

Welsh Intensive Care Society - Audit and Research Trainees (WICS-ART)

An Intensive Care Trainee Research Network in Wales: Set up, Delivery and Impact

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Background

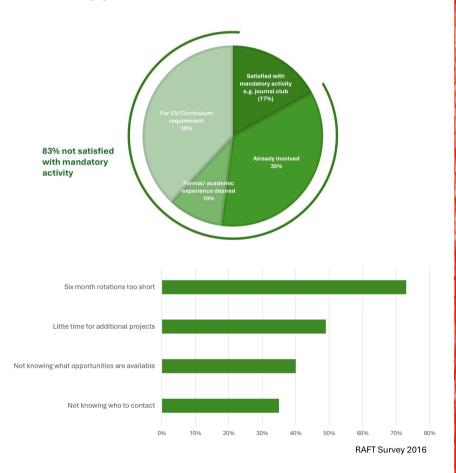
Trainee involvement in critical care research is challenging across the UK [1]. Trainee research networks (TRNs) are well established in some specialities, generally consisting of central and regional networks. For example, within anesthesia; Research and Audit Federation of Trainees (RAFT) acts centrally with nineteen regional TRNs across the UK [2]. These networks create a community of trainees allowing research exposure, fulfillment of curriculum requirements, networking and facilitation of multi-centre research or QI projects, trainee lead, across the UK. Intensive care is yet to form these regional networks.



The new 2021 ICM curriculum has integrated 'research and data interpretation' competencies derived from the generic professional capabilities framework developed by the general medical council [4]. Trainees are now required throughout all stages of training to gain research and quality improvement experience.

Methods

A survey conducted by RAFT in 2016 explored the desire for research involvement amongst trainees along with barriers encountered [1].



Founding intensive care trainees with an interest in research and a breadth of knowledge of working with established TRNs joined together. A group of 6 trainees was formed; CT2-ST7.



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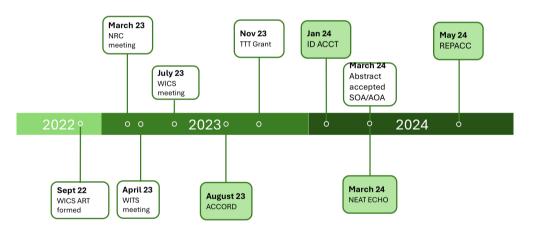


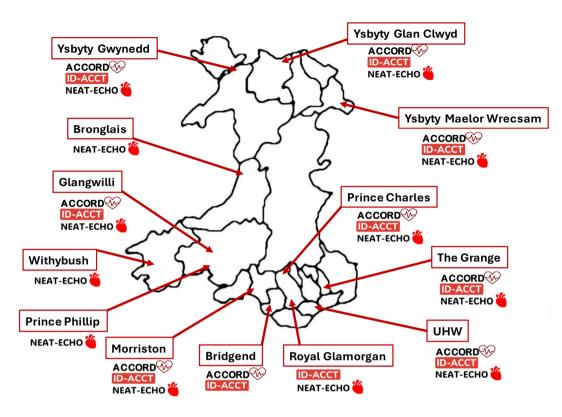
Dr Brigitte Baxter

Results

Since WICS-ART's formation in September 2022 we have worked on many projects across thirteen hospital sites, recruiting 42 site leads and over 100 collaborators. Projects include; Achieving Comprehensive Co-ordination in Organ Donation (ACCORD), Identification of Difficult Airways in Critical Care units (ID-ACCT) and National EvaluATion of the provision of Critical Care ECHOcardiography in Shock (NEAT-ECHO). We are currently collaborating with the Welsh Audit and Research Engagement Network (WAAREN) for the upcoming Retrospective Evaluation of Post-operative Alternatives to Critical Care (REPACC).

The committee's work has also been accepted at AoA, SOA, WITS, NRCM and WICS conferences. We were recently rewarded a grant to help us pursue these opportunities.





Conclusions

WICS-ART has been successful in it's pursuit of trainee research engagement across Wales; facilitating training requirements in research, quality improvement and developing future clinical researchers.

References:

- 1. Shaw, M. Harris, B. and Bonner, S. (2017) *The research needs of an ICM trainee:*The RAFT national survey results and initiatives to improve trainee research opportunities. Journal of the Intensive Care Society, 18(2). doi.org/10.1177/1751143716689276
- 2. https://www.raftrainees.org/trns (Accessed: 25/03/24)
- 3. National Institute for Health Research: CLinical Research Network. Performance and operating framework 23/24
- 4. The Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine: ICM curriculum: Supporting Excellence for a CCT in ICM. August 2021.

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