

The Scottish Collaboration for Public Health Research and Policy: Activities To Date and Future Plans

"REFLECTIONS AND NEXT STEPS" EVENT November 21, 2011

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*By three methods we may learn wisdom:
First, by reflection, which is noblest;
Second, by imitation, which is easiest; and
Third by experience, which is the bitterest*
Confucius

Outline

- ~ Review of core mandate and approach
- ~ What we've done in 2008-11
 - > Four Working Group portfolios:
 - Early Life WG
 - Adolescence & Young Adulthood WG
 - Working Life WG
 - Later Life WG
 - > Building capacity for public health improvement *and its measurement*: training and CPD Activities
 - > Plans for 2012-13:
 - . Second round of competitively awarded "Pre-Intervention Pilot/Demonstration Project Grants"
 - > Renewal Bid to MRC/CSO for 2013-18

Our Core Mandate and Approach (as established in 2007 by MRC and CSO -- our funders)

- ~ To identify key areas of opportunity for developing novel public health interventions that equitably address major health problems in Scotland, and move those forward.
- ~ To foster collaboration between government, researchers and the public health community to develop a national programme of intervention development, large-scale implementation and robust evaluation.
- ~ Build capacity within the public health community for collaborative research of the highest quality, with maximum impact on policies, programs and practice.



Reflections on the four Working Groups

Early Years



Early to Mid-working Life



Adolescence and Young Adulthood



Later Life



Early Years Portfolio

Project Type	Project Title
Environmental Scan	Environmental Scan: Interventions for Promoting Early Child Development for Health: an environmental scan with special reference to Scotland Rosemary Geddes, SCPHRP
Seed-funding Award	Investigation of observed increases in breastfeeding rates in deprived areas.* Bruce Whyte, Glasgow Centre for Population Health
Seed-funding Award	Setting up Data Linkage System for Children in Glasgow Phil Wilson, University of Glasgow
TWO FUNDED 2011-13 GRANTS (see list to follow)	
Commissioned Project	Adaptation and Piloting of the Early Development Instrument (EDI) in Scottish School Entrants Lisa Wolfson, Strathclyde University in collaboration with SCPHRP (Rosemary Geddes, John Frank) and East Lothian local authorities
NIHR Public Health Grant Application in the final stages and looking very promising	The THRIVE Trial PI Marion Henderson

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Adult Working Life Portfolio

Project Type	Project Title
Environmental Scan	Environmental Scan of Potential Policy Interventions to Tackle Obesogenic Aspects of the Built Environment John Mooney, SCPHRP
MRC Dissertation	Analysis of policies (Scottish/UK/EU) that drive the obesity epidemic/obesogenic environment Martin Higgins, Lothian Health
Commissioned Project	Study of Caloric Content of Top-Selling Items at Fast-Food Outlets Near Glasgow Schools: SCPHRP (John Mooney) in collaboration with MRC SPHSU (Glasgow) and other investigators
SCPHRP funded research	Four 2011-13 Pre-Intervention Grants submitted, one funded (SEE LIST TO FOLLOW) -- to test feasibility of price-incentives for health eating in workplace canteens

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Adolescence & Young Adulthood Portfolio

Project Type	Project Title
Environmental Scan	Interventions that address multiple risk behaviours or take a generic approach to risk behaviour in youth Caroline Jackson, SCPHRP [see: www.scpgrp.ac.uk]
Commissioned Projects	Secondary analysis of: 1) Scottish survey data to assess clustering of risk behaviours in 18 yr olds 1990/2003, with MRC SPHSU, Glasgow; 2) Comparative national survey data in 15 yr olds, 1998 /2010, with Child and Adolescent Health Research Unit, University of Edinburgh
Seed-funding Award	Youth male violence in Scotland: Understanding antecedents, reducing recidivism, and tackling health inequalities Peter Donnelly, St Andrew's University
Seed-funding Award	Whole school interventions addressing multiple adolescent risk behaviours in Scotland: a feasibility study Lyndal Bond, MRC SPHSU, Glasgow
NIHR Public Health Grant Applications (2 grants in the final stages and looking very promising, for over £1 million each, autumn 2011)	1) Evaluation of the impact of the Tobacco and Primary Medical Services (Scotland) Act 2010 on diverse smoking outcomes in Scots aged 12 to 17 yrs. PI: Sally Haw (formerly SCPHRP, now at Stirling University, with Working Group members); 2) Novel Primary School Intervention to Reduce Risky Behaviours in Teens. PIs Marion Henderson and Danny Wight (MRC SPHSU, Glasgow, with Working Group members)

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Later Life Portfolio

Project Type	Project Title
Environmental Scan	Environmental scan of interventions in primary care/community settings that prevent or delay functional decline in the frail and elderly Helen Frost, SCPHRP [see: www.scpgrp.ac.uk]
Seed-funding Award	Development of a risk prediction tool for entering a nursing home in those aged 65 and over in a Scottish population* Peter Donnan, University of Dundee
Seed-funding Award	Preventing or delaying disablement amongst older adults: mapping the Scottish landscape to identify promising programmes* Sally Wyke, University of Stirling
Seed-funding Award	Feasibility study of use of direct payments for informal care* Anne Ludbrooke, University of Aberdeen
Commissioned Research	Study to Assess Effect of Nairn General Practice "Anticipatory Care Plan" Intervention on Reducing Institutionalisation in the Elderly Adrian Baker and Paul Leak of Nairn, in conjunction with Josie Evans and Iain Atherton, University of Stirling & Dundee

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*See website for initial Project Report

Working Group Activity Supported by

- ~ The Work of the Four Career Development Fellows
 - Environmental scans
- ~ SCPHRP Seed-funding Awards, 2010-11 (n= 7)
 - Pilot/feasibility studies of PH interventions
 - Development of improved population-level monitoring and record-linkage systems
- ~ SCPHRP Commissioned Research
- ~ Research Council Funding Applications (in progress/ planned)

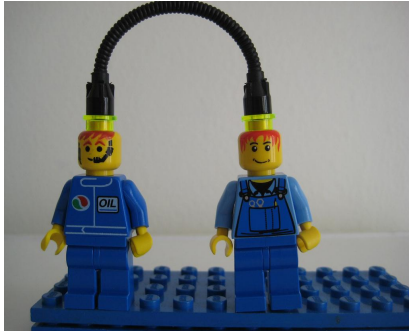
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2011-13 Pilot/Demonstration "Pre-Intervention" Grants (competitively funded)

- ~ May 2011 Call led to 14 Full Bids submitted
- ~ Four bids funded thus far:
 - . Anderson/Mooney et al: Feasibility Trial of a Price Incentive Interventions to Promote Healthy Eating in Workplace Canteens
 - . Pell et al: First Scotland-Wide Data-Linkage, Health and Education Sectors for Children
 - . Wilson et al: Antenatal Parenting Support RCT for Vulnerable Women in Pregnancy
 - . Witham/Frost et al: Combining Health, Social Services and Functional Data for Older People in Tayside
- ~ Four more bids revised/resubmitted and out for final re-review

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Knowledge Transfer Activities



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SCPHRP Special Events in 2009-10

Event Type	Event Title
Public Lecture October 2009	Early Childhood Origins of Violent Behaviour: Implications for Preventive Interventions Richard Tremblay, GRIP, Université de Montréal
Seminar October 2009	Obesity in Scotland: Moving the agenda forward (with key Scottish stakeholders and Harry Rutter, NCO, U.K.)
Public Lecture November 2009	Translating Evidence in a Changing Public Health Environment: A View from Down Under John Lynch, University of South Australia
Public Lecture January 2010	Early Child Development: A Powerful Equaliser Clyde Hertzman, University of British Columbia
Seminar April 2010	Lost in Translation? The Political Realities of Getting Evidence Into Policy -- Allan Best, University of British Columbia
Public Lecture May 2010	PRISMA – an Integrated Service Delivery System for Frail Older People: Implications for Service Delivery in Scotland Rejean Herbert, Université de Sherbrooke
Public Lecture June 2010	Tackling Obesity in the 21st Century: Crafting Society-wide Solutions Shiriki Kumanyika, Univ. Pennsylvania School of Medicine

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New CPD Courses Developed and Piloted by SCPHRP

“Critical Appraisal for Public Health;” “Pitfalls and Tips”

Six sessions developed (taught by entire SCPHRP team)

Topics:

- RCTs of Screening:** The Example of PSA and Prostate Cancer
- Non-RCT Evaluations of PH Interventions:** The Example of the 2006 Smoke-Free Laws in Scotland
- Meta-Analyses of Environmental Hazard Causation Studies:** The Example of 2nd-Hand Smoke and Breast Cancer
- Complex Studies of Nutrition and Health:** EPIC Cohort Analysis of Fruit/Vegetable Consumption and All Cancers [
- Measuring and Monitoring Health Inequalities by SES:** A two part session on 1) basic methods and 2) current challenges in Scotland in using routinely collected health statistics for this purpose

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Capacity Building



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SCPHRP Traineeships

MRC-CSO Career Development Fellows:

- Helen Frost (Sept 2009)
- Rosemary Geddes (July 2009)
- Caroline Jackson (Sept 2009)
- John Mooney (Sept 2009)

Associates/Internships:

- Martin Higgins (Oct 2009 -) –MSc dissertation on obesity policy-drivers
- Rob Young (July- December 2010) – MRC PhD Studentship on spline analyses of SES gradients in health outcomes in Scotland
- Katherine Smith (PDF transfer from Bristol to University of Edinburgh: Jan 2011) –ESRC-MRC PDF on tracing the influence of ideas as markers of the science to policy process
- Accredited placement (6 months) for Public Health SpRs – initial SpR Tara Shivaji started January 2011, working on qualitative aspects of EDI pilot in East Lothian (see below)

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Policy Impact

- Expert committee set up in 2010 by the SG Health Finance and Analytical Services Directorates for *NHS Quality Strategy Indicators initiative*
- 14 professionals, serving as technical, policy or clinical leads for reviewing Level 1 Early Years Indicators – *SCPHRP Fellow Dr. Rosemary Geddes one of technical leads*
- The leads contributed via email and face-to-face
- **Case Study: NHS Quality Strategy 2010/2011 and Preventative Spending Inquiry by Scottish Parliament** meetings to the key indicators proposed by the Chief Medical Officer, Dr Harry Burns

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Reflecting on the past to build bridges for the future



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Lessons Learned

- ~ Learned enormous amount about the rapid review of public health intervention literature
- ~ Work of Working Groups has to build on interests/needs of group members in order to maintain momentum
- ~ There is enthusiasm for developing critical appraisal skills in CPD but staff find it difficult to prioritise course attendance over their day job: offer other CPD formats?
- ~ Scottish Government have been generally receptive to our ideas but long-term engagement challenging: nifty ideas "penetrate:"

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Developing a Consensus Process

- ~ We believe that broad **buy-in beforehand** by both senior policy-makers at SG level, and other stakeholders (e.g. LAs/HBs, Voluntary Sector, local community representatives) is essential, if pilots of interventions are to lead to subsequent action. **This takes time and trust.**
 - There is considerable international cynicism about whether a successful pilot – of which Scotland has seen *many* -- can truly lead to fully-funded ramp-up, with robust evaluation by competent researchers
 - To counter this, researchers have to be engaged and committed with policy-makers and practitioners, and vice-versa!
- SCPHRP is looking at various possible models of engaging diverse interest groups in further topic prioritization for 2013-18, for example "deliberative," "search" and "consensus" processes/conferences – suggestions welcome!

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2011-13 Plans for SCPHRP

- ~ SCPHRP has collaborated this autumn as a co-lead, with a half dozen universities and branches of government, in the Scottish SHIP-based bid to the ESRC/MRC/Wellcome Trust "E-Health competition" for five years of funding (£8.4 million) to further develop Scotland's superb track-record of record-linkage for applied research to inform policy, programme and practice – within and beyond the health sector.
- ~ SCPHRP has been invited by MRC and the (former) CSO to submit a 5-year renewal bid for 2013-18: ergo this meeting, to obtain stakeholder input!

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2011-13 Plans for SCPHRP

In May 2011, in response to our stakeholder consultation, SCPHRP issued a call for "pre-intervention" for Outline Bids describing 2011-13 pilot/demonstration projects:

Of the 14 bids, the projected 50% success rate will disburse over £400,000, utilizing balance of SCPHRP five-year budget assigned to project funding.

A key question for today:
Should SCPHRP continue to act as a funder of seed-grants to build "informative intervention research" capacity? [If not, who then?]

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Proposed for 2013-18: A New Approach to Training: NHS Health Board Public Health Fellows

- “ Proposal for a new MRC/CSO/SCPHRP Fellowship Programme for fully qualified Public Health specialists wanting further training, and personal mentoring, in research methods applied to a practical problem in their work setting -- now out for consultation to key stakeholders (e.g. Scottish DsPH).
- “ Candidates to be nominated by DsPH/employer committee
- “ Ideally, Fellows obtaining extra applied public health research skills *should bring those back to the practice setting* – e.g. NHS HB Public Health sections

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Proposed for 2013-18: A New Approach to Training: NHS Health Board Public Health Fellows

- “ SCPHRP would broker the creation of supervisory/ mentoring committees of Scotland-wide experts best matched to trainee needs
- “ Course work to be largely distance-based, with periodic meetings of Fellows’ peer-group and mentors
- “ 0.5 FTE service buy-out for 2-3 years, to be half funded by SCPHRP, half by Health Board employer
- “ SCPHRP funding to cover all course development and mentoring costs (including HIE faculty costs and FECs)
- “ Long-term follow-through of mentoring to see that each Fellow’s research project(s) in their workplace come to fruition

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Key Questions for This Meeting
(to guide stakeholder panel and breakouts)

- 1) What are the current and future challenges in Scotland to:**
 - “ Public health decision-makers’ effective use of research evidence?
 - “ Building further capacity to carry out high-quality, relevant intervention research?
 - “ Building further capacity to perform novel record-linkage for monitoring population health and health disparities, needs assessment and intervention evaluation?
- 2) How can a renewed SCPHRP in 2013-18 best help address these challenges?**

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