

Centre for Paediatric Spiritual Care Newsletter

Birmingham Children's Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

December 2016



The Centre for Paediatric Spiritual Care is a unique resource for anyone working with sick children and their families.

We aim to support and encourage research and resourcing for multidisciplinary spiritual care.

If you think you could contribute to our Centre by adding a resource, writing a blog post or contributing to our research please contact bch-tr.cpsc@nhs.net

Take a look at our website to see more of our research and resources:

www.bch.nhs.uk/cpsc



@BCH_CPSC

Last month, Birmingham Children's Hospital Chaplaincy Department hosted the annual Paediatric Chaplaincy Network (PCN) conference. The theme was providing an evidence base for chaplaincy services, including spiritual care. A member of the CPSC team also attended a conference for SNAHPPs professionals (Scientists, Nurses, Allied Health Professionals and Pharmacists) with an interest in research. In this newsletter, we highlight some key points about research and evidence gathering from both events, to help those with an interest in spiritual care research.

PCN Conference

Chaplaincy services has been the subject of comparatively little research. At the PCN, we discussed the fact that many chaplaincy teams do already collect evidence on the care that they provide. For example, many teams record the number of visits they make, which can provide evidence for how much chaplaincy team do, and records of staff support can show the value of chaplaincy for staff wellbeing.

At the meeting, there was a stress on the fact that creating an evidence base does not always have to mean a full research project; it could be as simple as recording visits. Audits and service evaluation are another alternative to a research project.

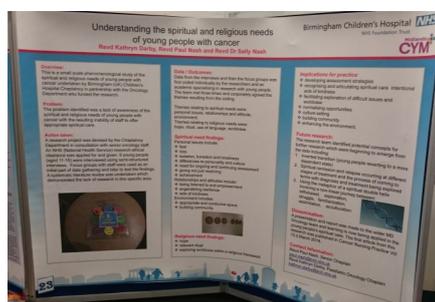
Many people may feel that spiritual care is difficult to be measured. However, as one of the speakers on the day put it—measure what can be measured, even if that's only the tip of the iceberg of what we do.

SNAHPPs Research Symposium

This was a research symposium for non-medical professionals with an interest in research. The symposium aimed to encourage and equip potential researchers. The presenters stressed the importance of multidisciplinary research to generate new knowledge, and research into 'non-traditional' areas, such as patient experience and service re-design.

One of the key messages of the day was the importance of getting good help and support. Finding someone who can supervise your research is important, as is the team around you. NHS Research and Development departments are able to support projects, and one piece of advice was to get in touch with them as early as possible in the research process. There is usually other NHS support available, such as statisticians and librarians.

Part of the day was a research poster display, and we were very pleased that our poster on the spiritual and religious needs of young people with cancer was awarded first prize!



Multi faith Celebrate Project
December 2016 dates:

Mawlid-un-Nabi - Muslim—12th December

Hanukkah—Jewish -24th December

Christmas—Christian—25th December



More information is available [here](#).

Featured Article:

Ingham-Broomfield, R. (2016) A nurse's guide to the hierarchy of research designs and evidence, *The Australian Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 33(3), 38-43.

<http://www.ajan.com.au/Vol33/Issue3/5Broomfield.pdf>

This article provides a breakdown of the components of the hierarchy, or pyramid, of research designs. Its intention is to simplify the components of the hierarchy to enable novice readers of research to better understand the differing approaches and levels of evidence.

Resources

Following the PCN conference and the research symposium, we have created a research page on the PCN website. This contains a mix of resources for all professionals, and some information specific to chaplaincy, including useful articles, training resources, examples of research documents and other research resources:



<http://www.paediatric-chaplaincy-network.org/research>

The main powerpoint from the day is also available on the PCN website, you can find this here:

<http://www.paediatric-chaplaincy-network.org/events/>

Blog Posts

This month's blog post is by Kathy Green, the Chaplaincy Team Leader at Sheffield Children's Hospital. She describes how support for staff, both clinical and non-clinical, was developed after a traumatic incident on a ward.

All blog posts are available to read in full here:

<http://www.bch.nhs.uk/story/centre-paediatric-spiritual-care-blog>

Upcoming events and training

Paediatric Chaplaincy Module

Birmingham Children's Hospital

Monday 20 February, Thursday 23 March, Thursday 18 May and Wednesday 14 June

This accredited module is based around the recently researched distinctives of paediatric chaplaincy. It is designed to give chaplains and chaplaincy volunteers (in hospitals, hospices and community) the knowledge, skills, values and understanding they need in paediatric chaplaincy. This will include religious, spiritual and pastoral care in a multicultural / belief health, hospice / palliative and bereavement contexts with patients, their families and staff.

Cost: £300 (£250)

For more details, please email paul.nash@bch.nhs.uk

For a booking form, please email g.benson@stjohns-nottm.ac.uk