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Health and Care
Research Wales



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The **PRIORITY** project: developing an action plan for optimising and realising research capability for Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Health Professions in Wales

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What is the
PRIORITY project
and why?

- Initiated by CNO and Chief Therapies Advisor WG
- Action plan not a strategy
- Integrated plan for 13 AHPs, Nursing and Midwifery
 - Access, embrace, value research
 - Support and deliver research
 - Lead and develop research

Why develop this plan? Context

- Nurses, midwives and allied health professionals (AHPs) are well placed to meet the range of ambitions in Saving and Improving lives: the future of UK clinical research delivery (Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), 2021).
- Despite the UK strategic context in research, there are still significant barriers to make research accessible to everyone regardless of their profession, grade and or ethnicity.
- Research is firmly embedded within the roles of some professionals, such as doctors (Royal College of Physicians, 2020) this is not the case for nurses, midwives and AHPs (Council of Deans of Health (CoDH), 2019).
- Progress has been made across the UK in relation to research strategy development for nursing, midwifery and AHPs, we do not have a specific research strategy in Wales across this group of professions or for any of the individual professions.



What do we want? What do we need?

The plan will enable nurses, midwives and allied health professionals to:

- ⌘ Use research: access, embrace and value evidence and normalise the use of research in practice to embed high-quality, evidence-based care.
- ⌘ Participate in research: support, undertake and deliver health and social care research in many environments the NHS and social care to drive change and improvement.
- ⌘ Lead research: develop and deliver nurse, midwife and allied health professional led research for the continuous improvement of health and social care multi-professional teams and services.

Scope	Vision	Objectives	Deliverables
<p>Nurses, midwives and the 13 allied health professions in Wales which are as follows: art therapists, music therapists, drama therapists, dietitians, occupational therapists, orthoptists, orthotists, paramedics, physiotherapists, podiatrists, practitioner psychologists, prosthetists, speech and language therapists</p> <p>Health care support worker roles across nursing, midwifery and allied health professions in Wales</p> <p>Health care professional staff employed in NHS Wales and working across the range of health and social care settings and services, including primary, secondary, community and social care.</p>	<p>Enable nurses, midwives and allied health professionals to:</p> <p>Use research: access, embrace and value evidence and normalise the use of research in practice to embed high-quality, evidence-based care</p> <p>Participate in research: support, undertake and deliver health and social care research in many environments the NHS and social care to drive change and improvement</p> <p>Lead research: develop and deliver nurse, midwife and allied health professional-led research for the continuous improvement of health and social care multi-professional teams and services</p>	<p>Investigate and report current context and trends in nurse, midwifery and AHP research utilisation, participation in delivering research and leading and producing research</p> <p>Identify and obtain greater perspectives on the gaps, barriers and enablers to research utilisation, participation in delivering research and leading and producing research</p> <p>Co-produce strategies to address identified gaps and barriers and plans to embed enablers</p> <p>Foster collaboration and develop responsibility for the plan amongst professionals, researchers, education providers and health and social care organisations and secure commitment to supporting the actions</p>	<p>A co-produced review of health and social care landscape in relation to nurse, midwife and allied health professional research utilisation, development and practice</p> <p>Report multi-stakeholder perspective on gaps, barriers and enablers to nurse, midwife and allied health professional research utilisation, development and practice</p> <p>A research action plan with clear, tangible recommendations and clarity on who is responsible for their implementation, and which Welsh Government and Health and Care Research Wales can use to inform their policy position for nursing, midwifery and allied health professional research in Wales, by January 2025</p>

Key deliverables

- Review of health and social care landscape in relation to nurse, midwife and allied health professional research utilisation, development and practice.
- Report multi-stakeholder perspective on gaps, barriers and enablers to nurse, midwife and allied health professional research utilisation, development and practice.
- A research action plan with clear, tangible recommendations and responsibilities which the profession leads and Health and Care Research Wales can use to inform the policy position for nursing, midwifery and allied health professional research in Wales, by January 2025.

Project governance

- ⌘ Project Board
- ⌘ Steering Group
- ⌘ Professional Fellows
- ⌘ Stakeholder Groups



What and when?

Work packages and timelines

Work package I: initiation	Dec 2023 – Jan 2024
Work package II: discover and understand problems	Jan 2024 – March 2024
Work package III: define and plan solutions	March 2024 – Aug 2024
Work package IV: develop and consider solutions	June 2024 – Sept 2024
Work package V: deliver	Sept 2024 – Dec 2024

How and who? Methods

- ⌘ Multi-method evaluation study grounded within the principles of Participatory Learning and Action (PLA)
- ⌘ A PLA ‘mode of engagement’ promotes reciprocity, mutual respect, cooperation, and dialogue in research encounters within and across diverse stakeholder groups
- ⌘ Stakeholder groups will be engaged in dialogue to identify, in a democratic manner, positive solutions to shared problems, thereby achieving agreed goals (O’ Reilly-de Brun, 2015)
- ⌘ Co-production will be critical for meaningful engagement with the steering groups, professional bodies, affinity groups, and relevant stakeholders

What could stop us or slow us down? Risks

- ⌘ Timeline delays
- ⌘ Nurses, midwives and allied health professionals not having the time to engage
- ⌘ Nurse midwives and allied health professionals having competing priorities.
- ⌘ Risk of dominant voices so need to ensure we engage with all grades and professions, including students, and stakeholders, and actively ensure diverse voices and experiences are represented
- ⌘ Risk of stakeholders not all sharing the vision of this brief
- ⌘ Risk that we produce an action plan that is not implemented or does not do as intended



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Contact us, it would be great to hear from you!

Visit our project site:

[PRIORITY project | Health Care Research Wales \(healthandcareresearchwales.org\)](https://healthandcareresearchwales.org)



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- ⌘ Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), 2021. *Saving and Improving Lives: The Future of UK Clinical Research Delivery*. [pdf]. DHSC, London. Available at: Saving and Improving Lives: The Future of UK Clinical Research Delivery - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) [Accessed 28.12.2023]
- ⌘ de Brún T, O'Reilly-de Brún M, Van Weel-Baumgarten E, Burns N, Dowrick C, Lionis C, O'Donnell C, Mair FS, Papadakaki M, Saridaki A, Spiegel W, Van Weel C, Van den Muijsenbergh M, MacFarlane A. Using Participatory Learning & Action (PLA) research techniques for inter-stakeholder dialogue in primary healthcare: an analysis of stakeholders' experiences. *Res Involv Engagem*. 2017 Dec 6;3:28. doi: 10.1186/s40900-017-0077-8. PMID: 29225922; PMCID: PMC5718138.
- ⌘ Royal College of Physicians, 2020. *Research for all: developing, delivering and driving better research*. Available at: <https://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/projects/outputs/research-all-developingdelivering-and-driving-better-research>