



NIHR Evaluation, Trials and
Studies Coordinating Centre

NHS

*National Institute for
Health Research*

Research for public health

Needs-led and science-added
evaluation research for public health

www.netscc.ac.uk/publichealth



Public health research

High quality research evidence on improving public health and tackling health inequalities is vital to policymakers. Funding public health research is an important part of the remit for all five of the NIHR Evaluation, Trials and Studies (NETS) programmes, supporting high quality research intended to improve the health of the public and reduce inequalities in health.

Health inequalities in the UK and elsewhere in Europe present major challenges to decision makers and have proved difficult to tackle. In response to the White Paper published in July 2011, "Healthy Lives, Healthy People" Professor Dame Sally C. Davies, Chief Medical Officer and Chief Scientific Adviser at the Department of Health commented:

"By joining up the local work done by the NHS, social care, housing, environmental health, transport and leisure services and focusing on public health at a local level, this paper lays out a strategy to improve the health and wellbeing of the nation, and addresses the issues of health inequalities."

NETS programmes and examples

For more information on these and other projects see www.netscc.ac.uk

Efficacy and
Mechanism
Evaluation

EME
programme

The EME programme is aimed at supporting 'science driven' studies with an expectation of substantial health gain. Proposed public health research must evaluate the clinical efficacy of an intervention, where proof of concept in humans has already been achieved, and may add significantly to our understanding of biological or behavioural mechanisms and processes. The EME programme is funded by the MRC and NIHR and managed by NETSCC.

08/246/09 Does metformin reduce excess birthweight in offspring of obese pregnant women? A randomised controlled trial of efficacy, exploration of mechanisms and evaluation of other pregnancy complications

09/100/25 A randomised controlled trial of eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA) and/or aspirin for colorectal adenoma (or polyp) prevention during colonoscopic surveillance in the NHS Bowel Cancer Screening Programme: The Seafood polyp prevention trial

NIHR Health
Services and
Delivery Research

HS&DR
programme

The HS&DR programme funds research to improve the quality, effectiveness and accessibility of the NHS including evaluations of how the NHS might improve delivery of services and research on implementation of evidence and knowledge. The audiences for this research are the public, service users, clinicians and managers. The programme has a particular interest, within this area, on public health and preventative services.

10/1009/24 Multi-site implementation of a promising innovation in low income communities: support for childbearing women

08/1604/140 The Birthplace in England Research Programme

of funded public health research

NIHR Health
Technology
Assessment

HTA
programme

The HTA programme delivers research information about the effectiveness, costs and broader impact of healthcare treatments and tests for those who plan, provide or receive care in the NHS. Public health research in the areas of disease prevention, screening programmes or components of screening programmes in a population context, is funded in both commissioned and researcher-led streams.

07/63/03 Modifying health promotion interventions to meet the needs of ethnic minority groups

09/27/06 Interventions to reduce or prevent obesity in pregnant women: A systematic review of evidence synthesis

11/18/01 Screening for type 2 diabetes

NIHR Public
Health Research

PHR
programme

The PHR programme evaluates public health interventions, providing new knowledge on the benefits, costs, acceptability and wider impacts of non-NHS interventions intended to improve the health of the public and reduce inequalities in health.

09/3004/01 Putting Life in Years (PLINY): Evaluation of the effectiveness and cost effectiveness of an intervention to promote mental wellbeing in community living older people

09/3001/13 'On the buses': evaluating the impact of introducing free bus travel for young people on the public health

09/3005/12 Healthy Child Programme – Factors facilitating and constraining the delivery of effective teacher training to promote health and well-being in schools

NIHR Systematic
Reviews

SR
programme

The SR programme supports the production of Cochrane Reviews to guide evidence-based decision making in health and social care through two funding streams: NIHR Cochrane Collaboration Programme Grant Scheme and Cochrane Incentive Awards. The programme also provides strategic advice and monitors the contracts for the UK Cochrane Centre, Cochrane Review Groups, Centre for Reviews and Dissemination, Diagnostics Evaluation Unit, Improved Monitoring in Long Term Disease Programme and Health Technology Assessment Reviews. Our systematic reviews cover a wide range of public health areas including depression, heart disease, oral health, pregnancy and childbirth.

11/4002/46 Collaboration between local health and local government agencies for health improvement

11/4002/06 Interventions for preventing falls in older people living in the community

NETS research to support public health addresses a wide range of questions that evaluate:

- NHS interventions delivered to whole groups with the aim of improving health (such as the Healthy Child Programme)
- NHS services and initiatives targeted at individuals at higher risk of future ill-health to reduce their risk (such as smoking cessation)
- NHS interventions aimed at identifying those with early stage asymptomatic disease where early treatment improves prognosis (such as screening)
- health interventions outside of the NHS aimed at a group or population level (such as school-based healthy eating programmes or changes to the built environment)
- the organisation and delivery of healthcare with the aim of improving service quality and patient safety

Contact details

NETSCC

For general information on public health at NETSCC email info@netscc.ac.uk or visit www.netscc.ac.uk/publichealth

EME programme

The Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation programme is funded by the MRC and NIHR, with contributions from the CSO in Scotland, NISCHR in Wales and the HSC R&D, Public Health Agency in Northern Ireland. For more information and to apply for funding email info@eme.ac.uk or visit www.eme.ac.uk

HS&DR programme

The NIHR Health Service and Delivery Research programme is funded by the NIHR with contributions from the CSO in Scotland and NISCHR in Wales. For more information and to apply for funding email hsdrinfo@southampton.ac.uk or visit www.netscc.ac.uk/hsdr

HTA programme

The NIHR Health Technology Assessment programme is funded by the NIHR, with contributions from the CSO in Scotland and NISCHR in Wales. For more information and to apply for funding email hta@hta.ac.uk or visit www.hta.ac.uk

PHR programme

The NIHR Public Health Research programme is funded by the NIHR, with contributions from the CSO in Scotland, NISCHR in Wales and HSC R&D, Public Health Agency in Northern Ireland. For more information and to apply for funding email info@phr.ac.uk or visit www.phr.nihr.ac.uk

SR programme

The NIHR Systematic Reviews programme is funded by the NIHR, with contributions from the CSO in Scotland, NISCHR in Wales and HSC R&D, Public Health Agency in Northern Ireland. For more information and to apply for funding email srpinfo@southampton.ac.uk or visit www.netscc.ac.uk/systematic_reviews/

Further information

For general information on NETSCC and our work please:

Visit: www.netscc.ac.uk

Email: info@netscc.ac.uk

Tel: 023 8059 5586



This leaflet is for information purposes only and does not constitute a contract or intent to enter into a contract. The information contained is assured to be correct up to March 2012.