

INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH IN HEALTH SCIENCES (IRIHS) ANNUAL REPORT 2024

IRIHS is a research unit within the Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences at the University of Oxford. It is led by Professor Trisha Greenhalgh, and has an Executive team comprising the following members in 2024: Sara Shaw, Caroline Potter, Chrysanthi Papoutsis, Charlotte Thompson-Grant (Anne Ferrey is shadowing and will join formally in March 2025). IRIHS aims to undertake high-quality interdisciplinary research, teaching and applied scholarship across a range of fields relating to clinical practice, organisation and delivery of health and care services, health policy, translational science (including the social and behavioural sciences), digital health and the lived experience of illness and health care. Trish will step down from IRIHS leadership in 2025.

SUMMARY: Main achievements in 2024 and strategy for 2025

1. **ACADEMIC TEAM.** The **25 IRIHS staff** comprise: three Professors (two clinical), two Associate Professors (one clinical); 17 additional academic staff (plus two affiliated academics who work mainly in other units) and 3 support staff. **Four honorary IRIHS academics** bring expertise and ideas from other universities in UK and abroad. In 2024, we also had one external **Visiting Professor** on a BA Fellowship (Veinot).
2. **RESEARCH:** Research income to IRIHS for new research studies awarded in 2024 included approximately **£370k as principal and co-investigators**, including a new UKRI grant with Manchester on interdisciplinary systematic review. We have approximately **£1m** remaining from our ongoing research grants.
3. **AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS and PROMOTIONS** (see page 9) included **Churchill Scholarship** and **Clarendon Fellowship** (Payne), **NIHR SPCR Doctoral Fellowship** (Swann), **Emerging Research Leader** on Climate and Health, Academy of Medical Sciences (Booth), **SAPC prize for best paper** (Eaton), **SAPC Junior Investigator** (Barry), **Highly-Cited Researcher** (Greenhalgh), **RCGP Research Paper of the Year** and runner-up (Payne/Greenhalgh and Ladds respectively), **NIHR post-doctoral fellowship** (Barry), **BJGP Conference Senior Researcher Award** (Payne), a teaching excellence award and **Green Impact Award Beyond Gold** (Thompson-Grant).
4. **PUBLICATION AND DISSEMINATION:** We published **124 peer-reviewed academic articles**. We gave many **high-profile keynote lectures and policy briefings**. IRIHS staff and student members sit on a number of policy groups e.g. **advising NHS England, Wales or Scotland, NICE, or WHO** on various committees. We continued to play a prominent role in **public understanding of science** on COVID-19 and wider issues.
5. **TEACHING:** Our **MSc in Translational Health Sciences** is now in its fifth year with 38 students enrolled (10 full-time and 28 part-time) and 9 modules running. A new short course on Sustainable Health Care commenced in March 2024. Our **DPhil in Translational Health Sciences** is in its fourth year. We contributed to various other MSc courses at Oxford including **Global Healthcare Leadership**.
6. **DOCTORAL STUDENTS.** Of our **29 registered DPhil students based in IRIHS**, 6 passed their final DPhil viva. Two students passed Transfer of Status and three passed Confirmation of Status. We have supervised a **further eight DPhil students** based elsewhere, two of whom passed in 2024. We have revised our programme of training, mentoring and support for our research students, aligning with other NDPCHS research units.
7. **STAFF WELLBEING.** The unit continues to be a supportive, nurturing and challenging environment where students, academics and support staff can develop and thrive. We have an active programme of **peer support and mentoring**, and take a flexible approach to people's individual needs and priorities.
8. **STRATEGY:** Ensure delivery of **current research** grants. Continue to work towards **programme grants in interdisciplinary research, with focus on linking clinical themes, social science and environmental sustainability**. Continue to build and maintain **links with policymakers**. Ensure delivery and modest growth of our **MSc and DPhil programme**; support student **placements beyond academia**. **Support all academic staff** to write, publish and disseminate, with outreach links as appropriate. Support career progression of all staff via promotion and mentoring schemes. Identify and tap into **departmental funding sources**. Continue planning for changing senior roles in IRIHS.

Staff in post on 31 December 2024 (see also DPhil students below)

| ACADEMIC STAFF | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| Name | | Role | Academic field | FTE |
| Trisha | Greenhalgh | Clinical Professor and Director of IRIHS | GP, social sciences | 100% |
| Sara | Shaw | Professor | Health policy, sociology | 90% |
| Aileen | Clarke | Clinical Professor | Health Services research | 10% |
| Chrysanthi | Papoutsis | Associate Professor | Social sciences | 60% |
| Geoff | Wong | Clinical Associate Professor | GP and Realist Research | 80% |
| Natassia | Brenman | Senior Researcher | Medical Anthropology/ sociology | 100% |
| Joanna | Crocker | Senior Researcher | Biomedical Sciences/ Mixed Methods | 60% |
| Anne | Ferrey | Senior Researcher & Course Director in MSc in THS | Cognitive Psychology | 100% |
| Caroline | Potter | Senior Researcher | Medical anthropology, mixed methods, social care | 100% |
| Joe | Wherton | Senior Researcher | Psychology / HCI | 100% |
| Julie | Darbyshire | Senior Scientific Officer | Stakeholder experiences/ Mixed methods/ Secondary care research | 100% |
| Eleanor | Barry | Clinical Postdoctoral Researcher | General Practice / Public Health | 50% |
| Rachna | Begh | Deputy Course Director in MSc in THS/ University Research Lecturer | Delivery and evaluation of brief interventions | 40% |
| Nikki | Newhouse | Health Services Researcher | Human-computer interaction | 90% |
| Jackie | Van Dael | Health Services Researcher | Social Sciences | 100% |
| Helene- Mari | Van Der Westhuizen | Translational Health Sciences MSc Lecturer | Global Health | 20% |
| Francesca | Dakin | Research Assistant | Social Sciences | 20% |
| Laiba | Husain | Research Assistant | Social Sciences | 20% |
| Asli | Kalin | SPCR GP Career Progression Fellow | GP | 25% |
| Ellen | Maclver | NIHR In-Practice Fellow | GP | 40% |
| Alex | Bowes | Academic Clinical Fellow | Sexual and Women's Health | 20% |
| Alexandra | Caulfield | Academic Clinical Fellow | GP | 60% |

See also Eleanor Barry and Rosie Cooper below (NIHR Doctoral Fellows on payroll)

| SUPPORT STAFF | | | | |
|---------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Name | | Role | Main focus | FTE |
| Sally | Carr | MSc Administrator | MSc in THS administration | 50% |
| Penny | Spencer | Personal Assistant | Project PA work | 60% |
| Charlotte | Thompson-Grant | IRIHS PA/ Research Coordinator | IRIHS and research administration / PA to IRIHS Directors | 80% |

| IRIHS ASSOCIATES—WITHIN NDPCHS | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Name | | Role | Academic field |
| Stuart | Faulkner | Senior Program Manager with Professor Sir Aziz Sheikh (MSc Tutor for IRIHS) | Medical innovation and health systems policy |
| Teresa | Finlay | Senior Health Services Researcher within MS&HERG (MSc Tutor for IRIHS) | Nursing/Social sciences |

| IRIHS ASSOCIATES—EXTERNAL | | | |
|---------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Name | | Role | Academic field |
| Ninna | Meier | Honorary Associate Professor | Business and Management |
| Lucas | Seuren | Honorary Health Services Researcher | Linguistics |
| Jackie | Walumbe | Honorary Health Services Researcher | Physiotherapy |
| Sietse | Wieringa | Honorary GP Researcher | GP |

Higher degree students (including those on staff payroll)

BASED IN OUR DEPARTMENT

| Name | Background | Supervisors | Funding | Topic | From (FT/PT) | Progress |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Mona Koshkouei | Pharmacy | Greenhalgh, Papoutsi Ford, Dopson | Self | Falsified Medicines Directive | 2018 (PT) | Passed with minor corrections Feb 24 |
| Ellie Barry | GP | Greenhalgh, Shaw, Papoutsi, Ferrey | NIHR DRF | Lived experience of pre-diabetes | 2018 (PT) | Passed with minor corrections March 2024 |
| Katherine Kalaris | International Development | Wong, English | Self | A realist evaluation of implementing better care practices and bundled technologies in Kenyan Hospitals | 2020 (PT) | Passed with minor corrections June 2024 |
| Georgette Eaton | Paramedic | Mahtani, Wong, Tierney | NIHR DRF | Use of paramedics in primary care | 2019 (PT) | Passed with minor corrections January 2024 |
| Laiba Husain | Psychology / HSR | Greenhalgh, Hughes, Wherton, Finlay | THIS Institute QI fellowship | Reducing digital inequalities in remote services | 2021 (FT) | Passed with minor corrections Nov 2024 |
| Angela Wu | Psychology | Begh, Lindson, Hartmann-Boyce, Gao, Perera | BHF studentship | Smoking cessation in people living with cardiovascular disease and mental illness: exploring the evidence base for clinician intervention | 2021 (FT) | Passed with minor corrections April 24 |
| Andrea Leinberger-Jabari | Public Health | Begh, Lindson, Hartmann-Boyce | Self-funded | Cultural tailoring of smoking cessation interventions | 2021 (PT) | CoS planned Jul 2025 |

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|----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Richard Gleave | Policymaker | Shaw, Fahy, Hughes | Public Health England | How national public health bodies use evidence | 2017 (PT) | CoS passed Nov 2022 |
| Jeremy Leslie-Spinks | Professional Dance | Greenhalgh, Potter, Arnaldi | Snow Scholar: patient led research | Narratives of elite ballet dancers with degenerative spinal disease. | 2020 | CoS passed Feb 2024 |
| Francis Ayomoh | Public Health Physician | Shaw, Newhouse, Hughes, Silman | Commonwealth Scholarship Commission | Improving task-shifting and task-sharing for essential healthcare services in Nigeria | 2021 (FT) | CoS passed Nov 2023 |
| Amy Booth | Doctor | Shaw, Wieringa Breen | Rhodes Scholar | Decarbonising the pharmaceutical supply chain | 2021 (FT) | CoS passed June 2024 |
| Francesca Dakin | Anthropology | Greenhalgh, Rai, Papparini | SPCR | Navigating change and crisis in UK general practice | 2021 (FT) | CoS passed Oct 2024 |
| Josephine Wallinger | Speech and Language Therapist | Greenhalgh, Snowling, Ferrey | The Colt Foundation | Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) in the workplace | 2021 (PT) | ToS passed in Nov 2023 |
| Michelle Treacy | Nursing | Wong, Odell (Reading) | Self | What mechanisms influence use of NEWS Score in noncritical care? | 2021 (PT) | ToS passed May 2023. Currently on maternity leave |
| Angille Heintzman | Healthcare Scientist (Canada) | Wong Friedemann-Smith | Self | Cancer screening for refugees in Canada and the OECD | 2021 (PT) | ToS passed May 2024 |
| Rosie Cooper | Public Health Physician | Wong Ariss (Sheffield) | NIHR CDRF | How, why, for whom, in what contexts and to what extent does a digital follow-up intervention for coliac disease patients work? | 2022 (FT) | ToS passed Oct 2023 |
| Emma Ladds | GP partner | Greenhalgh, Darbyshire, Swinglehurst | Wellcome/ SPCR | What is the role of the GP-patient relationship in modern general practice? | 2022 (PT) | ToS due April 2025 |
| Babar Akbar | GP | Wong, Santiago (St Andrews) | Self | Understanding the role and value of the multidisciplinary team model for Primary Care Out of Hours in Scotland: A realist approach | 2022 (PT) | ToS due April 2025 |
| Devon McConnell | Psychologist (USA) | Wong, Ferrey | Self | Using attachment-based Emotionally Focused Individual Therapy (EFIT) to decrease depression and anxiety in underrepresented business leaders (a realist approach) | 2022 (PT) | ToS passed May 2024 |
| Laura Heath | GP | Jebb, Nicolson, Wherton | Wellcome Trust | Preventative care interventions | 2022 (FT) | (on mat leave until Feb 25). |

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|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| | | | | | | ToS passed April 2022 |
| Jemma Houghton | Physiotherapist | Farmer, Dave, Taylor, van der Westhuizen | Rhodes Scholar | Foot ulcer and amputation prevention in people with diabetes in Cape Town, South Africa: a mixed method approach | 2022 (FT) | ToS passed December 2023 |
| Isabel Hanson | GP | Greenhalgh, Shaw, Kidd | Monash and Rotary scholarships | Youth mental health hubs: case studies in the UK and Australia | 2023 (FT) | ToS scheduled January 2025 |
| Nicole Mfoafo-M'Carthy | GP | Brenman, Shaw, van Dael | Rhodes Scholar | Transitioning from acute to community care: experiences of virtual care | 2023 (FT) | ToS due January 2025 |
| Vivian Tsang | | Ferrey Hartmann-Boyce | Clarendon Scholar | Group Psychedelic-Assisted Therapy for Treatment of Psychiatric Conditions | 2023 (PT) | ToS due HT25 |
| Isabela Cabrera Lalinde | Economist | Greenhalgh, Faulkner, Vanderschlo tt | Balvi Foundation | Exploring the role of vaccine hesitancy in relation to vaccine research and development to build greater confidence in novel vaccines | 2024 Hilary Term (PT) | ToS due 2026 |
| Amelia Seabold | Wet lab biology/ community-based research | Van der Westhuizen, Schuh | Clarendon Scholar | Assessing the Feasibility of Implementing a Nationwide Newborn Screening Program for Sickle Cell Disease in Tanzania | 2024 (FT) | ToS due Oct 2025 |
| Nadia Swann | Lawyer and Patient/carer advocate | Papoutsi, Van Dael, Barry, Greenhalgh | NIHR SPCR Fellow | Patient knowledge and type 1 diabetes closed-loop technologies | 2024 (PT) | ToS due 2027 |
| Rebecca Payne | GP/policy background | Greenhalgh, Anderson, Wherton, Koshkouei | Clarendon Scholar | After the teleconsultation | 2024 (PT) | ToS due 2027 |
| Suzanne Schmidt | Health Care Management | Potter, Tierney | Self | Community health worker interventions for healthy ageing in the USA | 2024 (PT) | ToS due Oct 2026 |

BASED ELSEWHERE

| Name | Based in | Background | Supervisor | Topic | From (FT/PT) | Progress |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Kumeri Bandara | U of Oxford (Nuffield Dept of Pop Health) | Anthropology | Potter, Horn, Dunn | Migrant workers' experiences of ethical challenges in English care homes | MT 2020 (FT) | Passed with minor corrections Dec 2024 |
| Vu Thi Quynh Giao | U of Oxford (Nuffield Dept of Medicine) | Public Health | Lewycka, Chambers, Wong | Uses of antibiotics among food-animal farmers in Vietnam | HT 2020 (FT) | Passed with minor corrections July 2024 |

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|------------------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Gulraj Grewal | U of Oxford (Nuffield Dept of Medicine) | Global health | Papoutsi , Fuller, Paton, Maina | Continuity of post-discharge care for at-risk newborns in Kenya | HT 2021 (FT) | CoS passed December 2023 |
| Asma Rababeh | U of Oxford (Nuffield Dept of Medicine) | Nursing, health informatics | Papoutsi , Paton, Fuller, Oluoch | Information tools in post-discharge care for newborns in Kenya | HT 2021 (FT) | CoS passed January 2024 |
| Emily Hulse | U of Oxford (Nuffield Dept of Pop Health) | Health policy and systems | Rayner, Shaw , Tsiachristas | System approach to improving UK Chronic Disease Prevention | MT 2021 (PT) | ToS passed Oct 2024 |
| Ankita Sharma | U of Oxford, Women's and Reproductive Health | Consultant Sonographer, digital health technology | Ferrey , Hirst, Papageorghiou | Translating Digital Innovations into User-Centred Women's Health Solutions | MT 2022 (FT) | Cos passed in Nov 2024 |
| Lucy Potter | University of Bristol | GP | Feder, Wong , Horwood, Farr | Access to primary care for people with severe and multiple disadvantage | MT 2022 (PT) | Returned from maternity leave October 2024 |
| Varad Puntamekar | U of Oxford (Nuffield Dep of Medicine) | GP | English, McKnight, Wherton , Faulkner | Diagnostic systems implementation in India | MT 2023 (FT) | ToS taking place January 2025 |

Research activity

New research grants secured in 2024 on which we are principal investigators

- Bringing the social back into sociotechnical: Supporting industry in the development of the Digital NHS Health Checks programme.** Higher Education Innovation Fund (HEIF) Social Sciences Engagement Fellowship, 2025. Papoutsi, van Dael £19,927.15
- Community-based support for preventing or delaying progression to dementia: evidence review and analysis of qualitative data on support needs and service use.** NIHR Applied Research Collaboration internship, Feb-July 2025. PI Potter. £7,340
- Developing and evaluating a whole-team training pack to improve the effectiveness, efficiency, safety and equity of remote (telephone and video) general practice.** March-July 2025. OPEN Seed Fund, PI Greenhalgh. £5000.
- Evaluating the Bridge-Builders healthcare access improvement programme in Scotland.** November 2024-October 2025. NHS Lothian, PI Wherton. £98,739
- Optimising the Virtual Hospice: A mixed-methods study of remote palliative care support covering quality improvement, patient experience and health economics.** NIHR Programme Development Grant, PI Greenhalgh, July 25 – September 26, £250,000 in total.

New research grants secured in 2024 on which we are co-investigators:

- A Pre-implementation Study to develop and test an Integrated Discharge Intervention (PreSIDInt study).** NIHR PDG Programme. Lead PI Hamde Nazar (Newcastle), Col Wong £147,606 (£8,061 to IRIHS). April 2024-March 2025.
- Carer involvement in the transfer of medicines-related care for patients moving from hospital to home: a realist review.** NIHR RfPB Programme. Lead PI Charlotte Richardson (Newcastle), Col Wong £144,500 (£4,006 to IRIHS). Jan 2024-Jan 2025.

3. **Consolidating a digital exclusion typology and stakeholder engagement exercise to inform future evaluation of digital inclusion initiatives.** NIHR PHR Application Development Award (ADA): Digital Health Inclusion and Inequalities, 2025-2026, PIs Davies/Bright (Public Health Wales), co-Is Papoutsis, van Dael, Shaw (£149,245, of which £47,880 to IRIHS).
4. **Evaluating Digital Interventions for people with type 2 diabetes and dePREssion/anxiety Comorbidities (e-DIRECT).** NIHR Team Science Award. 1st November 2024 - 31st October 2025. £98,643, £10,419 to IRIHS (Cooper co-applicant).
5. **Evaluating the Implementation of a Mental Health Joint Response Car with Young People and Families.** NIHR HSDR Programme. Lead PI Sarah Parry (Manchester), CoI Wong £966,968 (£27,778 to IRIHS). March 2024- Feb 2027.
6. **Evaluating the NHS Community Pharmacist Consultation Service (NHS-CPCS).** NIHR SPCR. Lead PI Ellen Schafheutle (Manchester), CoI Wong £249,636 (£2488 to IRIHS). Aug 2024-Jan 2026.
7. **Interdisciplinary Systematic Review: Mechanistic evidence and epistemic justice.** UKRI Interdisciplinary Fund. Lead PI Jon Williamson (Manchester), CoI Greenhalgh £950,000 (£86,586 to IRIHS). Jan 2025-Jan 2027.
8. **Food Glorious Food: A mixed methods evaluation of food-related practices in post-diagnostic community-based group support for people affected by dementia.** NIHR RfPB Programme. Lead PI Shirley Evans (Worcester), CoI Wong £341,348 (£ 5,033 to IRIHS). April 2024-Dec 2025.
9. **Getting better community engagement and participation of adults with learning disabilities: Realist synthesis, evaluation and co-production (CONNECT).** NIHR HTA Programme. Lead PI Jill Bradshaw (Birmingham), CoI Wong £622,999 (£26,074 to IRIHS) Oct 2024-May 2027 **Independent prescribing in community pharmacy; what works for whom, why and in what circumstances.** NIHR HSDR Programme. Lead PI Ian Maidment (Aston), CoI Wong £226,786 (£36,473 to IRIHS). July 2024-Dec 2025.
10. **Optimising general practice support for autistic adults: A realist review.** NIHR RfPB Programme . Lead PI Kelly Birtwell (Manchester), CoI Wong. £149,629 (£8,497 to IRIHS). March 2024-Feb 2025.
11. **Optimising the deLlivery of Mental health support to adolescents in care via low-inTensity Life Story work: a realist evaluation with co-deSign and feasibility trial [LIMITLESS 2].** NIHR HSDR Programme. Lead PI Simon Hammond (UEA), CoI Wong £1,138,975 (£60,182 to IRIHS). May 2024-Oct 2027.
12. **Optimising care pathways in Motor Neurone Disease for family carers: A realist evaluation.** NIHR HSDR Programme. Lead PI Linda Birt (Leicester), CoI Wong £784,212 (£37,020 to IRIHS). Sept 2024-Aug 2027.
13. **Primary Care Under Pressure: mapping the provision of staff wellbeing strategies and interventions for the primary care workforce in England.** NIHR SPCR. Lead PI Daniele Carrieri (Exeter), CoI Wong £36,286 (£2610 to IRIHS). July 2024-March 2025.

Ongoing research studies on which we are principal investigators:

1. **COMT: COMmunicating Together in video and hybrid group consultations** NIHR SPCR 2023-2024. Co-PIs Papoutsis, van Dael. £44,364
2. **Social and Ethical Aspects of Remote and Hybrid Care in the Special Allocation Scheme in general practice (SEARCH): A mixed methods study.** NIHR School for Primary Care Research (NIHR SPCR). Natassia Brenman (PI), Jackie van Dael (Co-PI), Sara Shaw (Senior Mentor). To start 1 November 2024 – 31 March 2026. £231,514
3. **The Oxford-RAND Europe centre for rapid evaluation of technology-enabled remote monitoring: DECIDE (Digitally Enabled Care in Diverse Environments)** NIHR Health and Social Care Delivery Research. 2023-2026, Shaw as PI. £951,291 to RAND Cambridge and £854,990 to IRIHS.
4. **MoDCons: Mode of Consultation in general practice** NIHR SPCR 2022 – 2024. PI Shaw (with Gill, Papparini, Spooner, Swinglehurst). £398,566
5. **TOGETHER2: Evaluating video and hybrid group consultations in general practice: mixed-methods, participatory study** NIHR HS&DR 2022-2025. Co-PIs Papoutsis, Shaw. £583,513 (£249, 891 to IRIHS)

Ongoing research studies on which we are named co-investigators:

1. **Developing interventions to reduce ‘missingness’ in health care.** NIHR HS&DR. Dec 2022-2025. Williamson (Glasgow) with Wong as Oxford lead. £36,900 to IRIHS.
2. **Developing Realist Economic Evaluation Methods (REEM) and Guidance to Evaluate the Effectiveness, Costs, and Benefits of Complex Interventions.** NIHR HS&DR. Oct 2022-2025. Dalkin/Bate (Northumbria) with Wong as Oxford lead. £19,947 to IRIHS.
3. **How might Physician Associates help (or not) address the workforce crisis in the NHS?** (May 2023 to April 2026) NIHR HS&DR Programme funded study (153324). £30,225 to IRIHS (Wong Co-Applicant).
4. **Identifying Successful Strategies for Implementing Team-Based Home Blood Pressure Monitoring in Primary Care** (Aug 21 to July 2026) NIH NHLBI (USA) funded study £33,143 to IRIHS (Wong Co-Applicant)
5. **Optimising Shared decision-making for high-Risk major Surgery (OSIRIS).** £221,763 of total grant £2,342,660 NIHR Programme Grant for Applied Research. Feb 2019 – Dec 2025. (PI -Rupert Pearse from QMUL; SS and JW as co-applicants).
6. **Optimising the delivery of remediation programmes for doctors: A participatory co-design and realist evaluation approach (RESTORE 2)** (July 2021 to Dec 2024) NIHR HS&DR Programme funded study (201963). £26,135 to IRIHS (Wong Co-Applicant)
7. **Learning to Harness Innovation in Global Health for Quality Care (HIGH-Q).** NIHR Global Health Policy & Systems call. PI - M English with TG (adviser on technological innovation in LMICs), GW and CP (lead for work package 2). 2020 – 2024. £181,604 to IRIHS.
8. **REAL2 – realist review of participatory engagement** (Oct 2022 to May 2025) *Wellcome Trust (UNS139902)* £20,870 to IRIHS (Wong Co-Applicant).
9. **Sustainable GP Workforce: a Realist Review.** 2022-2024. NIHR SPCR. Park (UCL) lead with Wong at Oxford PI. £7945 to IRIHS
10. **Tailoring cultural offers with and for diverse older users of social prescribing (TOUS): A realist evaluation** (Sept 2023 to April 2025) UKRI funded study (MR/Y010000/1). £6,053 to IRIHS (Wong, Potter Co-Applicant)
11. **The future of care at First Referral Hospitals in sub-Saharan Africa - place, people, technologies and task-sharing (AFHRiCARE)** (Oct 2023 to Sept 2028) Wellcome funded study (227396/Z/23/Z). £193, 190 to IRIHS (Wong Co-Applicants)
12. **The clinical, social and cost effectiveness of a decision support tool to optimise community-based tailored management of sleep (TIMES) for people living.** November 2021 – October 2026. HS&DR. Plymouth University as lead with Wong as Oxford PI. £2,410 to IRIHS.
13. **Using Realist Evaluation and Participatory Action Research Approaches to Co-Design a Mindfulness-Based Literacy Intervention for use in Early Years Settings (The Little Minds Project)** (May 2023 to April 2025) The Joyce Morris Research Programme funded study (R207176 EDU A). £5,442 to IRIHS (Wong Co-Applicant).

Awards, Fellowships and Promotions

Awards and prizes in 2024

BARRY: SAPC Junior Investigator award for DPhil work.

BEGH & FAULKNER: along with other MSc team members, won the Centre for Teaching and Learning poster prize for work on redesigning the group work element of the MSc

BOOTH: Selected as an Emerging Research Leader on Climate and Health with the Academy of Medical Sciences (UK) and National Academy of Medicine (US). <https://acmedsci.ac.uk/next-gen-researchers-exploring-climate-health>

Received a Goodger and Schorstein Bursary

DAKIN: Received an Award for Excellence from the department and £150 from the Marya Antonina Czaplicka Fund. Also won an SPCR-funded TUTOR-PHC studentship for leadership course in Toronto.

FERREY: won a Teaching Excellence Award

GREENHALGH: Clarivate Highly Cited Researcher Award for top 0.1% of research scientists.

LADDS: Runner-up, RCGP Research Paper of the Year for 'A contemporary ontology of continuity in general practice: Capturing its multiple essences in a digital age' (IRIHS coauthors Greenhalgh, Shaw, Kalin).

MFOAFO-M'CARTHY: awarded the Connected Care Clinical Student Scholarship, valued at \$5000 CAD

PAYNE: RCGP Research Paper of the Year Award (with Greenhalgh; many IRIHS coauthors) for 'Patient safety in remote primary care encounters: multimethod qualitative study combining Safety I and Safety II analysis. Awarded Clarendon Scholarship for DPhil. Awarded Churchill Fellowship for visits to rural communities in Australia and Alaska Awarded BJGP Conference 2024 Senior Researcher award.

THOMPSON-GRANT: alongside other department Green Impact colleagues, awarded a Beyond-Gold award at the NUS Green Impact Awards in June 2024.

New fellowships awarded in 2024:

BARRY was awarded an NIHR Development and Skills Enhancement Award.

CROCKER: Oxford Policy Engagement Network Fellowship: "Understanding and optimising partnerships between community, policy and academic organisations to address health inequalities". April-July 2024.

SWANN was awarded an NIHR SPCR Doctoral Fellowship for a patient [parent] led research study

VAN DAEL with PAPOUTSI (as academic lead) were awarded a Higher Education Innovation Fund (HEIF) Social Sciences Engagement Fellowship commencing in 2025.

Promotions in 2024:

VAN DAEL promoted to a Grade 8

Research impact/knowledge translation activity (see also 'External appointments')

Impact activities in 2024:

1. **Presentations at academic-policy and academic-clinical conferences:** IRIHS academics have placed high priority on working with policymakers and engaging them at intersectoral events e.g. a GTC workshop with clinicians, researchers and policy makers to work through how to put the findings of RBD2 into policy and practice; speaking at the Northern Ireland weekly GP education meeting; meeting with the Welsh primary care clinical leads (AMDs); working with NHS Resolution to disseminate study findings via their practice newsletter and through an NHSR national webinar.



Dissemination event for digital health research, Green Templeton College, May 2024

2. **Digital Health Forum.** Co-led by DPhil student Francesca Dakin and held at St Luke's Chapel in May 2024, this forum brought together keynote speakers from four countries: Professor Derek O'Keefe (Ireland), Professor Tiffany Veinot (USA), Professor Spyridoula Maraka (Greece) and Professor Trisha Greenhalgh (UK) to share ideas and imagine future research challenges in digital health.
3. **House of Commons event to address equity in remote and digital primary care.** Baroness Ilora Finlay and the Honorable James Davies MP co-hosted this event for MPs, Special Advisers and invited guests from policy, industry and the NHS. We presented findings from the RBD2 study and Nadia Swann (patient representative and MSc student) presented a moving story of a near-miss incident in her own family member.



House of Commons event to disseminate findings from the RBD2 study, April 2024

4. **Oxford SDG Impact Lab and UN Tourism.** Booth served as project co-ordinator for a project to develop a global environmental, social, and governance (ESG) framework for measuring sustainability in the tourism industry, in partnership with UN Tourism. She and her team engaged with more than 600 tourism companies around the world to gather insights on the environmental and social issues in tourism, and to inform the development of the framework. The results of this work will be published in a UN report, and Booth presented the results at a UN meeting in Madrid in October.
5. **Sustainable healthcare.** DPhil student Booth is active in promoting sustainability issues in health care (the topic of her DPhil). In addition to co-developing and teaching on the new Sustainable Health Care course, Booth, serves as an Associate Partner on an ERASMUS+ project to incorporate environmental sustainability into medical education, is an Emerging Research Leader on climate and health with the Academy of Medical Sciences and National Academy of Medicine, and has delivered several keynote addresses and lectures highlighting sustainable health care. She has featured on podcasts including the Sustainable Healthcare Podcast and BBC Focus on Africa, discussing the intersection of health systems, climate change, and sustainability. She was invited to showcase her work to Parliamentarians at the House of Commons.
6. **Public Health.** Van der Westhuizen wrote an op-ed about her DPhil research (why TB is called the disease of paper) and this was the fifth highest read article for Bhekisisa Health Journalism centre for the year: <https://bhekisisa.org/opinion/2024-03-25-why-is-tb-called-the-disease-of-paper-in-eastern-cape-villages/>

Teaching and student support



MSc in Translational Health Sciences, students from 2024 cohort

1. **DPhils.** Most of our current DPhil students are registered for the DPhil in Primary Health Care or Translational Health Sciences (THS). Four new DPhil students commenced in October 2024. Associate Professor Geoff Wong based in IRIHS is the Deputy Director of Graduate Studies for the department and is also the Welfare and Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Lead for graduate studies. Dr Caroline Potter has taken on the DPhil mentor role within IRIHS.

This year we reviewed the programme previously offered to IRIHS DPhil students alongside the current training and support offered by the Department, and the Friday ‘Shut up and Write’ sessions resumed. We

have updated our mailing list and will launch the refreshed DPhil support programme in early 2025. Our programme is not intended to duplicate the formal departmental support, but to provide opportunities for building ongoing peer support networks. We anticipate that this support will be especially helpful as students approach the key DPhil milestones (Transfer, Confirmation, submission, final viva) and are able to link up with others at different stages who are able to share their experiences.

2. **MSc in THS.** Our MSc in Translational Health Sciences, in collaboration with Continuing Education (Programme Director: Greenhalgh; Course Director: Ferrey), is now running for its fifth year. Modules running on the programme for the 2024/2025 academic year, along with the module leads/ co-leads are:

- Introduction to Research Methods for Translational Health Sciences (Shaw & Potter)
- Behavioural Science and Complex Interventions (Ferrey & Wanat)
- Economics and Regulation in Translational Science (Faulkner & Yang)
- Ethics and Justice in Translational Science (Sheehan & Graham)
- Health Organisations and Policy (Greenhalgh & Potter)
- Patients, Citizens & the Politics of Evidence (Finlay & Brenman)
- Healthcare Evaluation and Research Impact (Greenhalgh & Ovseiko)
- Technological Innovation and Digital Health (Papoutsi & van Dael)
- Translational Science and Global Health (Kalin & van der Westhuizen)
- Sustainability (Shaw & Booth)

Wherton leads the MSc dissertation module.



MSc THS 2024, PCPE intensive teaching week

3. **Other MSc teaching.** Geoff Wong leads the MSc module in Realist Evaluation and Review.

Chrysanthi Papoutsi and Nikki Newhouse co-lead the Foundations in Digital Health module on the departmental MSc in Applied Digital Health (with Catherine Pope). Nikki Newhouse co-leads the final module (Interaction Design and the Lifecycle of Digital Health) on the departmental MSc in Applied Digital Health. We have also taught on the following Masters courses run by other groups:

- MSc in Applied Digital Health (Newhouse, Papoutsi, Greenhalgh, van Dael)
- MSc in Evidence-Based Health Care (Wong, Shaw, Finlay, Crocker, Wherton, Newhouse, Potter,

Begh)

- MSc in Evidence-Based Systematic Reviews (Wong)
- MSc in Global Health Leadership (Greenhalgh)

4. **Undergraduate teaching.** All our clinically qualified staff and many non-clinical staff do some undergraduate teaching. IRIHS takes undergraduate medical students for placement with research teams (several have got their names on peer-reviewed papers this year), and occasional Final Honour School projects in social science and interdisciplinary topics. We give lectures and coaching for undergraduate exams. Greenhalgh teaches critical appraisal of medical articles in small groups to undergraduates. Ladds organises GP placements for medical students and teaches clinical general practice.
5. **College-based support and teaching.** Greenhalgh, Papoutsi & Shaw are College Advisors at Green Templeton; Ferrey, Newhouse and Wong are College Advisors at Kellogg; Wherton is College Adviser at Wolfson.

Peer-reviewed publications

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6. Bak Kirk U, Payne R, Tweedie JA, Huibers L. "A tool for every job": use of video in urgent primary care *British Journal of General Practice* 2024; 74 747 (443-444)
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Keynote lectures, workshops and conference presentations

Members of IRIHS gave several national and international lectures including presentations to clinical and policy groups around the world (e.g. Australia, Norway, Spain, Germany) covering a wide range of topics including sustainable health care, the changing nature of medical work, video and hybrid group consultations, capturing health-related quality of life assessment, long covid and reflections on the long recovery, implementation science, navigating transformation and crisis in UK general practice, challenges to quality in hybrid general practice, social protection for people affected by TB.

Examples of international keynotes/ major talks:

- Booth A. ‘How to build more sustainable and environmentally friendly oncology care’. Panellist, European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO), Barcelona, September 2024.
- Greenhalgh T. ‘The Changing Nature of Medical Work’. Opening Keynote, Organisational Behaviour in Healthcare Annual Conference, Oslo, April 2024.
- Greenhalgh T. ‘Should we all stop using the word ‘implementation’?’ Australian Centre for Health Service Innovation Annual Conference, Brisbane, August 2024.
- Papoutsis C. In-person, video and hybrid group consultations: expediting access and interaction? Closing keynote, 8th NHS Outpatient Transformation conference, London, October 2024.

Examples of other external presentations:

- Booth, A. 'Climate and Sustainability Showcase'. House of Commons, Westminster. Nov 2024.
- Dakin F, Meier N, Greenhalgh T. 2024. Relational Coordination and Relational Systems: how teams navigate transformation and crisis in UK General Practice. Organizational Behaviour in Healthcare Conference, Oslo, Norway, April 2024.
- Dakin F. 'COVID-19: The Long Recovery, Reflections on a 3-year study'. Digital Horizons Conference. The Future of Health. Jesus College, Oxford. May 2024.
- Hanson: 'Commercial Determinants of youth mental health. WONCA Europe, September 2024.
- Ladds: workshops for GPs based on RBD2 findings at BMA conference for sessional GPs in October 2024 and BMJ Webinar with you on how to make the organisational-level changes to support and optimise remote consultations, June 2024
- Leslie-Spinks J. 'Dance it for me – casting the role of narrative in Dance Medicine'. Presentation at the 34th Annual Conference of the International Association for Dance Medicine & Science, Rimini, Italy. October 2024 (pictured). Also presented to the clinical partners of the National Institute of Dance Medicine and Science, May 2024.
- MacIver E et al. 'What Are the Challenges to Quality in Contemporary, Hybrid General Practice?' SAPC, Bristol, July 2024
- Potter CM, presentations at the International Society for Quality of Life Research (ISOQOL) annual conference, Cologne, October 2024: 'Oxford Brain Health Clinic: health-related quality of life assessment among initial sample' and 'Developing accessible methods for capturing well-being outcomes in community support settings: testing the use of Moodscope cards with vulnerable families'
- Shaw S, Dakin F, Greenhalgh T, Van Dael J, Payne R, Ladds E, Spitters S, Papparini S, Rosen R, Brenman N. Navigating the Future: Innovations in Primary Care Organisations [Symposium]. Organisational Behaviour in Health Care Conference, Oslo, Norway. April 2024.
- Van Dael J, Shaw S, Papoutsis C. Reconfiguring care at a distance: The case of online group clinics. European Association for the Study of Science and Technology (EASST) and the Society for Social Studies of Science (4S), Amsterdam, the Netherlands. July 2024.
- Van der Westhuizen H-M. Presented at the WHO webinar on social protection for people affected by TB, October 2024.



DPhil student, Isabel Hanson, giving a talk on 'Commercial Determinants of youth mental health', WONCA Europe, September 2024.

External appointments

Barry:

- Diabetes UK Research Steering Group for Type 2 Diabetes and Prevention

Caulfield:

- Education Lead for the RCGP Junior International Committee

Eaton:

- College of Paramedics: Trustee for Research

Greenhalgh:

- Member of Independent SAGE
- Visitor, Pitt Rivers Museum, University of Oxford (representing Medical Sciences Division)
- Visiting Professor, University of Oslo
- Visiting Professor, Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia
- Distinguished Fellow, George Institute, Sydney, Australia
- European Public Health Association, International Advisory Group on Public Health Research Impact
- NHS England Primary Care Digital Transformation Advisory Group

Hanson:

- Panel member, Prudence Trust on YMHH implementations, external grants expert advisory panel
- Policy consultant to NSW Treasury, Productivity Commission (on their community mental health services integration report)

Maclver

- Member NIHR GP Academic Careers working group

Papoutsis

- European Innovation Council, External Evaluator, Pathfinder programme.
- Editorial board, International Journal of Medical Informatics (IJMI)
- Steering Group (chair), Shared medical appointments for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in primary care, University of Newcastle, UK
- Advisory group, EU Consortium on Design-based Data-Driven Decision-support Tools, led by University Medical Center Rotterdam, Netherlands

Payne

- Chair of NICE Quality Standards Committee
- Honorary Clinical Senior Lecturer, Bangor University
- Researcher in Residence at Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

Shaw:

- Panel Member, MRC Better Methods, Better Research
- Panel Member, NIHR Programme Grants for Applied Research (2023 -)
- Panel Member, UKRI Realising the Health Co-benefits of Net Zero (2024)
- MRC guidance on using natural experiments to evaluate population health interventions Panel member, Advisory Group
- Honorary Reader, Queen Mary, University of London

Swann:

- Board Director of Type 1 Diabetes Research charity Breakthrough T1D (formerly JDRF) and member of Audit and Risk Committee

Van Dael:

- Member of the Health Services Research UK Conference 2024 Committee

Van der Westhuizen:

- WHO civil society TB task team and on the Stop TB partnership End TB Transmission Initiative expert group on preventing transmission of airborne pathogens.

Walumbe:

- NHS England, Chronic Pain Steering Group
- Editorial Board, Pain and Rehabilitation, Journal of the Physiotherapy Pain Association
- Working Party, British Pain Society, Faculty of Pain Consensus Guidelines for perioperative management of Pain Jan 2022 - present

Wherton:

- Advisor, LSE Policy Research and Innovation Unit (PIRU) evaluation of Adult Social Care Technology Fund
- Advisor for the Health Foundation Tech for Better Care programme
- Steering group, HAP-FAST trial on contemporary diagnostics for patients with suspected hospital-acquired pneumonia (HAP)
- Editorial Review Board, Health Informatics Journal

Wieringa:

- Member of the council of the Dutch College of General Practitioners (Netherlands Huisartsengenootschap, NHG)

Wong:

- Marie Curie Research Funding Committee

Strategy for 2025**1. RESEARCH:**

- Ensure delivery and writing up of ongoing and recently completed studies, notably RBD2/MODCONS, TOGETHER2, DECIDE, COMT, SEARCH and realist studies.
- Continue to support new Co-PIs to become confident independent PIs and mid-career researchers to become Co-PIs. Ensure the IRIHS unit is a place where people can build sustainable career paths.
- Continue to work towards major grants in interdisciplinary research which aligns clinical and social sciences, and pursue our growing interest in sustainability issues.
- Continue to diversify income streams (e.g. keep collaborating with European colleagues and RAND; consider ESRC or UKRI).

2. PUBLICATION AND DISSEMINATION:

- Streamline publication efforts so mid-career researchers are producing the expected number of international-quality empirical papers with an eye on the next Research Excellence Framework (REF).
- Each senior researcher and postdoc to lead on one 'REF'-able paper.
- Continue to provide support for DPhils and early-career researchers to develop writing skills.

3. TEACHING AND STUDENT SUPPORT:

- Continue to deliver the MSc and DPhil in Translational Health Sciences; develop teaching and supervisory capacity to accommodate rising workload in this area.

- b. Provide IRIHS-based, peer-led DPhil support to complement (but not duplicate) departmental and university-wide support.
- c. Encourage external (non-university) collaborations and placements with industry, policy and third sector as appropriate for career development.

4. STAFF SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT:

- a. Attract funding for core posts in research and teaching to reflect the fact that we now contribute substantially to the work, income and achievements of the Department.
- b. Support early and mid-career researchers to develop fellowship applications, work towards promotion, gain leadership experience, find external placements and develop their careers.
- c. Ensure all staff who teach on MSc and supervise DPhils are confident and supported to deliver a world-leading postgraduate experience for their students.
- d. Extend the internal IRIHS seminar programme to give our social science staff and students additional experience and support.
- e. Actively support professional development for IRIHS administrative and support staff.

5. SUCCESSION PLANNING: TG will step down from leadership of IRIHS and IRIHS Executive at end Feb 2025; Sara Shaw and Chrysanthi Papoutsis will jointly lead the unit. An away day to develop strategy going forward is planned for June 2025.

Trisha Greenhalgh, January 2025

With thanks to Charlotte Thompson-Grant for collating material for this report