## **AHP** Research Survey 2021



# 93145

AHPs working across the UK in NHS health and social care took part in the survey

### Why this study is important

- AHPs play a key role in meeting escalating healthcare demands
- · Research is the single most important way to improve healthcare
- AHP-led research evidence is needed to underpin advancing AHP roles
- · Little is known about current AHP research capacity or culture

### **RESEARCH CAPACITY AND CULTURE**

### **Motivators for research** engagement

1% developing

skills

increased job satisfaction

**Barriers to** 

research engagement

83%

prioritisation of other job roles

81%

lack of time

have research included in job role

of these have  $\geq 25\%$ time allocated for research

21%

18%

routinely discuss research at appraisal

### **RESEARCH RATINGS**

Individual research skills/success Team research skills/ success Organisation research skills/success



### RECOMMENDATIONS

#### national strategic

improve visibility of research organisations; ensure they are relevant to and provide support targeted at AHP clinical managers; set expectations for a stronger AHP research culture in NHS health and social care teams

#### organisation level

include a focus on AHP research posts and career pathways in research strategy; support middle managers in implementing the organisation's research strategy

#### team level

introduce routine discussions focusing on research engagement during appraisals; capitalise on positive benefits from research (development of skills, job satisfaction) that are likely to impact on staff recruitment and retention

### individual level

build on individual motivation; consider using a self-appraisal tool to identify research development needs and aspirations

Christine Comer, Richard Collings, Alison McCracken, Carol Payne, Ann Moore. AHP perceptions of research in the United Kingdom National Health Service: a survey of research capacity and cultures: A UK-wide Survey of NHS healthcare and social care staff in the UK. BMC Health Services Research 22, 1094 (2022). https://doi.org/10.1186/s12913-022-08465-6