

CHEME

Centre for Health
Economics and
Medicines Evaluation



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Welcome to the first Bangor Centre for Health Economics and Medicines Evaluation (CHEME) biannual newsletter.

Welcome to the first Bangor Centre for Health Economics and Medicines Evaluation (CHEME) biannual newsletter. CHEME has two streams of research:

- 1 The Public Health Economics Group** undertakes research into methods for the economic evaluation of public health, behaviour change and psycho-social interventions, and applied evaluations of interventions such as parenting programmes, interventions to support people living with dementia and their carers, interventions for children and adults living with disability, and promoting independence in old age.
- 2 The Pharmacoeconomics Group** is engaged in research activities related to pharmaceutical economics and policy, including the economic assessment of all new medicines introduced in Wales, research into the causes and consequences of non-adherence to medicines, methodological and applied research related to trial-based economic evaluations and assessment of pharmacogenetic tests.

CHEME works closely with NWOORTH in Bangor and the Clinical Trials Research Centre at Liverpool.

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In this issue, we focus on upcoming events, new, current and completed projects, recent presentations and publications, and staff and student successes. Knowing how busy you are, we have intentionally made this as concise as possible.

Rhiannon Tudor Edwards & Dyfrig Hughes

CHEME co-directors

More information on research, teaching and NHS support activities is available from our website: www.bangor.ac.uk/healthconomics or contact our administrator Sioned Smith: s.smith@bangor.ac.uk

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ⚙ Seminar – Professor Matt Sutton, University of Manchester.
- ⚙ CHEME is hosting the winter 2012 Welsh Health Economics Group meeting, December 13th and 14th. Dr Ruth Hussey, newly appointed Chief Medical Officer for Wales will discuss how Health Economics can further contribute to health and social care policy in Wales.

SPOTLIGHT ON RESEARCH...

- ⚙ Colin Ridyrd and Dalia Dawoud are working on a systematic review of patient preferences for subcutaneous injection devices. This complements their work on the SCIPI (www.scipitrial.org.uk) and SYCAMORE (www.sycamoretrial.org.uk) trials.
- ⚙ Emily Fargher and Catrin Plumpton are working in collaboration with the Walton Centre and the University of Liverpool on projects in epilepsy, including a DCE of patient preferences for antiepileptic drugs, economic evaluation alongside an HTA-funded trial of newer treatments for epilepsy - SANAD II (www.sanad2.org.uk), economic modelling of interventions for the Cochrane Epilepsy Group, and a cost-effectiveness analysis of a pharmacogenetic test prior to carbamazepine treatment.
- ⚙ Warren Linley and Dyfrig Hughes recently completed a survey of 4,118 members of the public on their views on NICE, Cancer Drugs Fund and Value-Based Pricing criteria for prioritising medicines
- ⚙ Seow Tien Yeo is working on an economic analysis of the SDO-funded EPIC Trial of “Evidence into Practice: evaluating a child centred intervention for diabetes medicine management”.
- ⚙ Barry Hounsome and Nathan Bray are working in collaboration with colleagues from Hull on exploring prescribing patterns in care home residents with challenging behaviour, as part of the NIHR DEMCARE programme (www.challengedemcare.com).
- ⚙ Pat Linck is working on the NIHR funded PLINY Trial (www.phr.nihr.ac.uk/funded_projects/09_3004_01.asp) in conjunction with Sheffield University, undertaking a cost effectiveness analysis of implementation of telephone

SEMINAR SERIES

CHEME runs a regular seminar series with invited speakers from all over the world. Recent seminars include:

- ⚙ Dr Sat Bir Khalsa, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School, presented on Yoga: Research on its Efficacy and Cost-Effectiveness for Wellness, Prevention and Therapy.
- ⚙ Professor Katherine Payne, School of Community Based Medicine, University of Manchester, presented on: Valuing the economic benefits of complex interventions: when maximising health is not sufficient.



(1)

friendship groups to improve wellbeing in people aged 75 and over.

- ⚙ Emily Fargher, Catrin Plumpton and Dyfrig Hughes recently completed an FP7-funded project that investigated the causes and consequences of sub-optimal adherence to medicines (<http://abcproject.eu/>). The findings were presented at the European Parliament ([picture 1](#)).
- ⚙ Nathan Bray is working on the DEPVIT Trial (www.cardiff.ac.uk/optom/research/researchprojects/depvit/depvit.html), funded by Guide Dogs, to explore the cost effectiveness of putting counselling services into low vision centres in Cardiff and London.
- ⚙ Pat Linck, Carys Jones, Jo Charles and Rhiannon Tudor Edwards have recently completed, in collaboration with the Dartington Trust (www.dartington.org), an economic evaluation of parenting and classroom based programmes as part of the Birmingham City Council Brighter Futures Initiative (www.birmingham.gov.uk/brighter-futures).

SUPPORTING RESEARCH DESIGN

CHEME provides research design support via the Welsh Health Economics Support Service (WHESS) (www.hepru.research.glam.ac.uk/whess/), and the Research Design Service (www.rds-nw.nihr.ac.uk). CHEME also provides health economics support to MAST, the Methodology Advisory Service for Trials, as part of its collaborative work with the MRC North West Hub for Trials Methodological Research. Feel free to submit a request for advice on “non-standard” methodological problems http://www.methodologyhubs.mrc.ac.uk/methodology_advisory_service.aspx

CHEME'S NEWEST PHD STUDENT

Ned Hartfiel, originally from USA is funded by the Welsh Government, through the Welsh Health Economics Support Service (WHESS) to undertake a PhD on the cost effectiveness of yoga-based back pain prevention programmes for the workplace (www.druworldwide.com/ned-hartfiel).

SUPPORTING HEALTH POLICY AND THE NHS IN WALES

Rhiannon Tudor Edwards, assisted by Jo Charles provide health economics support to Public Health Wales. We are contributing to an all-Wales PBMA review of over 50 health improvement programmes, spanning smoking cessation services, obesity prevention and exercise promotion initiatives. Rhiannon and Jo also support the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) Prioritisation Board, contributing to the evidence base for decisions on candidate services in North Wales. Dyfrig Hughes, Warren Linley, Natalia Hounsou and Dalia Dawoud lead on the economic assessment of all new (non-NICE appraised) medicines in Wales. In 2012 we have contributed to 30 assessment reports for consideration by the All Wales Medicines Strategy Group (www.wales.nhs.uk/awmsg/). Dyfrig is also academic lead for the Pharmacy and Medicines Management Clinical Programme Group of the BCUHB and advises on research related to medicines.

NEW FUNDING

www.dirum.org is a project funded by the MRC Hub for Trials Methodological Research to compile a Database of Instruments for Resource Use Measurement. If you have a resource-use measure based on patient recall, such as a questionnaire or diary, which you think we should include in DIRUM, please contact us: info@dirum.org



The National Institute for Social Care & Health Research (NISCHR) has granted Bangor University two Health Awards. CHEME will be providing economic evaluation support to these two NISCHR research fellowships.

Congratulations to Tom O'Brien and colleagues, School of Sport, Health and Exercise Sciences, who will be leading a project on wellbeing, health and fitness of children with mobility impairments (well MI); and to Pam Martin and colleagues, School of Psychology, who will be investigating management in dementia: a pilot trial of the development, efficacy and cost-effectiveness of a SM group intervention.

(2)



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(1) Sahdia Parveen, Val Morrison (School of Psychology), Emily Fargher, Catrin Plumpton and Dyfrig Hughes at the European Parliament. (2) Jo Charles and Lucy Bryning graduating, with Rhiannon Tudor Edwards. (3) Catrin Plumpton on graduation day.

STAFF NEWS

Congratulations to Warren Linley who was recently appointed as Senior Research Fellow and to Dr Jo Charles and Dr Catrin Plumpton who both successfully completed their PhDs and graduated this summer. (pictures 2 & 3) We wish our PhD student Joshua Pink all the best in his new position of Research Fellow at the University of Warwick. Congratulations to Dalia Dawoud and our PhD student, Lucy Bryning, for gaining their MScs in Economic Evaluations in Health Care and Psychology, respectively – both with distinctions.

Lucy and Seow Tien Yeo, both funded by Tenovus cancer charity PhD

studentships, recently contributed to the Tenovus North Wales research roadshow

(www.tenovus.org.uk) (right) Seow Tien Yeo, Lucy Bryning and Rhiannon Tudor Edwards at the Tenovus meeting

VACANCIES

We are currently recruiting a Post-Doctoral Research Officer in Mathematical Modelling. Contact us for further details.

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(right) Dyfrig presenting at the AWMSG conference
(far right) Main Arts Building, Bangor University



RECENT PRESENTATIONS

- ⚙️ Rhiannon Tudor Edwards was visiting Professor to the Health Economics Research Group at Manchester University during July. She gave a guest seminar entitled 'Working with Government - PBMA of an All-Wales Public Health Improvement Programme'. She also ran a 'Top Ten Tips PhD Clinic' for the Department.
- ⚙️ Emily Fargher presented on 'Stated preferences for persistence with medications: A discrete choice experiment' at the Oxford HESG meeting.
- ⚙️ Nathan Bray, Catrin Plumpton, Joshua Pink, James Burrows presented at the Summer Welsh Health Economics Group meeting in Swansea.
- ⚙️ Dyfrig Hughes presented at the Welsh Psychiatric Society Conference at Swansea, on 'The economics of new medicines', and chaired a workshop on Individual Patient Funding Requests at the All Nations Centre, Cardiff.
- ⚙️ Rhiannon Tudor Edwards gave the 2012 Keynote Guest Lecture to the British Geriatric Society, Venue Cymru, N Wales entitled 'Can We Afford to Age?'
- ⚙️ Rhiannon Tudor Edwards presented research from the CHARISMA trial of Housing Adaptation for Homes of Children Living with Asthma, to the MRC funded, Population Health Economics Conference, Glasgow University.
- ⚙️ Rhiannon Tudor Edwards gave the opening presentation at the Welsh Economists' Colloquium, Gregynog.
- ⚙️ Dyfrig Hughes presented at the AWMSG 10 year conference, at Cardiff's Millennium stadium on "New Medicines – Are they value for money" [see picture above].
- ⚙️ Barry Hounsome and Seow Tien Yeo presented at the N.WORTH seminar day
- ⚙️ Dyfrig Hughes was among 7 UK delegates invited by the British Embassy in Tokyo, to participate in a workshop on personalised medicine. The presentation focused on the economic implications of genetic tests

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- ⚙️ Murphy SM, Edwards RT, Williams N, Raisanen L, Moore G, Linck P, Hounsome N, Din NU, Moore L. An evaluation of the effectiveness and cost effectiveness of the National Exercise Referral Scheme in Wales, UK: a randomised controlled trial of a public health policy initiative. *J Epidemiol Community Health*. 2012 Aug;66(8):745-53.
- ⚙️ Yeo ST, Edwards RT, Luzio SD, Charles JM, Thomas RL, Peters JM, Owens DR. Diabetic retinopathy screening: perspectives of people with diabetes, screening intervals and costs of attending screening. *Diabet Med*. 2012 Jul;29(7):878-85.
- ⚙️ Yeo ST, Edwards RT, Fargher EA, Luzio SD, Thomas RL, Owens DR. Preferences of people with diabetes for diabetic retinopathy screening: a discrete choice experiment. *Diabet Med*. 2012 Jul;29(7):869-77.
- ⚙️ Linley WG, Hughes DA. Reimbursement Decisions of the All Wales Medicines Strategy Group: Influence of Policy and Clinical and Economic Factors. *Pharmacoeconomics*. 2012 Jun 7. doi: 10.2165/11591530-000000000-00000.
- ⚙️ Hughes DA. Pharmacoeconomics. *Br J Clin Pharmacol*. 2012 Jun;73(6):968-72
- ⚙️ Margrain TH, Nolleth C, Shearn J, Stanford M, Edwards RT, Ryan B, Bunce C, Casten R, Hegel MT, Smith DJ. The Depression in Visual Impairment Trial (DEPVIT): trial design and protocol. *BMC Psychiatry*. 2012 Jun 6;12(1):57.
- ⚙️ Mulhern B, Rowen D, Jacoby A, Marson T, Snape D, Hughes D, Latimer N, Baker GA, Brazier JE. The development of a QALY measure for epilepsy: NEWQOL-6D. *Epilepsy Behav*. 2012 May;24(1):36-43.
- ⚙️ Vrijens B, De Geest S, Hughes DA, Przemyslaw K, Demonceau J, Ruppert T, Dobbels F, Fargher E, Morrison V, Lewek P, Matyjaszczyk M, Mshelia C, Clyne W, Aronson JK, Urquhart J; ABC Project Team. A new taxonomy for describing and defining adherence to medications. *Br J Clin Pharmacol*. 2012 May;73(5):691-705
- ⚙️ Pink J, Lane S, Hughes DA. Mechanism-based approach to the economic evaluation of pharmaceuticals: pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic/pharmacoeconomic analysis of rituximab for follicular lymphoma. *Pharmacoeconomics*. 2012 May;30(5):413-29.
- ⚙️ Farmer A, Hardeman W, Hughes D, Prevost AT, Kim Y, Craven A, Oke J, Boase S, Selwood M, Kellar I, Graffy J, Griffin S, Sutton S, Kinmonth AL. An explanatory randomised controlled trial of a nurse-led, consultation-based intervention to support patients with adherence to taking glucose lowering medication for type 2 diabetes. *BMC Fam Pract*. 2012 Apr 5;13(1):30.
- ⚙️ Aronson JK, Ferner RE, Hughes DA. Defining rewardable innovation in drug therapy. *Nat Rev Drug Discov*. 2012 Mar 30;11(4):253-4.
- ⚙️ Seers K, Cox K, Crichton NJ, Edwards RT, Eldh AC, Estabrooks CA, Harvey G, Hawkes C, Kitson A, Linck P, McCarthy G, McCormack B, Mockford C, Rycroft-Malone J, Titchen A, Wallin L. FIRE (Facilitating Implementation of Research Evidence): a study protocol. *Implement Sci*. 2012 Mar 27;7:25.
- ⚙️ Lane S, Al-Zubiedi S, Hatch E, Matthews I, Jorgensen AL, Deloukas P, Daly AK, Park BK, Aarons L, Ogungbenro K, Kamali F, Hughes D, Pirmohamed M. The population pharmacokinetics of R- and S-warfarin: effect of genetic and clinical factors. *Br J Clin Pharmacol*. 2012 Jan;73(1):66-76.
- ⚙️ Jones C, Edwards RT, Hounsome B. A systematic review of the cost-effectiveness of interventions for supporting informal caregivers for people with dementia residing in the community. *Int Psychogeriatr*. 2012 Jan;24(1):6-18.