

Our achievements so far July 2017-2019 Research... Innovation... Education

‘Bringing together Wales’ stroke experts to use evidence based care, research and innovation to help prevent and reduce the debilitating impact of stroke’.

Stroke is one of the top causes of death and a leading cause of adult disability. In Wales there are approximately, 7,400 people will suffer a stroke, Transient Ischaemic Attack (TIA) and stroke mimics per year and there are almost 70,000 stroke survivors.

Stroke research, innovation and education is therefore a critical enabler in the health of our nation, contributing to the effective delivery of evidence-based medicine in our NHS, attracting investment and high quality research talent and vital for laying the foundation to the next phase of health and social care delivery in Wales.

Stroke Hub Wales (SHW) was launched on the 9th of November 2017 and is a Welsh Government funded initiative. Our vision is to achieve a step-change in high impact stroke research for the benefit of the health, wellbeing and prosperity of the people in Wales.

Our aims

- Set up a research agenda and funding streams
- Build an infrastructure able to deliver a stronger portfolio of research
- Create a sustainable research environment



 www.stroke.wales

 @StrokeHubWales

Timeline:

- Launch of SHW twitter handle (05.10.17).
- Designed and set up SHW web pages as a central resource and point of contact, information, and support www.stroke.wales (25.10.17).
- Official launch of Stroke Hub Wales (09.11.17).
- Established 2 x Welsh Cochrane Stroke Fellowships (29.01.18).
- Recruited >3500 participants to MMM 2018/2019 (May Measurement Month).
- Created and launched the ‘Get Involved’ initiative for the public and patients to participate and/or advise on stroke research and innovation projects (<http://stroke.wales/get-involved>). (15.05.18). – Data disclosure agreement for research partners set up (16.04.19).
- Facilitated and supported grant proposals (Stroke Association project grant, HCRW Health Innovation, ACCELERATE) and have collectively won a Smart Expertise award >£375,000 (July 2018).
- Established 10 Design for Real/Life projects with Prof Wendy Keay-Bright and BA Graphic Communication students (Cardiff School of Art and Design, Cardiff Metropolitan University) in collaboration with NHS, Stroke consultants, AHPs in the fields of hemianopia and aphasia (September 2018).
- Re-established the Stroke Association Lectureship Awards Program (Wales only) in negotiation with Stroke Association and HCRW (November 2018).
- Obtained 3rd year funding from Welsh Government for the continuation of SHW (24.10.18).
- Facilitation and creation of an aphasia friendly questionnaire and an educational video on aphasia (07.11.18).
- Launch of research and publication maps amongst Welsh HEIs and HBs (13.12.18).
- Cardiff Metropolitan University (February 2019) – awarded >£4500 How does stroke affect functional language use and identity in bilinguals? An exploratory study of Welsh-English bilinguals with aphasia
- Establish and launch of SHW/SA Public and Patient Involvement Committee (14.03.19). – PPI utilised in >6 projects and reports
- Established 5 Graphic Communication- Persuasive Design projects with Prof Wendy Keay-Bright and BA Graphic Communication students

- Stroke Hub Wales Interactive webpage launch June 2019 including Aphasia video and pre and post-questionnaires, SHW symposia videos & Communication Design Projects.

Other achievements include:

- SHW facilitated >150 meetings across Wales,
- Has gained >50 friends and collaborators, including 7 HBs and 7 HEIs across the UK, >10 Charities and >13 Industry partnerships.
- Presented at >20 events, meetings and conferences, Including the Welsh Stroke Conference, Cardiff 2017, 2018; 2019; World Stroke Congress, Montreal 2018; European Stroke Organisation Conference, Milan 2019.
- Facilitated and disseminated >13 portfolio studies to HBs.
- Facilitated with the establishment of National Education Framework for Stroke in Wales (NEFS).
- Provided PPI for various funding applications amongst AHPs, clinicians and researchers.
- Presented and facilitated Stroke Research, Innovation, Education and Care Symposia – collectively >300 attendees.

Future projects in preparation -

- Stroke Research, Innovation, Education and Care Symposia
- Facilitation of Stroke Hub South Africa and Stroke Hub Sarasota
- Grant applications, publication and set up of courses (CPD).
- NEFS program in collaboration with Welsh Stroke Conference.
- Facilitation and coordination of a 5-year infrastructure plan for SHW in collaboration with HCRW, WG, HEIs, SA, BHF and Industry partners.

References

1. Quality and Outcomes Framework - Wales
2. 2017 – 2020 Stroke Delivery Plan
<https://gov.wales/docs/dhss/publications/170209stroke-dplan1720en.pdf>

We are here to serve our Welsh Stroke clinicians, AHPs, stroke survivors, families, carers and public interested in Stroke Research. So ‘Get Involved’ and together we can make a difference!

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