

Dipping your toes into research: experiencing the transition from pure clinical work to combining clinical and research roles

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Implementation science 

## Launching a collective clinical research resource for a local speech-language pathology team

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Allied health professional research engagement and impact on healthcare performance: A systematic review protocol

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# A partnership approach to excellence in Allied Health clinical-academic Research capacity building

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## Background

In this project, The University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) and Bolton NHS Foundation Trust collaborated to pilot an in-house clinical-academic researcher secondment.

## Aims

1. To provide a **direct exchange of knowledge** between academic and clinical practice
2. To produce **high quality clinically led research** that is relevant to the Bolton population
3. To provide excellence in patient care and experience by **embedding evidence into practice**
4. To facilitate **AHP engagement with research** through innovative activities to build skills and confidence

## The Clinical-Academic Researcher

- 1 Band 6 0.4WTE (2 days/week September 2020-2022) over two years funded by Health Education Innovation
- Individual seconded from clinical role to clinical-academic role with split time between HEI and NHS
- NHS funded travel, conference and publication expenses
- Joint supervision & mentorship across organisations



Bolton  
NHS Foundation Trust



University of  
Central Lancashire  
UCLan

## Outcomes & Impact

Evaluated local AHP research culture & capacity

Established a new AHP Research Interest Group

8 clinical-research student placements

Research mentorship to 6 AHP disciplines/teams

1 successful Pre-Doc Fellowship

6 projects with conference presentations

6 projects with peer reviewed publications

## Lessons Learnt & Recommendations

1. Formal research education should be agreed
2. Development of Band 6 to 7 due to progression of expertise, leadership and responsibilities
3. Additional roles across NMAHPs within the Trust and for AHPs across the region to enable peer support and ensure wider opportunities and impact across teams and individuals
4. Joint funding needs to be established and agreed across a minimum of 2+ years between HEI and NHS for sustainability