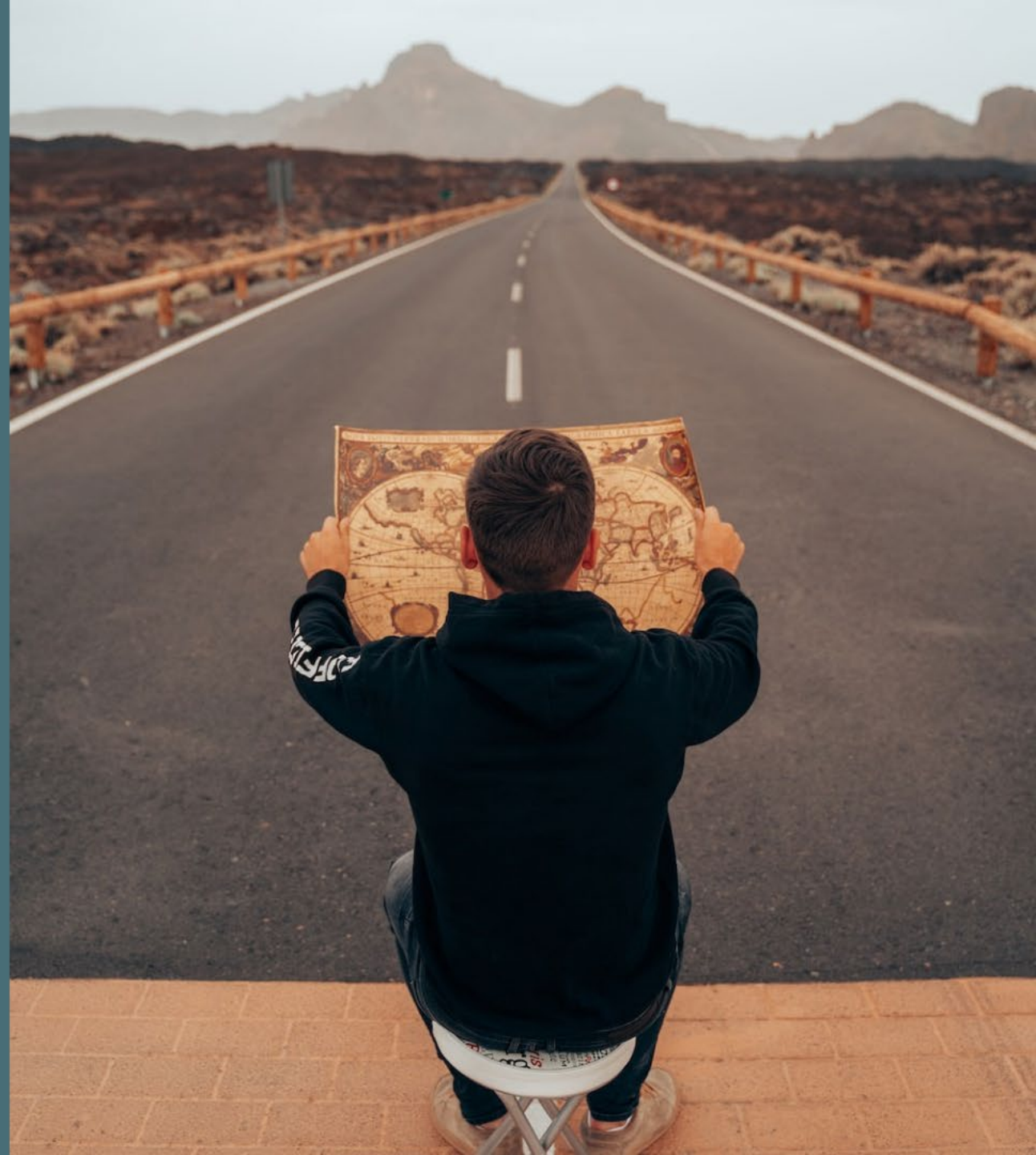
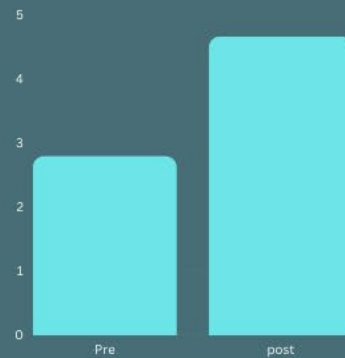
Prior experience as a PI



Prior PI training



How confident are you in describing the role of PI



As I was very new to research, this course gave me enormous insight in to the role of PI

Course very useful and gave me the confidence to get involved with research

Good preparation for my upcoming role as Associate PI