

# **Funding Opportunities for Public Health Research**

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# Outline

- Strategic Context
- Spend on Prevention Research
- Infrastructure for Public Health Research
- Research Funding: NI
- Research Funding: UK



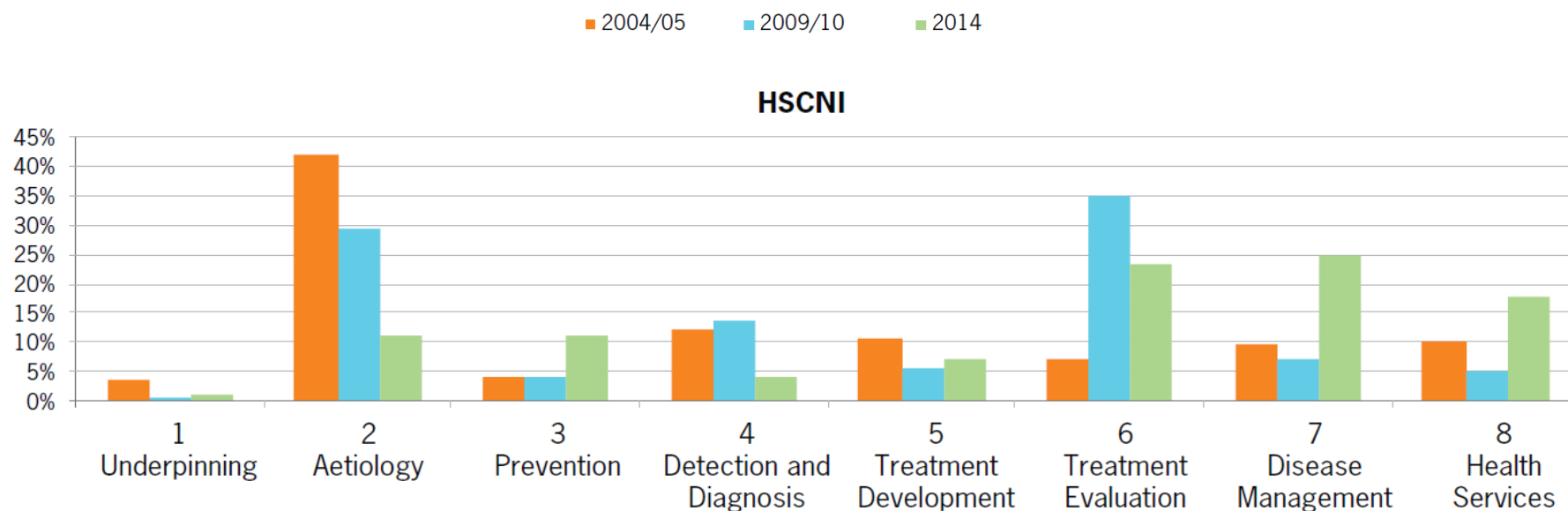
# Strategic Context

- Academy of Medical Sciences latest report 'Improving the health of the public by 2040' 27 September 2016
- National Prevention Research Initiative (NPRI) Review 2014
- Making Life Better: A whole system strategic framework for public health 2013-2023 (2014)
- Research for Better Health & Social Care: A strategy for Health & Social care Research and Development in Northern Ireland 2016-2025 (2016)
- Strategy for Personal and Public Involvement in Health and Social Care research (2014)





# Spend on Prevention Research 2004-2014



<http://www.hrcsonline.net/sites/default/files/UKCRCHealthResearchAnalysis2014%20WEB.pdf>



# Infrastructure for Public Health Research

- NIPHRN
- UKCRC Centre of Excellence for Public Health



# Northern Ireland Public Health Research Network (NIPHRN)

- complements other clinical research networks
- complements UKCRC Centre of Excellence for Public Health
- Launched 7 March 2012
- Membership of over 300
- Become a member: [www.niphrn.org.uk](http://www.niphrn.org.uk)



# Aims of the NIPHRN

- Facilitate public health intervention research
- Extend the public health evidence base
- Increase engagement between public health professionals, academics, policy makers, commissioners and the community & voluntary sector
- Increase the quantity and quality of public health research in Northern Ireland





# Short Expression of Interest

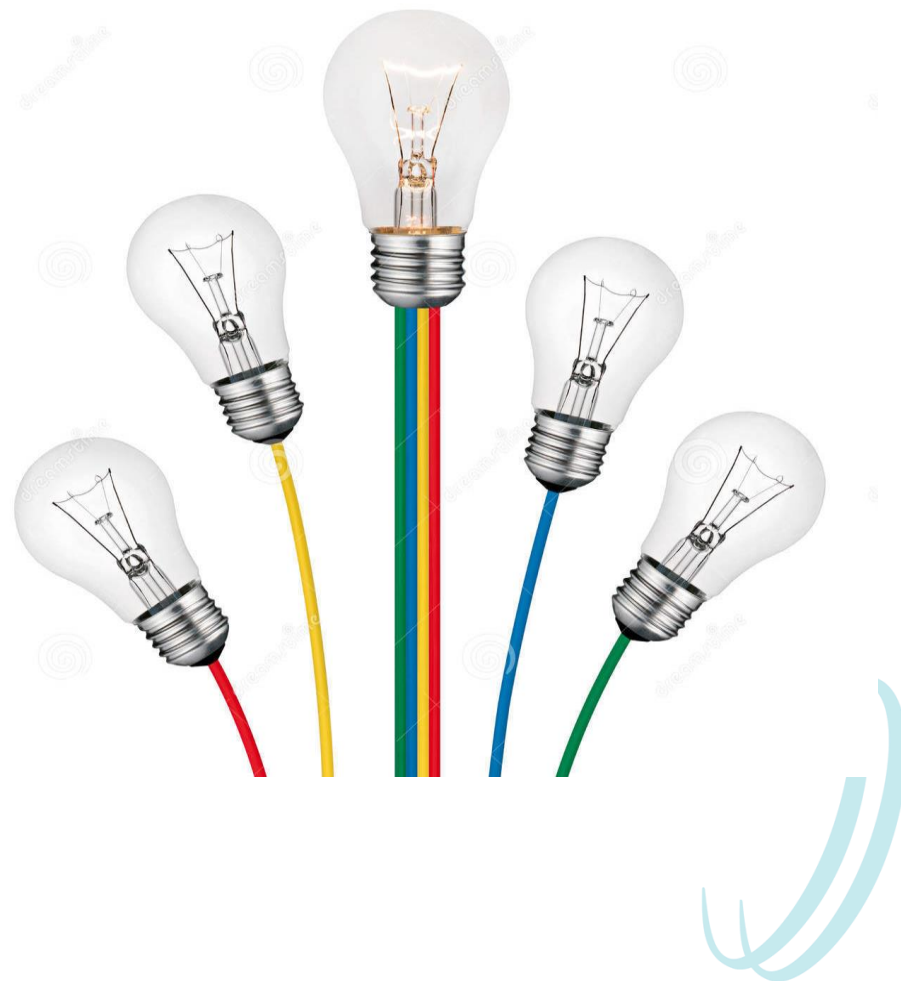


- 1) On which group would your research focus? (population)
- 2) What would you like to do? (intervention)
- 3) What would you expect to change as a result of your intervention (outcome)



# Research Development Groups

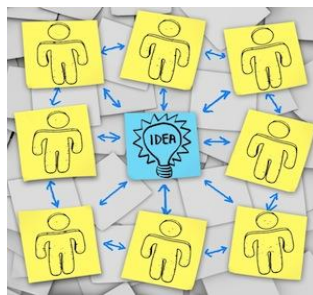
- Brings multiple perspectives and skill sets
- Allows us to cross sectoral boundaries
- Helps to promote research translation





Health  
Development  
2) Member completes RDG  
Proposal Form detailing  
idea

1) NIPHRN member  
has a research idea  
and would like to  
establish Research  
Development Group  
(RDG)



3) RDG Proposal Form is  
circulated across Network

4) Interested members  
express an interest in the  
research idea



5) Multi-disciplinary  
RDG is formed

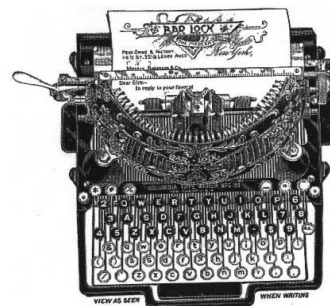
6) RDG meets  
regularly to develop  
proposal

10) If funded, evidence  
from research project  
feeds back to wider public  
health community  
including academics,  
third sector, practitioners,  
public and policymakers

## How does an RDG operate?



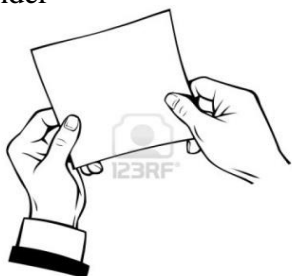
8) Research proposal is completed with input  
from all members of the RDG



7) RDG uses web-tools on NIPHRN  
website to share resources, ideas on  
proposal



9) Proposal submitted to  
funder



Health and Wellbeing

# Research Funding: NI

- Cochrane Library Access, Training & Fellowships
- Doctoral Fellowships
- Enabling Research Awards
- Opportunity-led Commissioned Research Awards
- Needs-led Commissioned Research Awards
- Knowledge Exchange Awards



# Research Funding: UK

- **NIHR Public Health Research (PHR) Programme**
- MRC Public Health Intervention Research Development (PHIND)
- NIHR Trainees Coordinating Centre capacity building: Doctoral, postdoctoral (<3yrs), career development (<7yrs), senior research (independent researcher)



# NIHR PHR Stakeholders

- decision-makers in local government; primary care organisations and other local public services; third sector organisations; relevant national agencies (e.g. NICE) concerned with improving public health and reducing health inequalities; researchers; public health practitioners and the public.



## “Can we help the public lead healthier lives?”

- to improve the health of the public and reduce inequalities in health

### Evaluates

- **non-NHS** public health interventions, benefits, costs, acceptability and wider impacts

### Types of Research

- Multi-disciplinary, mixed methods covering a range of public health interventions. Non-randomised designs are welcomed

### Outcomes

- Effectiveness, cost-effectiveness, acceptability to target community, impact on wider society



# Interventions of interest

- The PHR Programme will generally only consider applications focused on intervention development where an intervention already exists and for which there is an evidence base, but it requires adaptation to situations such as a new context (e.g. a change in setting or target behaviour or client group) or amalgamation of separate, defined interventions so that they complement each other.





## Example of NIHR PHR-funded study

- “Walk with Me Study”
- A feasibility study and pilot RCT of a peer-led walking programme to increase physical activity in inactive older adults
- Project lead: Dr Mark Tully, UKCRC Centre of Excellence for Public Health



# Research Team

- Queen's University Belfast
- University of Cambridge
- Ulster University
- Age NI
- Public Health Agency
- British Heart Foundation
- Pennington Biomedical USA
- NI Clinical Trials Unit



# Success Factors

- NIPHRN RDG
- Benefits of NIPHRN web-based tools to develop the proposal and share easily and privately online
- Good cross-sectoral working allowed the sharing of knowledge and expertise between the research team members to ensure that all aspects of the proposal were well considered and developed





For researchers

For industry

For the public

Search

# Research and Development in Northern Ireland

*improving health and social care through research*



Public Health  
Agency

Research and Development

Funding Opportunities

Funded Infrastructure -  
Centres, Units & Facilities

Project Portfolio

Partnerships

About us

Personal & Public

Inv...

Eve...

New...



**Commissioned  
Research Call**  
Early Intervention  
Transformation Programme



Intervention  
nation Programme

*The  
ANTIC  
anthropies*

www.research.hscni.net

Transformation Programmes (EITP)  
[Read more >](#)



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Highlight on Funded Research

C-TRIC Conference