

AUGUST 2025

LPT Research and Development

DMH RESEARCH UPDATE



Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust is a research active organisation. We have a Research and Development Team who aim to ensure that all staff and patients in LPT have the opportunity and support to be involved in research that underpins the quality of care we deliver in the Trust.

In this newsletter you can find out about the research LPT's R&D Team is currently supporting within the Directorate of Mental Health, along with research updates!

Research Studies in DMH

● RESTORE LIFE

One in three people with a history of depression have not responded to treatment (NICE, 2018). RESTORE-LIFE aims to assess whether vagal nerve stimulation is effective as an adjunctive therapy in patients that have treatment resistant depression. This involves the surgical implantation of a pulse generator in the chest connected to the vagus nerve that stimulates the nerve for a set period of time.

Principal Investigator: Dr Ganesh Kunjithapatham
Research Delivery Team: Jo Edgar and Naomi Gurr



● BBDLB

It is important to differentiate between different types of dementia, as treatments and the risks associated differ. Dementia with Lewy bodies (DLB) is a subtype of dementia, but is under-researched compared to Alzheimer's disease (AD). This study aims to identify blood-based biomarkers which will help to differentiate between DLB and AD.

Principal Investigator: Prof. Elizabeta Mukaetova Ladinska
Research Delivery Team: Dr Sarah Baillon, Tom Pringle, Victory Olutuase, Naomi Gurr

For more information about anything in this research update please contact
lpt.research@nhs.net

● SPACES

The SPACES study aims to test a co-designed physical activity intervention designed for people with severe mental ill health, such as schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. It aims to assess whether the intervention can increase physical activity compared to usual care for people with severe mental ill health.



Principal Investigator: Dr Kelly Fenton

Research Delivery Team: Jo Brown, Jo Hall, Tom Pringle, Naomi Gurr, Victory Olutase



● HEALTHERND

HealthE-RND aims to develop an eHealth platform to improve quality of life in people affected by rare diseases. Over 3 years the study team aims to develop an eHealth platform and a quality of life questionnaire. The study is currently focusing on Huntington's disease, to study whether the platform is useful.

Principal Investigator: Dr Maria Dale

Research Delivery Team: Joy Fellows, Lee Jones

● iMARK

iMarkHD is a study looking for an indicator that can give information about the progression of Huntington's disease by using MRI scans (which observe the structure of the brain) and PET scans (which observe the function of the brain). By observing these indicators, researchers can better understand how the disease develops. This work could potentially lead to further research into early diagnosis and treatments.



Principal Investigator: Dr Reza Kiani

Research Delivery Team: Joy Fellows, Lee Jones

● ENROLL-HD



Enroll-HD is a worldwide observational study open to people with, or at risk of, Huntington's disease. It aims to understand the experience of those living with Huntington's disease and how the disease changes over time. This study has been open in LPT for over 10 years.

Principal Investigator: Dr Reza Kiani

Research Delivery Team: Joy Fellows, Lee Jones

● Later Stage HD Assessments

This study aims to develop tools to see how the later stages of Huntington's disease affect individuals. The study is evaluating two common assessments that have been adapted for telephone interview. This study is open to Enroll-HD participants who are in mid- to later stages of HD and their companions.



Principal Investigator: Dr Reza Kiani

Research Delivery Team: Joy Fellows, Lee Jones

● VISION QUEST

One in three people with psychosis have visions, also known as visual hallucinations, though only little is known about these experiences. VISION-QUEST aims to develop a new measure exploring peoples beliefs about visions and exploring the relationships between visions and other issues. The study is open to people with psychosis aged between 16 - 65 who are currently experiencing visions.



Principal Investigator: Dr Kelly Fenton

Research Delivery Team: Joy Fellows, Tom Pringle

● NCISH



The National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Safety in Mental Health (NCISH) study collects detailed information on all suicides in the UK, the findings from this work have helped to improve patient safety in mental health settings.

Principal Investigator: Medical Director

● Care Coach

This study is evaluating an online support package aimed at anyone who has caring responsibilities for a person living with dementia compared to usual care. The intervention involves learning modules with remote support from a coach.



Principal Investigator: Dr Dave Clarke

Research Delivery Team: Jo Hall

● GLAD



The Genetic Links to Anxiety and Depression (GLAD) study aims to better understand depression and anxiety in order to find better treatments and improve the lives of people experiencing these disorders. Participants in this study complete an online questionnaire and send a saliva DNA sample to the study team through the post.

Research Delivery Team: Jo Edgar, Tom Pringle

Principal Investigator: Prof Mohammed Al-Uzri

● TEMPLR

The Tracking Eye Movement and Pupil Light Response in dementia (TEMPLR) study aims to identify if the performance on eye movement and pupillometry tasks can be used as an early indicator of cognitive impairment in Alzheimer's disease and mild cognitive impairment. If so, these tasks may be able to be used as a diagnostic tool.

Principal Investigator: Prof. Elizabeta Mukaetova-Ladinska



● ORLO

The ORLO study is investigating the outcomes of people after they leave mental health rehabilitation inpatient services, and if these outcomes might be influenced by other factors including their gender, ethnicity or the clinical team providing their care. The results from this research study may help to improve services going forward.

Chief Investigator: Dr Kat Kidd

Clinical Service: Amandeep Kang

For more information about anything in this research update please contact
lpt.research@nhs.net

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lpt.research@nhs.net

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