People in Research advert for PROGRESS

**ImPROving Psychological Health in Critical CaRE SurvivorS (PROGRESS)**

**What is this group about?**

The PROGRESS research group was formed to look at and improve psychological recovery after critical illness. We know that:

* Psychological health after ICU / critical care is a problem
* Some patients like ‘filling the gaps’ with ICU follow-up and diaries and some don’t
* There is a relationship between psychological health and other aspects of recovery (including cognitive and physical health)
* Individuals react differently to different interventions

We aim to develop and test an intervention to improve the psychological health of critical care survivors. We hope to answer whether personalised ICU discharge summaries improve adult patients' psychological and overall health outcomes.

There are two ways to get involved: a stakeholder event and being part of the study group.

**Stakeholder event**

We are holding a stakeholder event (a meeting in London) to work with former ICU patients/relatives help us shape how this research could look. We would like to invite people who were discharged from ICU within the past five years, across the UK, to be part of this event. We are also seeking one person to be part of the study group.

**How often does the study group meet?**

The study group will meet on a monthly basis (via skype after initial face-to-face meeting) to work up a proposal for submission to a grant funding body, and if successful would expect to meet four to six times/year.

**Who are you looking for to join the group?**

We are seeking a former patient who has been in a critical care unit in the UK (for at least 5 days), between one to five years ago. You would need to represent how other patients may feel as well as your own views. There is another patient representative who is part of the group too. We are aware that this may be a difficult subject to talk about as it may bring back memories of your experiences, so you may want to think about whether you feel comfortable contributing to this group.

**Who has organised this group?**

This is a research collaborative of experienced critical care researchers and clinicians (doctors, nurses and psychologists) who have all conducted studies in this area, and who have extensive clinical experience of caring for critically ill patients.

**What are the goals of the group and the stakeholder event?**

To develop a research proposal to develop and test an intervention (an information resource) to improve the psychological health of critical care survivors.

**What is needed?**

The role will be to give your opinions on the subject discussed at the stakeholder event. If you are part of the research meetings (the study group) we would like you to comment on research documents outside the meeting. Most of the initial work will focus on developing and planning the large research study and (if funding is successful), helping to deliver the research. Experience of contributing to groups such as Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) in Research groups would be helpful but is not essential. This is a voluntary position but travel expenses will be paid.

**When is the next meeting?**

Our next meeting is in September in London, the stake holder event will be held in October. Study group meetings are scheduled throughout the year (please contact us for details).

**How do I find out more or get in touch?**

Please email Natalie Pattison (Florence Nightingale Foundation Clinical Professor of Nursing) natalie.pattison@nhs.net to say why you are interested in this role and if you have experience of PPI in research. You can also call 01707 285819 (please note this answering machine is accessed only intermittently so there may be a delayed response).

If you would like to know more about this role, please get in touch.