

Research Group Work Plan 2018 - 2019

CONTEXT:

The objects for which the Society and College of Radiographers (SCoR) is established include:

“To promote study and research work in radiography and radiotherapeutic technology and allied subjects and to publish the results of all such study and research.”

Constituted in 2002, the aim of the Research Group is to help the SCoR fulfil the above object, by ensuring all radiographers use research in their practice and engage in the research process, thereby establishing, refining and adding to radiography’s unique body of knowledge.

2016-2021 Research Strategy

The fourth Research Strategy presented by the Society and College of Radiographers (SCoR) is published in response to the Society and College of Radiographers Strategy [2015-2017] which conveys research as a key part of the College of Radiographers’ mission:

The College of Radiographers will promote imaging and radiotherapy science and practice for the benefit of all. We will do this through:

- Standards for education and practice
- Promoting and conducting research
- Listening to patients and service users

The 2016 – 2021 Research Strategy focuses on the following specific objectives:

- Society of Radiographers: Supporting professional development: S4.5
- College of Radiographers: Building professional credibility through research: C3.1-C3.5

It should be noted that this new research strategy is not exclusive to the objectives above; it will also underpin many of the other strategic objectives ensuring that radiography continues to grow as an evidence-based profession with the emphasis on improving patient care and service delivery.

The Research Strategy is inclusive of all SCoR members and is targeted at all levels of the profession from student to expert practitioners and at all levels of research, from novice through to research professorships. The SCoR policy is that all radiographers are required to engage with research and the strategy aims to detail how the SCoR and its membership will support this over the next five years.

All patients undergoing diagnostic imaging or radiotherapy deserve evidence-based practice to underpin the care they receive. The Research Strategy supports the radiography profession in delivering this over the next five years.



The Society of Radiographers Vision for Research

The overarching Society and College of Radiographers' vision for research is to improve patient care and outcomes by continuing to develop, grow and implement a high quality evidence-base that addresses key patient-focussed research priorities.

Aims

The strategy has three key aims:

Aim 1: Embed research at all levels of radiography practice and education;

Aim 2: Raise the impact and profile of radiography through high quality research focussed on improving patient care and/or service delivery;

Aim 3: Expand UK radiography research capacity through development of skilled and motivated research-active members of the profession

RATIONALE:

The Research Group will be fundamental in implementing and further developing the Research Strategy, by providing guidance, support and advice to help raise the radiographic research and publication profile.

RESEARCH GROUP OBJECTIVES:

- To seek to establish and embed a research role for radiographers within the evolving collaborative, inter-professional team, thereby delivering high quality patient focused services and promoting the knowledge, skills, and values of radiographers in the wider health care environment.
- To continue with the research capacity data collection. This will assess the professional and educational level of radiographers and enable the Research Group to identify and recommend potential expansion areas for the research agenda.
- Act as a consulting and advisory body without executive powers. Members of the Research Group shall have a responsibility to act as a source of expertise and leadership for radiographers striving to extend their scope of practice into research.
- To advise the Council on issues of research and to recommend strategic activities in pursuit of a fully developed research based profession.
- To develop professional guidelines for approval and publication by The Society and College of Radiographers, as appropriate.

RESEARCH GROUP OBJECTIVES *cont.*

- To formulate the future strategic research direction for pre-registration and practicing radiographers for consideration by The Society and College of Radiographers.
- To act as a forum for consideration of all professional research issues affecting radiographers.
- Communicate the work of the Research Group to radiographic members, members of participating organisations, and other national bodies on its position relating to research and clinical effectiveness.
- To encourage the adoption of the Five-Year Strategic Plan in all UK departments and HEIs.
- To encourage each UK department to form local research strategies.

MEETINGS:

The group will normally hold a minimum of two meetings per annum.

TARGETS FOR 2018:

On-going work each year are:

- Assessment of CoRIPS Research Grants and Doctoral Fellowships.

Lead: Heidi Probst

- Research mentorship and supporting FoRMM.

Lead: Christina Malamateniou

2018 Targets include:

- Raising awareness - members of the research group to present at any study days that come up to raise the profile of the new research strategy.

Responsible: all group members

- Case studies of examples of where departments have made research work and to prepare some talking heads for the web site if possible.

Responsible: Christina Malamateniou

- Audit graduates for the reasons for their choice of first and future department, what influences their choice, does research influence choice? If it does and the extent that it influences choices could be a powerful motivator for department heads to engage more usefully with research.

Responsible: Kathryn Taylor

TARGETS FOR 2018 *cont.*

- Survey/audit BSc and MSc dissertation students to identify the impact their dissertations have had in their department and beyond.

Responsible: Kathryn Taylor and Heidi Probst

- CoRIPS awards winners - identify from the final reports those where there was clear impact and arrange for them to do a small video case study for the website.

Responsible: Christina Malamateniou and Pamela Shuttleworth

- Student CoRIPS small working party to review format and guidelines.

Responsible: Robert Meertens and Pamela Shuttleworth

- Research special interest group - more of an outward facing platform using social media such as Twitter and Facebook i.e. a CoR Research Facebook group and similar on twitter.

Responsible: Christina Malamateniou, Pamela Shuttleworth and Heidi Probst

- 'How to disseminate' and maybe a 'How to cost research' pamphlet in the CAHPR format, in liaison with CAHPR.

Responsible: Heidi Probst

- Some advertising in Synergy News and webpages of some high profile researchers in the profession to raise awareness of on-going research to the membership (discussion was about Readers, professors and high profile researchers).

Responsible: all group members

ACHIEVING THE TARGETS:

- The Chair of the group will prepare an annual report for SCoR Council.
- To confirm achievement of targets, the group will monitor the progress of ongoing work to ensure it remains within time frames and budgets.
- Accountability of the group is via the Chair.



ANTICIPATED COSTS:

15 members x 2 meetings a year
Additional work/small group meetings
Supporting member attendance at events

BENEFITS:

- Raising the profile of research across the profession.
- Implementing the SCoR Research Strategy
- Promoting links with other professional bodies and with industrial partners.
- Providing a communication link and research advice resource for members.
- Acquiring consultancy contributions from HEIs.