



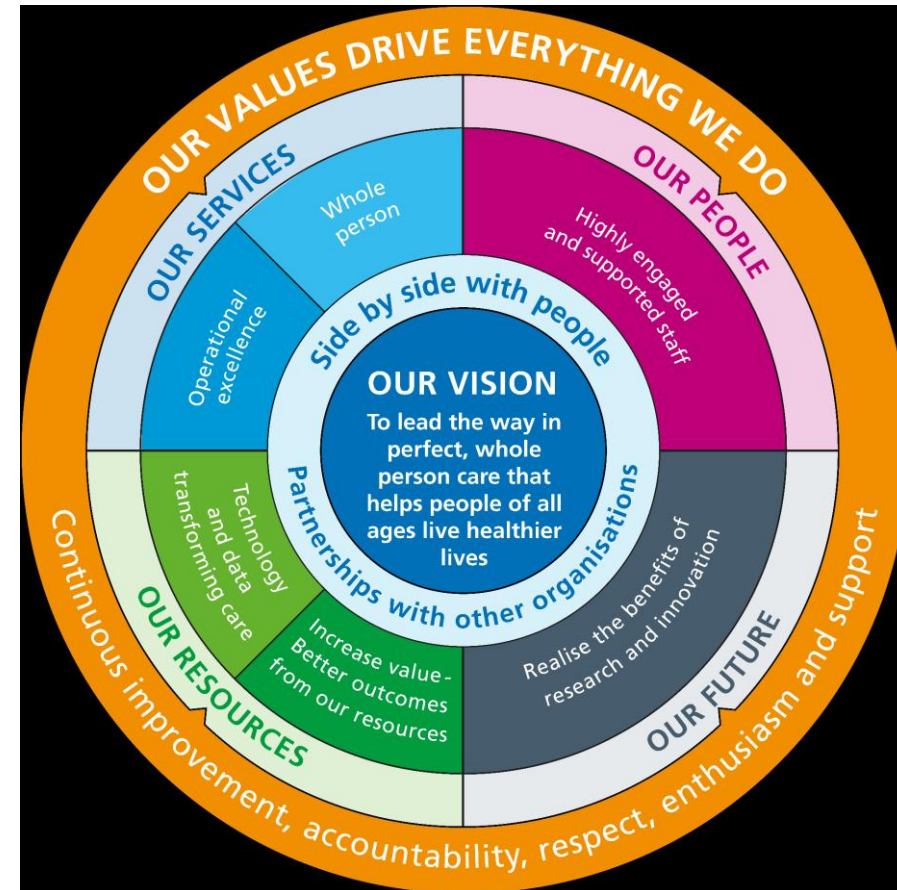
Mental Health
Research for
Innovation
Centre



Mersey Care
NHS Foundation Trust

Research in Action: Advancing Community Engagement, Building Capability, Shaping Healthier Futures

SEE WHAT IS POSSIBLE | FIND
YOUR ROUTE IN | SHAPE
WHAT HAPPENS NEXT





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Welcome

Research in Action is a trust-wide invitation to move research among under-represented disciplines from the margins of practice into the heart of care.

The programme celebrates staff and partners who are already generating knowledge and improving services, while creating visible routes for more people to contribute.

The day directly supports Mersey Care's ambition to lead world-class research and innovation, accelerate the movement of effective ideas into care, strengthen an inclusive and capable workforce, reduce inequalities, and use partnership, data and learning to deliver safer, more personalised and compassionate services.



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Forum Programme Overview



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By connecting lived experience, frontline innovation, research delivery and executive leadership, the event aims to showcase existing work to address one practical question: **how can research become part of everyday work across Mersey Care?**

Delegates will leave with clearer routes into research, stronger connections across services and a shared set of actions for the next 12 months.



Agenda

Time	Session	Purpose / Lead
9:30 am	Registration, refreshments and exhibition stands	Connect with colleagues, service-user partners, research teams and regional organisations. Explore current studies, development opportunities and practical routes into research.
9:55 am	Welcome and introduction Dan Joyce, Director of Research and Innovation	Setting the strategic context: why research matters to Mersey Care, its workforce and the communities it serves.
10:00 am	Opening remarks: From participation to impact Oladayo Bifarin, Research Effectiveness Lead MCFT Shruti Sharma, Research Capacity & Capability – AHPs	A clear ambition for the day with key examples about the journey so far: widen participation, build capability and convert good ideas into measurable improvements in care.
10:15 am	National keynote: Building research capacity and capability across nursing and allied health professions Roxanne Crosby-Nwobi, NIHR Program Director Senior Research Leaders	How inclusive clinical academic pathways can strengthen services, develop staff and ensure that research reflects the needs of diverse communities.

Agenda

Time	Session	Purpose / Lead
10:45 am	Research in Action: People, practice and possibility	A fast-paced plenary showcase demonstrating how research can improve safety, equity, experience and outcomes. 10:45 - 10:50 Welcome and introduction 10:50 - 11:00 Gill Stead & Sheree Desson 11:00 - 11:10 Walter Ugwuocha 11:10 - 11:20 Laura Montauti 11:20 - 11:30 Georgia Byrne-Watts 11:30 - 11:40 Break 11:40 - 11:50 Alan Haddy 11:50 - 12:00 Tori Wolfendale 12:00 - 12:10 Marcus Bull & Anabelle Wright 12:10 - 12:15 Key takeaways and close
12:15-12:25 PM	BREAK	
12:25 PM	All Things Research Delivery: Bringing opportunity closer to care Jade Thai, Senior Research Lead MCFT	An accessible overview of how research is delivered across the Trust, the studies currently open, and how staff and service users can contribute to high-quality, inclusive research.
12:45 pm	Lunch, exhibition stands and research advice stores	Share research ideas, discuss development routes and make connections that can continue beyond the event.

Agenda

Time	Session	Purpose / Lead
1:30 pm	Leadership conversation: Making research part of everyday care Roxanne Crosby-Nwobi, NIHR Program Director Senior Research Leaders Julie Bury, Senior Program Manager – NIHR - AHPs Jenny Hurst, Chief Nurse MCFT Noir Thomas, Chief Medical Officer MCFT Francesca Cairns, Deputy Director of Therapies, Psychological and Allied Health Professionals Dan Joyce, Director of Research MRiC	A candid panel bringing national, Trust, operational, clinical and lived-experience perspectives into one conversation. The focus is removing barriers, protecting participation, linking research to service priorities and translating evidence into safer, more equitable care.
2:15 pm	Co-creating the Research in Action Plan Amanda Craig, Chief Executive Officer – NHS North West R&D Joanne Simpson, Chief Operating Officer – NHS North West R&D	Facilitated table conversations to turn lived experiences into an organisational plan. Delegates will identify actions to widen access, strengthen career pathways, involve communities as partners, connect operational challenges with research expertise, and expand the

Agenda

Time	Session	Purpose / Lead
3:00 pm	From discussion to action – Interactive session Amanda Craig, Chief Executive Officer - North West R&D Joanne Simpson, Chief Operating Officer - North West R&D	Each group will present one priority action, the support required, who needs to be involved and how progress should be measured.
3:35 pm	Our shared commitments and next steps Oladayo Bifarin, Research Effectiveness Lead MCFT Nicky Fearon, Assistant Director of Nursing MCFT	The emerging Research in Action priorities will be brought into a single 12- month framework, with clear routes for staff, service users and partners to remain involved.
3:50 pm	Closing reflections Jenny Hurst, Chief Nurse MCFT	A final challenge to carry the day's learning into teams, services and communities, ensuring that research leads to visible change.
4:00 pm	Event close	