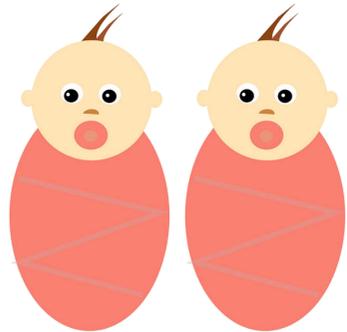


One Size Fits All

Helping Research Professionals To Pre-Empt Pitfalls By Considering Social Economic Issues

Neil Joseph a public adviser reviewed a project proposal to allow healthy premature babies to be cared for at home. Previously many mothers were parted from their healthy premature babies due to pressures on hospital maternity wards. "On discussing the proposal, I asked whether lower income families could afford to pay for the electricity bill for a Home Incubation monitor. Some of these families receive their electricity supply on a Pay As You Go tariff, which is more expensive and might force families to choose between home incubators, heating and eating. I suggested a small, weekly electricity voucher scheme for low income families, monitored by the Community Health Team. This change to the project proposal made me feel like my role as a Public Adviser with CLAHRC NWC is valued and can truly make a difference".



Passion

Helping To Reframe Research Questions

Another public adviser Sandra Smith was involved in a research project 'Communicating Wellbeing and Quality of Life in Motor Neurone Disease to Multidisciplinary Teams', where she was involved in the design, analysis of data and more importantly dissemination of research findings. "As a public adviser I brought the passionate voice of the public into the discussion and more importantly the decisions".



Comparing Apples And Oranges

Helping To Develop Outputs Communicating Health Inequalities to a Wider Audience

Public adviser Alan Griffiths was involved in a research project (an evaluation of GP Forward view) that aims to address, amongst other things, socio-economic health inequalities in Cheshire and Merseyside. He helped develop an output to communicate health inequalities to a wider audience by developing the finance application, giving more emphasis to health inequalities, and to create a survey for all GPs in the area as well as coming up with interview questions for GPs, practice managers and patients.



Empowerment

Choosing Appropriate Methods To Capture Evidence

In one of our research projects on evaluating the effectiveness of a social therapy environment. Public adviser Jamie Hunter helped to reframe research questions making the process easier using several flash cards that were placed on the interview table (word association) and a service user would pick out a card like 'Empowering'. The service user would then explain how they now feel empowered relative to how unempowered they felt before using the social therapy environment due to health inequalities they were faced with in their local area.



This poster shows how public involvement can contribute to implement a Health Equity Mainstreaming Strategy. The poster was created by NIHR ARC NWC Health Inequalities Public Advisers Jamie Hunter and Alan Griffiths with the help of Neil Joseph, Sandra Smith, Keith Holt, Ana Porroche-Escudero and Paula Wheeler.

Dedicated to the memory of our dear colleague Liz Fuller, without whom this work would not have been possible.

Whose Health inequalities Is It Anyway ?