Scottish Oral Health Research Collaboration

Public Health and Health Services Research Group Meeting

University of Glasgow Dental School, room K32 (Level 8)

Monday 9th May 2.00-4.00pm

**Minutes**

Present: Prof Jeremy Bagg (Chair), Prof Ruth Freemen (By teleconference), Dr Ekta Gupta,

Prof Lorna Macpherson, Dr Andrea Sherriff, Deirdre Kelliher

Apologies: Prof David Conway, Prof Jan Clarkson, Dr Linda Young

1. **Update on current research activity**

ISCOPE, the current collaborative project (Glasgow and Dundee) is progressing well. Al Ross (PI) and San Selveindran (RA) have begun recruitment and a Steering Group meeting is planned. The project builds on the earlier collaborative project, TORCH, focussing on oral health and quality of life in care homes.

LM and AS have held discussions with Ekta Gupta about her work on measuring quality of life and her involvement in SOHRC dental public health research. She is currently seeking ethical approval for a research project on oral health and quality of life in Grampian region.

RF reported on the Bystander study, led originally by Deborah Kinnear and now by Dr Fernandes (?). The result of this project may be of interest to Al and San. A paper is planned.

AS reported that the data linkage component of a study which looks at the future oral care needs of the 45+ age group has been funded. The study covers patients currently attending primary care dentists. AS will apply to CSO for funding to cover a research assistant to carry out the work.

RF reported on her work on the oral health of people in custody. She is collaborating with EG on a project looking at homeless people which involves links with local councils to establish best practice, NES, NGO, the Rock Trust and Shelter. Further discussion would be needed to establish whether RF’s work could be linked with research carried out at Glasgow.

1. **Future direction of research**

The TORCH programme of development work that includes I-SCOPE, data linkage and QoL work will culminate in the design of an intervention to support the implementation and integration of daily oral care guidelines into the system of care in Care Homes. It is anticipated that we will apply for funds in the next 2-3 years.

It was agreed the overall theme of the PH&HSR Group should be focused on tackling oral health inequalities.

In addition to the work related to older people, it was suggested that the theme should expand to include the oral health of children as both Dundee and Glasgow are conducting work in this area.

The future direction of research can be discussed further at the next meeting when more members may be in attendance.

1. **Link with Scottish Dental Practice based Research Networ**k

At the last SDPBRN Steering Group meeting, Linda Young suggested there was potential for greater interaction between the PH&HSR Group and the SDPBRN. As neither Linda nor Jan Clarkson was present, it was agreed this topic should remain on the agenda for the next meeting.

1. **SOHRC conference**

The main theme of the conference is Dental Education and the keynote speaker will be Dr Rhoda McKenzie. There will be workshops around the theme during the afternoon. During the morning, there will also be 20 minute presentations from each SOHRC research group. Each group should consider what to include bearing in mind the time limit. The Public Health and Health Service Group may also wish to produce a poster.

1. **AOCB**

RF may be visiting Glasgow as part of her homelessness project. She would be interested in talking to Glasgow students about their projects with homeless people.

1. **Date of next meeting**

TBC.