



# *Implementation Knowledge and News*

## *The UK Implementation Society Bulletin, Winter 2017*

### *News*

#### **UK Implementation Network becomes a Society**

In October 2017 The UK Implementation Network became **The UK Implementation Society, (UK-IS)** registered charity 1175244. The purpose of the new Society is the advancement of the science and practice of implementation for the public benefit, with a focus on the implementation and improvement of services to people throughout the UK.



The Society provides cross sectoral and inter-disciplinary information and news, learning resources and opportunities for all people working in implementation and improvement science and practice. It collaborates with groups in other countries working to develop the field globally, and creates a network for all UK professionals to engage in an inclusive community of practice and learning.

**Benefits of membership** of the UK-IS include:

- **Regular e-bulletin** *Implementation Knowledge and News* several times a year with news of learning events, jobs, opportunities and brand new resources in implementation and improvement science and practice in the UK and elsewhere, direct to your email in-box, and online
- **Access online to downloadable resources for practice and research** including publications like our *Implementation Resource Digests*, presentations, learning resources and blogs from invited contributors. We are actively building our on-line Resources repository, most of which is available exclusively to members of the Society
- **Meet and share learning with others** working in policy, practice, and science across different sectors and across a wide range of services to people, at face to face events and virtually
- **Hear from experts in the field**, internationally and locally, on-line and at our events



- **Reduced or no fees for our learning and networking events**, seminars and conferences both virtual and physical, at different locations around the UK, including events we organise and events that welcome UK-IS guests
- **The right to designate yourself as a Member of The UK Implementation Society**, a sign of your professional commitment to the field
- **Reciprocal arrangements for discounted attendance at selected international events** that are organised for the global implementation community

**Former members of the UK Implementation Network are invited to transfer their membership as soon as possible and brand new members are welcomed! Membership application forms and subscription information can be accessed on the [UK-IS website](#).**

### **Why join us?**

**UK-IS is almost entirely dependent on membership revenue to pay for administration and activity costs**, and we haven't asked for subscriptions for a long while, due to our planned transition to a Society. We need the support of the implementation community. To celebrate our change of status, special **early bird joining rates** are being offered with subscriptions held at 2014 prices (the year when the network was originally




established) for those who **join by January 15<sup>th</sup> 2018**. See the website for other special discounts, for a limited period only. Secure on-line payment facilities are now available. Although this bulletin will continue to be sent to all former UK-IN members in the early part of 2018, to gain ongoing access to this and lots of other member-only benefits, including an amazing line-up of events for free or substantially reduced costs, subscribe to UK-IS as soon as possible.

On our **new website**, UK-IS will host a series of **blogs** by members and invited guest contributors on various subjects relevant to implementation and improvement topics. We aim to be informative, thought-provoking, and even a little controversial! If you would like to contribute a blog and reach a wide national and international audience of implementation professionals and students, contact [admin@ukimplementation.org.uk](mailto:admin@ukimplementation.org.uk) and someone will get back to you. For our [first blog](#), UK-IS Chair **Deborah Ghate** reflects on a recent inter-disciplinary event on 'Resistance to Change'.

## UK-IS Activities

UK-IS has a series of **exciting new activities planned for 2018** - here is just a sample of what's in the pipeline in the first part of the year:

- **Two lunchtime seminars in London** on *uses of technology* with Dr Adam Hoare and *knowledge mobilisation in implementation* with Dr Anita Kothari organised by UK-IS Vice Chair Professor Annette Boaz and in collaboration with Kingston University and St George's, University of London, 25 January & 15 February, 2018 – see the [Activities](#) page of our website.
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- **A day symposium on large scale change initiatives in the North of the UK** in practice, implementation science, child development and child neglect entitled: *Implementation Journeys from the North: Blending improvement methodologies to improve services for families* at the **University of York, 2 March, 2018**. Learn about cutting edge work in Scotland and Northern England bringing implementation science and practice to the heart of real-world policy and practice development initiatives. In the morning the focus will be on work undertaken in Scotland led by **Dr Melissa Van Dyke**, International Expert Adviser in Implementation (CELCIS, University of Strathclyde) and **Fiona Mitchell**, Strategy and Alignment Lead (CELCIS, University of Strathclyde). The afternoon will focus on on-going work in the city of Bradford with speakers involved in the Better Start Bradford Initiative, to include **Michaela Howell**, Director, Bradford Trident, and **Dr Josie Dickerson**, Programme Manager for the *Better Start Bradford* Innovation Hub. This symposium has been designed for decision makers, change agents and all UK Implementation Society members who are interested in exploring the tensions and opportunities that exist when blending improvement approaches. The symposium will be chaired by **Professor Tracey Bywater**, Professor of Family Wellbeing, University of York and Secretary of the UK Implementation Society. See the [Activities](#) page of the website for more.
  - **Planned for Autumn 2018:** We're extremely excited to announce that the UK Implementation Society will join with the Journal *Evidence and Policy* and international colleagues to host the *London Festival of Evidence and Implementation* (working title) – a week of events designed to educate, inform and deepen the debate around how best to gather and deploy evidence for the

implementation of practice and policy: watch the UK-IS website Activities page for future details, coming soon.

## UK-IS resources to support implementers

**Our website ([www.ukimplementation.org.uk](http://www.ukimplementation.org.uk)) is newly launched** to coincide with our change of status to a Society and will continue to be developed and expanded over the coming months. We plan new resources for members, continuing regular information and news bulletins, and have added on-line joining and payment facilities to make subscribing to UK-IS membership as easy as possible.

Please send us feedback and any materials for consideration: it's your Society!

**We are also redeveloping our regular Bulletin, *Implementation Knowledge and News*** into new formats for e-distribution, and for our website. Contact Andrew Walker, Knowledge and Resources Officer at [admin@ukimplementation.org.uk](mailto:admin@ukimplementation.org.uk) to submit material for future bulletins, and watch for our next bulletin in e-mail friendly format as well as on the website and downloadable pdf.



**We will also be producing and commissioning new gateway and research resources** in our series of *Implementation Resource Digests* in 2018: suggestions for topics and contributors to author new digests are welcome and should also be sent to [Andrew Walker](#).

## *Other news*

### News from the global implementation community

Sponsors of the bi-annual Global Implementation Conferences, **The Global Implementation Initiative**, will launch a new *Global Implementation Society* in 2018. UK-IS members will receive information about member benefits and how to join as soon as these become available, and in the pipeline are preferential joining rates for UK-IS members and other reciprocal benefits. It is planned that UK-IS members will be able to discount the cost of full GIS membership to the value of their UK-IS subscription rate. Watch this space.

## Evidence-informed policy and practice – taking the agenda forward

It is more than 15 years since the publication of *'WHAT WORKS? Evidence-based policy and practice in public services'* edited by Huw Davies, Sandra Nutley and Peter Smith. Two of the original editors are now working with a new team of contributors on a fresh assessment of the aspirations and realities of evidence-based policy and practice. *'What works now?'* will build on the previous volume's analysis by extending the range of policy/service areas, and by devoting more attention to cross-national comparisons. It will also have a particular focus on new thinking emerging from implementation and improvement science. In September 2017 an event was held at Nuffield Foundation to discuss the emerging thinking with the authors and contributors, and to stimulate a discussion about funding research on the use of research evidence, learning from the experience of international funders who have already entered into this territory.



## Are quality improvement collaboratives effective?

Collaboratives are widely used as an approach for improving quality, but there is a mixed picture in the empirical evidence for its effectiveness in delivering real, sustained change. An international team of researchers has recently published a [systematic review](#) of 220 studies to answer the question of whether QI collaboratives (QIC) are effective (Wells *et al.*, 2017). They reported that successful QIC tended to address “*relatively straightforward aspects of care, had a strong evidence-base and noted a clear evidence-practice gap in an accepted clinical pathway or guideline*” and a small number studies reported sustained benefits 6 months to 2 years following the collaborative. Whilst the report is encouraging about the effectiveness of QIC, the authors warn against the risk of reporting bias as fewer than a third of QIC met quality and reporting criteria.

Full reference: Wells, S. *et al.* (2017) 'Are quality improvement collaboratives effective? A systematic review', *BMJ Qual Saf*, p. bmjqs-2017-006926. doi: 10.1136/bmjqs-2017-006926.

## Courses

### **Leading Quality Improvement: Essentials for Managers, The Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI), beginning 23rd January, 2018**

This course is part of the IHI's [virtual training program](#). Participants will learn to better manage their portfolio of improvement projects to meet their organisation's goals of improved outcomes and safer care.



### **Using Implementation Science in Practice, University of Surrey, 16-17th April, 2018**

This two day seminar is for healthcare professionals, managers, commissioners, researchers and policy makers in both the public and private sector who want to make effective use of evidence based treatment and care. Organised by UK-IS member **Dr Nicola Carey**, the seminar is led by international experts in the field of implementation science including **Dr Brian Mittman**, Senior Research Scientist at the Kaiser Permanente Southern California Department of Research, US, **Professor Sharon Straus**, Chair in Knowledge Translation and Quality of Care, Department of Medicine, University of Toronto, **Carl May**, Professor of Healthcare Innovation, University of Southampton and **Dr Siw Calfjord**, Linköping University, Sweden. For more information. Contact [N.Carey@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:N.Carey@surrey.ac.uk) and click [here](#) for more.



**STOP PRESS:** we're excited to announce that the University of Surrey have kindly offered **TWO FREE PLACES at this seminar for UK-IS members**. Apply via UK-IS by February 28<sup>th</sup> 2018 to [admin@ukimplementation.org.uk](mailto:admin@ukimplementation.org.uk)

### **Knowledge into Action (module), Oxford University, 14-18th May, 2018**

This course module aims to introduce you to implementation science and related interdisciplinary perspectives on the links between research evidence, practice and policy. Teaching will be led by **Professor Trish Greenhalgh**, a GP and eminent researcher and commentator at the Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences with **Dr Kamal Mahtani**, NIHR Academic Clinical Lecturer in General Practice and Deputy Director at The Centre for Evidence Based Medicine. Click [here](#) for details.

## **Upcoming events**

### **Meetings**

#### **16th Quality and Safety Improvement Research Network (QIRN) meeting, University of Aberdeen, April 2018**

For the last 15 year **Professor John Ovreteit** from the **Karolinska Institute**, Stockholm, has convened a meeting to help researchers improve their research in the field of improvement and implementation in healthcare. The meeting is for any researcher whose study, proposal or publication could be improved by independent expert feedback from an



international group, and who would benefit from connecting with other researchers in the field. QIRN is not restricted to PhD researchers, although these are given the highest priority for selection. It is free to attend, but participants need to cover their accommodation and travel expenses. The meeting also includes site visits to local improvement and implementation projects. The next meeting in April 2018 will be hosted by The Institute of Applied Health Sciences, University of Aberdeen. If you would like to know more or are interested in participating contact Professor [John Ovretveit](mailto:jovretbis@aol.com) (jovretbis@aol.com)

## Seminars and talks

### *Knowledge translation in Canada: the state of play*

**Dr Anita Kothari** from the School of Health Studies at the University of Western Ontario in Canada) will be discussing the concepts of knowledge mobilisation, knowledge translation and implementation science from the Canadian context. There is no need to book. 5th December 2017, 4-5pm, [IoPPN](#), King's College London

### *Professor Graham Martin from the Social science APPLIED to Healthcare Improvement Research Group [SAPPHIRE] at the University of Leicester)*

**Professor Graham Martin** from the Social science APPLIED to Healthcare Improvement Research (SAPPHIRE) Group at the University of Leicester will kick off the King's Improvement Science (KIS) seminars in 2018. The topic is still to be confirmed and will be at the [IoPPN](#), King's College London, 9th January 2018, 4-5pm.

## Calls for abstracts

### *Evidence Live 2018 (Oxford, UK)*

The [call for abstracts](#) for Evidence Live 2018 is open. The deadline for workshops and seminars is 15th December, 2017; deadline for oral and poster presentations is 28th February, 2018.

## Conferences

### *10th Annual Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation (D&I) in Health, Arlington, USA, December 4-6, 2017*

The conference's theme is '[A Decade of Progress and the Path Forward](#)' and will reflect on the past accomplishments and challenges in the field of D&I and opportunities ahead.

### *Implementation Science Symposium, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 9 February, 2018*

After a successful symposium with over 150 participants in 2017, the second [implementation conference](#) will take place in February 2018 in Amsterdam. It is themed: *Improving implementation practice: a one-day implementation science conference*. The focus will be on informing implementation work and science in the areas of methods, instruments, and tools improving implementation success.

### ***The 3rd Nordic Implementation Conference, Copenhagen, Denmark, May 28-30, 2018***

The call for abstract is now closed, but registration to attend is now open. The [conference](#) is also organising a 5 or 10km '**Implementation Run**' around downtown Copenhagen to energise attendees and offers an alternative way to squeeze in a bit of sightseeing!

### ***Evidence Live 2018, University of Oxford, UK, 19-20 June, 2018***

[Evidence Live 2018](#) focuses dissemination, translation and innovation in health care. A call for abstracts is now open.

### ***The Global Evidence and Implementation Summit (GEIS) 2018, Melbourne, Australia, 22-24 October, 2018.***

[GEIS 2018](#) is multi-disciplinary forum for funding and implementing agencies, policy makers, practitioners, knowledge brokers and researchers committed to the generation and implementation of evidence for better policy and practice.

## ***Archived events***

### ***An Introduction to the 'Integrated-Promoting Action on Research Implementation in Health Services' (i-PARIHS) Framework***

Jeffery Smith's [cyber-seminar](#) for the QUERI Implementation Network introduces the i-PARIHS framework. **Jeffrey Smith** is Implementation Coordinator at the **Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System**.

### ***Career development pathways in implementation science***

In a QUERI Implementation Network [webinar](#) **Steven Asch, Alison Hamilton and Elizabeth Yano** from the **Center for the Study of Health Innovation, Implementation and Policy (CSHIIP)** discuss the career development pathways of several leading implementation experts and explore commonalities across these different approaches to developing careers in the field.



@UK\_ImpNet

Are you following us on twitter?

Several members of UK-IS contribute to the twitter feed with global implementation news, new opportunities, fresh writing and thinking on implementation: hear it first by following UK-IS!



## *Jobs and opportunities*

### **NIHR Fellowship Programme**

Five levels of [NIHR Fellowship](#) awards are available: Doctoral, Post-Doctoral, Transitional Research, Career Development and Senior Research. Applications for the **doctoral level closes on 19th December 2017**.

## *New knowledge resources*

### **How to Implement Evidence-Based Healthcare by Trisha Greenhalgh Book**

**Professor Trisha Greenhalgh** explains how to apply evidence-based healthcare to practice in order to ensure safe and effective practice.

[How to Implement Evidence-Based Healthcare](#)

is aimed at students, clinicians and researchers who are focused on evidence-based medicine and healthcare, implementation science, applied healthcare research, and those working in public health, public policy, and management.



### **Five Tips for Turning QI Projects into Research by Tejal K. Gandhi, IHI's Chief Clinical and Safety Officer Article**

How does someone working in quality improvement make the leap to contributing his or her own research to the field? When does a QI initiative become a research project? In this short [article](#), **Tejal Gandhi** introduces how research is important in quality improvement as a prelude to this year's **Scientific Symposium at the IHI National Forum** in December 2017.

### **Supporting Implementation of Innovative Social Work Practices by Prue Atkins and Margarita Frederico Article**

A welcome addition to the small but growing literature applying implementation science concepts and frameworks to social work and social care, this open access [article](#) based on a small scale but interesting study of a therapeutic social work programme for child protection in Australia and published in September 2017 in the **British Journal of Social Work** highlights five key drivers of implementation that were especially influential on effective implementation in practice.



***That's it Folks! Season's Greetings from all at UK-IS***

and send items for future bulletins to Andrew Walker, Knowledge and Resources Officer at [admin@ukimplementation.org.uk](mailto:admin@ukimplementation.org.uk)



*Building capacity, sharing learning, and connecting professionals in implementation, improvement and innovation in services to people*

Do you want access to other resources like this? Are you interested in improving the effectiveness of services using the latest knowledge from the globally developing field of implementation science and practice?

## If so join UK-IS:

### The UK Implementation Society

The **UK Implementation Society** was formed by an independent group of researchers, practice leaders, and policy professionals working in academia, central and local government and the third sector. It is one of a number of similar groups developing across the world. The UK Implementation Society is for people who want to be part of a multidisciplinary learning community working towards the implementation of more effective services for people and communities. We are building a range of activities and resources to bring people together and develop the field in the UK. Members have access to these opportunities:

- Meet and share learning with others working in policy, practice, and science across a wide range of services to people
- Reduced fees for learning and networking events, seminars and conferences both virtual and physical, at different locations around the UK
- Access and contribute to online and other resources including publications, learning resources, links and information on relevant events and developments in implementation science and practice around the world

To join and for more information on the Society visit:  
[www.ukimplementation.org.uk](http://www.ukimplementation.org.uk)



UK IMPLEMENTATION SOCIETY

Across the world, scientists, policy makers, funders and practitioners recognise that there is an *implementation gap* between what we know about effective services, and how we deliver them in practice. In social care and in health and education as well as in other areas of services for people, the fields of implementation, improvement and innovation science and practice are rapidly developing, aiming to pool knowledge and know-how in order to bridge this gap more quickly.

The **UK Implementation Society (UK-IS)** is working to promote, increase and sustain knowledge and understanding of the science and practice of effective implementation. We bring together professionals and students working to share cross-disciplinary learning to address the implementation gap. UK-IS is funded entirely by donations and subscriptions. Contact us at [admin@ukimplementation.org.uk](mailto:admin@ukimplementation.org.uk)

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