



Sefydliad Cenedlaethol | National Institute
ar gyfer Ymchwil Gofal | for Social Care and
Cymdeithasol ac Iechyd | Health Research



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Achieving Knowledge Transfer in Health and Social Care research

The aims of the Welsh Government policies in science, health and social care, and economic renewal are consistent in highlighting the benefits that innovation confers on health and wealth. In its broadest sense, innovation involves the successful development, adoption and spread of a new idea to transform outcomes and effect positive change. Knowledge transfer plays a pivotal role in this process, which includes the effective and timely incorporation of research-based evidence into practice, to maximise impact.

Initiatives designed to improve the impact of research across health and social care, have the potential to affect groups, communities and the population as a whole through better health and social care and, improved service design and delivery. Furthermore, closing gaps in current understanding by effective transfer of the best available evidence and expertise will deliver improved research performance.

NISCHR has a specific role to contribute to this environment by ensuring the health and social care research budget funding produces high quality and policy relevant research evidence, which can be translated into improved outcomes for patients and users of social care services. This includes research that improves our understanding of how best knowledge can be transferred.

In support of the knowledge transfer workstream, NISCHR has commissioned parts of its funded infrastructure (NISCHR Academic Health Science Collaboration and NISCHR All-Wales Academic Social Care Research Collaboration), to establish a Knowledge Transfer Task and Finish Group to assist in identifying enablers and barriers to the progression of research knowledge translation in health and social care. This will cover commercial and non-commercial research evidence and include recommendations for system change.

The Task and Finish Group will be chaired by Professor Susan Denman and include key stakeholders; it will meet 4 times between Dec 2013 and May 2014. Recommendations of the group will be considered by NISCHR and shared with relevant stakeholders to ensure the impact of research features seamlessly in the economic and innovation activities planned in Wales.

A further area of interest is how knowledge transfer can be embedded effectively within existing NISCHR infrastructure and more broadly across the culture of NHS and social care organisations. The forthcoming review of the NISCHR infrastructure provides an ideal opportunity to embed a greater culture of knowledge transfer into future programmes and, consequently, support future innovative research and development to support decision making on the ground. This should result in a positive impact on the health, wellbeing and wealth of people in Wales.