Engaging care home residents in research (ENGAGE study)
Health and Care Research Wales Social Care PhD Studentship Award
Supervisors: Prof Fiona Wood, Dr Victoria Shepherd, Prof Kerry Hood, Prof Carolyn Wallace

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Start date: January 2022
End date: January 2025
Background

- Older adults often live with medical conditions and require the most complex care and support
- Already an estimated 490,326 care home residents in the UK [1-3]
- Despite this growth, care home residents are often excluded from research that could potentially benefit their care [4]
- Study participants need to reflect the population to which the research is being applied
- Care homes are both health and social care facilities

Aims:
- To explore how care home residents can be better engaged in research, and the barriers and facilitators to their inclusion
- Develop an intervention to support conversations about research with care home residents and facilitate advance planning for research participation

References:
Achievements

Stage 1 ✓

Stage 2 ✓
• Widening research participation: a survey exploring stakeholders’ views about opportunities for older adults living in UK care homes to participate in research (submitted for publication)

Stage 3 🔗
• Exploring views about advance planning for research participation by UK care home residents (work in progress!)
Achievements

Conferences
- International Clinical Trials Methodology Conference 2022 – poster presentation
- PRIME Centre Wales Conference 2022 – poster presentation
- South Wales SAPC Conference 2023 – poster presentation
- British Society of Gerontology Conference 2023 – oral presentation

Blog posts and networking
- ENRICH Cymru, Centre for Trials Research, Cardiff University, PRIME Centre Wales, Age Alliance Wales

Other academic activities
- Teaching – Evidence Based Medicine case facilitation, Student Selected Component tutor, Dissertation Supervisor on Genetic and Genomic Counselling MSc
- Admin role in Division of Population Medicine – organising academic meetings
- Other projects: INCLUDE Impaired Capacity to Consent Framework, GW4 Mechanisms of Fatigue project
- SW SAPC 2024 conference organisation team
- Nominated PGR engagement award
Next Steps

- Identifying barriers and facilitators to the inclusion of older adults living in UK care homes in research: a scoping review
- Exploring the views of stakeholders about opportunities for older adults living in UK care homes to participate in research
- Exploring stakeholders’ views on advance planning for research participation by care home residents
- Development of an intervention to support residents in decision-making and advance planning for research
Future Plans

• PhD thesis submission by end of 2024
• Continue taking opportunities for teaching and development as a researcher
• Other research methods I’d like to gain experience in
• Thoughts…
  • Apply for grant to further this – implementation of intervention
  • Developing research career – as a researcher – developing and evaluating interventions around inclusion – psychology background
Thank you!

- Supervisors
- Health and Care Research Wales as funder
- Participants
- PPI group

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