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# Hubs & Spokes, a Cycle for Change Co-operative Cross Site Learning for Student Nurse Naïve Clinical Research Facilities

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## Introduction

In order to develop a new generation of research ready nurses and highlight the importance and rewards of a clinical research nurse career at grass roots level (Gordon, 2008), student nurse placement were considered desirable for the CRF environment

## Method

Newcastle CRF functioned as an 8 week 'hub' for a second year undergraduate degree programme student nurse.

Newcastle CRF and Newcastle Clinical Ageing Research Unit (CARU) worked in partnership to identify 'Spoke' placements to provide short-term learning opportunities in order to satisfy agreed learning outcomes.

## Planning

CRF and CARU worked collaboratively prior to the student placement to plan the students timetable and also agree appropriate learning opportunities at CRF, CARU and beyond, in line with trust policy, GCP and the requirements of clinical trials protocols.

## Results

Student nurse placements at CRF/CARU inspired our student to question her student peers about their knowledge of clinical research having had a positive learning experience. (May, R. (2017) Northumbrian Student Cohort Survey; unpublished)

## References

Gordon, C. (2008) Exploring the new speciality of Clinical Research Nursing. Nursing Times 104 (29) 34-35

**Survey of research naïve student nurses (May 2017)**

- Over half of student nurses polled were not aware of CRF
- None of those polled understood the differing roles of Clinical Research Nurses and Nurses Researcher
  - 33% did not feel a placement within Clinical Research was of benefit
  - 66% would not consider working in research

**“ I feel clinical research provides an important and exciting experience for students ”**

**“ Clinical research is now definitely something I would consider when looking at my future employment ”**

## Conclusion

- Feedback from other student nurses indicated that the awareness of the CRF amongst student nurses and the role of the clinical research nurse was poor.
- Student feedback after placement was extremely positive - CRF being nominated for a 'learning for excellence' award by student nurse.
- All agreed learning outcomes were met for the practice assessment document.
- Further student placements and collaboration with the university will serve to showcase the role of the CRF/CARU within the trust and the wider research community, ensuring that a clinical research nurse career is a viable career pathway.



Working together as Newcastle Academic Health Partners