

## Courses and conferences

### Research Governance Conference: friend or foe

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18 June 2003

*Novotel, Manchester (West), Worsley,  
Manchester, UK*

This conference gives the opportunity for delegates to examine the concept of 'research governance', listen to keynote speakers and share good practice.

The aims of the conference are to:

- examine how research governance will affect health professionals
- learn how to approach ethical committees and be successful
- evaluate the LREC process
- identify gaps in the research governance guidelines/policy
- consider the effectiveness of research governance policy
- compare and contrast the research governance experiences of health and social care
- review the effectiveness of research governance experiences of health and social care
- share good practice
- consider and evaluate the user perspective of research governance
- consider patient consent and how best to inform patients about research.

For further information please contact: Ms Pauline Pearce, Lifelong Learning Co-ordinator, University of Salford, Faculty of Health & Social Care, Allerton Building, Frederick Road, Salford M6 6PU, UK. Tel: +44 (0)161 295 2129; fax: +44 (0)161 295 2368; email: [lll.centre-fhsc@salford.ac.uk](mailto:lll.centre-fhsc@salford.ac.uk).

### Integrated Care Pathways 2003

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2–3 July 2003

*Church House, Westminster, London, UK*

As the use of integrated care pathways (ICPs), as a tool to achieve improvements in care delivery, is becoming more widespread, their benefits are becoming increasingly evident.

By outlining what should happen, when, and the expected result, ICPs help provide consistency and continuity to high-quality care. As well as supporting evidence-based practice, risk management and

clinical audit, ICPs can help to minimise clinical error, improve patient safety and reduce complaints and claims – in addition to providing an opportunity for patients and the public to become involved in developing services.

The annual event, now in its third year, is made up of two streams spanning both days of the conference – this year with an international flavour, as speakers from Australia, Belgium and Germany, as well as from the UK, share their experiences.

The conference will cater for healthcare professionals with a range of experience in pathways, so whether you are interested in the basics of writing a successful ICP, or the more advanced topics, the choice of streams and workshops will give you the opportunity to tailor the conference to your role and responsibilities. There will also be plenty of opportunity to discuss specific issues that you are facing in the interactive 'ICPs Surgery'.

For further information contact: Healthcare Events, 2 Acre Road, Kingston, Surrey KT2 6EF, UK. Fax: +44 (0)20 8547 2300; email: [info@healthcare-events.co.uk](mailto:info@healthcare-events.co.uk); website: [www.healthcare-events.co.uk](http://www.healthcare-events.co.uk).

### Delivering Wellbeing and Health through Settings and Partnerships: synergy and strategy

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14–15 July 2003

*University of Central Lancashire, Preston, UK*

The conference will draw on learning from a number of regional and national events focusing on evidence, theory and practice within the field.

Its aims are to:

- explore the role of healthy settings as a vehicle for delivering effective public health practice, within the context of current government agendas and priorities
- explore ways in which healthy settings can support the work of local strategic partnerships and help to implement community plans and neighbourhood renewal strategies
- explore the synergy between work in a diversity of settings and discuss how the approach can contribute to tackling cross-cutting issues

- reflect on, share and develop learning from settings and partnership working
- facilitate the development of theory and practice within the field and to debate ideas, issues and approaches.

For further information please contact: Emma Woodward, Business Service Office, University of Central Lancashire, Preston PR1 2HE, UK. Fax: +44 (0)1772 892938; email: [eawoodward@uclan.ac.uk](mailto:eawoodward@uclan.ac.uk); website: [www.uclan.ac.uk/hsdu](http://www.uclan.ac.uk/hsdu).

## The Clinical Audit Association 12th Annual Conference: Clinical Audit – Improving the Quality of Healthcare

21–22 July 2003

*Conference Aston, Aston University,  
Birmingham, UK*

The theme of the conference in 2003 will be ‘Clinical Audit – Improving the Quality of Healthcare’ and abstract submissions are invited for papers, both short parallel presentations and poster sessions.

Categories include:

- audits of domestic violence, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, diabetes and wound care
- audits of the NSFs – diabetes, CHD, older people and children
- audits using the electronic patient record
- audits of the patients’ experience with service delivery at all levels, and developing integrated care pathways
- mental health.

For further information contact: The Clinical Audit Association Ltd, Cleethorpes Business Centre, Jackson Place, Wilton Road, Humberston, Lincolnshire DN36 4AS, UK. Tel: +44 (0)1472 210682; email: [pmkent@the-caa-ltd.demon.co.uk](mailto:pmkent@the-caa-ltd.demon.co.uk).

## Clinical Information Systems and Electronic Records 2003

9–10 September 2003

*Olympia Conference Centre, London, UK*

This conference is a complete examination of the ways routine clinical practice can be supported and improved using clinical information – with particular emphasis on three key areas:

- the Integrated Care Records Service
- electronic patient records – and their role in supporting patient-centred clinical practice and clinical governance
- electronic records – with a focus on case studies and lessons that can be learnt from Electronic Record Development and Implementation Programme (ERDIP) demonstrators.

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## 10 Years of HTA in the NHS: Health Technology Assessment Conference – using research to deliver high-quality, cost- effective healthcare

15 October 2003

*Church House, Westminster, London, UK*

The conference, celebrating 10 years of the Health Technology Assessment (HTA) programme in the UK, will highlight its role in providing NHS decision makers with high-quality information about the cost-effectiveness of a wide range of healthcare interventions.

The focus will be some of the major contributions that HTA is making in the key priority areas of cancer, mental health and vascular disease.

HTA is becoming the keystone of evidence-based practice. This is not surprising, as HTA is the discipline that systematically assesses the effectiveness, appropriateness and costs of health interventions. HTA deals not only with treatments such as drugs and operations, but health promotion, disease prevention, rehabilitation and long-term care. This conference will:

- present some of the recent HTAs carried out in key areas of the NHS
- reflect on the implications of the work of the programme so far
- look forward to how HTA will meet the increasing challenges of the future.

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