

INPA funds part-time Research Officer

As part of its commitment to improving standards and informing best practice and policy, INPA is funding a part-time Research Officer for 12 months. This is a collaborative project between INPA and the Department of Psychology, College of Human Health Sciences at Swansea University. The position is currently being advertised and will be based at the University, three-days a week.

The Research Officer will support the delivery of key projects including a pivotal piece of research to evaluate the effectiveness of contemporary neurorehabilitation, and the development and validation of a new psychometric instrument to capture complexity needs and rehabilitation across neurorehabilitation services.



Swansea University
Prifysgol Abertawe

A third project is the final analysis and write-up of a study by the INPA Research and Outcomes Group determining which outcome measures should be used for individuals undergoing neurobehavioural rehabilitation (see page 2).

The proposed start for the Research Officer is November 2017, and further information about the position is available:
<http://www.swansea.ac.uk/personnel/jobs/details>.

Expanding INPA membership

INPA currently has 18 members providing a wide range of excellent neurorehabilitation and all are listed on its website www.in-pa.org.uk. Two recent INPA members include The Royal Buckinghamshire Hospital and HCA Healthcare (see page 3).

INPA is a group of independent specialist health and social care providers who all share a common goal of delivering excellent care in neurorehabilitation. Established in 2011, INPA is an alliance with a strong voice in the sector, ensuring that care is delivered in quality environments, by trained and experienced staff, in a caring way to assist the rehabilitation process.

Professor Mike Barnes INPA Chair said: "We're delighted that the membership is increasing. It's important to recognise and raise awareness that neurorehabilitation is a specialist area and our organisation is committed to improving standards, informing best practice and policy. There's much work to do, but as a collective voice we are much stronger working together to improve the lives of those affected by Acquired Brain Injury."

New organisation for neurorehabilitation nurses needs 'drivers'

The United Kingdom Alliance for Neurorehabilitation Nurses (UKANN), an organisation recently established by INPA, is looking for members to join its steering committee and play a strategic role in taking UKANN forwards (see page 2).

Professor Mike Barnes runs half-marathon in Antarctica- sponsors required!

In November, Professor Mike Barnes, INPA Chair, will take part in the 'white continent' half marathon in Antarctica. He is hoping to raise £20,000 for the United Kingdom Acquired Brain Injury Forum to mark the charity's 20th anniversary.

This 21 km run takes place at an altitude of 700 metres, and presents a formidable challenge with snow, ice, an average wind-chill temperature of -20C, and the possibility of strong Katabatic winds.



Training for the event is well underway and sponsors are welcome, so please visit his Virgin Giving sponsorship page:
<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/MikeBarnes>

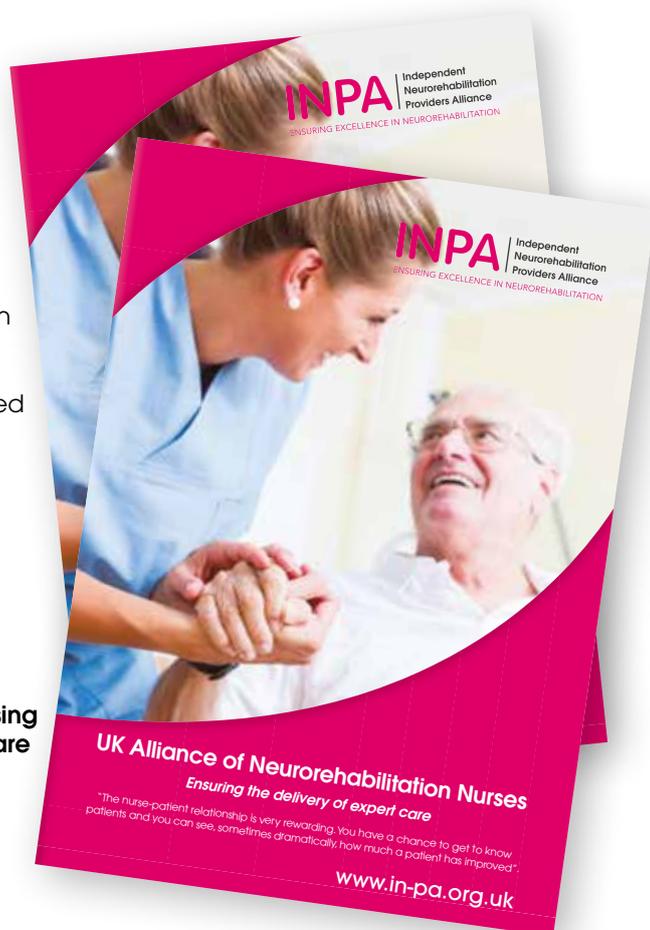
Calling all nurses with an interest in neurorehabilitation...

The United Kingdom Alliance for Neurorehabilitation Nurses (UKANN) met in October at Jury's Inn, Oxford, as an adjunct to the British Association of Neuroscience Nurses (BANN) Conference.

Neurorehabilitation nursing is developing both within the private-sector and the NHS, particularly with the increase in the population of patients who survive with long term conditions. Nurses play an important role in the neurorehabilitation multidisciplinary team, and in response to concerns about the lack of rehabilitation-trained nurses, INPA established the UKANN as a forum for nurses with this special interest.

UKANN provides networking and education opportunities for neurorehabilitation nurses and aims to review guidelines, promote best practice, offer peer support and provide career information. The Alliance will also raise awareness of the importance of nurses in neurorehabilitation and encourage others to train in this sector.

UKANN keeps close links with BANN and the Royal College of Nursing Neuroscience Forum and new members are welcome. Members are also required for the UKANN steering committee; help is urgently needed to drive the Alliance forwards. For further information visit: www.in-pa.org.uk/uk-alliance-neurorehabilitation-nurses-ukann/



Selecting tools for measuring neurobehavioural outcomes

INPA members who provide neurobehavioural services have been collaborating in a study to determine what tools should populate the 'basket' of measures used for individuals undergoing neurobehavioural rehabilitation.

The study originated as a result of concerns that there were insufficient neurobehavioural measures in the UK Rehabilitation Outcomes Collaborative (UKROC) prescribed 'basket'. UKROC gathers data from inpatient rehabilitation from all specialist neurorehabilitation services (Levels 1 and 2) across the UK, and provides the commissioning dataset for specialist rehabilitation services and national benchmarking. Providers administer a prescribed 'basket' of measures and submit the results to UKROC for evaluation. A lack of neurobehavioural measures in the

'basket' does not accurately reflect how such services are organised and staffed, and does not capture the complexities and expected outcomes of people with Acquired Brain Injury who exhibit challenging behaviour. This could lead to neurobehavioural services being improperly categorised, and the tariff would not reimburse services at an appropriate level.

Professor Nick Alderman, Chair of the INPA Research and Outcomes Group commented: "There is a 'one size fits all' basket of measures being universally used across

all neurorehabilitation services, regardless of specialism. So this is an important study to identify what neurobehavioural tools should populate the basket of measures that will provide information that best represents our services."

The study will appear in press at a later date but in the meantime the information identified regarding the individual measures will be subject of a brochure to assist service providers, clinicians and commissioners regarding their expectations of what should be provided, and also the possible strengths and limitations of these tools. It will also contribute in general to the debate on complex measurement issues surrounding Acquired Brain Injury and neurorehabilitation services.

Brochures will be available from INPA soon. Please contact info@in-pa.org.uk to reserve a copy.

New members welcome

Independent providers of neurorehabilitation are encouraged and welcome to join INPA. However, organisations must demonstrate that they fulfil its core standards (see page 4).

To join visit: <https://www.in-pa.org.uk/how-to-join-inpa/>

Two new members that have recently joined the organisation are featured below:

The Royal Buckinghamshire Hospital empowering lives



The Royal Buckinghamshire Hospital, based in Aylesbury, is an independent rehabilitation centre, with an international reputation for treating patients with spinal cord injury, Acquired Brain Injury, stroke and other neurological conditions. The hospital works with private insurers, legal firms, the NHS and accepts private referrals.

Steeped in history, the hospital it dates back to the 1800s when it was designed originally by Florence Nightingale, but in more recent times has undergone extensive modernisation and was purchased by the Affinity Group.

The hospital now provides spacious facilities, three rehabilitation gymnasiums, all equipped with modern technology, an 8.5m hydrotherapy pool with assessment areas, and 20 treatment and therapy rooms. The bedrooms combine 'home away from home', with the best neurorehabilitation care; apartments are also available, with self-catering facilities to provide both privacy and close proximity for patients' families. The apartments are also available for out-patients.

A team of eminent consultants lead the rehabilitation programmes and provide excellent patient-centred care. The highly-qualified staff are well-versed on the newest technologies and rehabilitation techniques and provide patients with the tools required to prepare for a fulfilling life.

For further information visit: www.royalbucks.co.uk

HCA Healthcare – world class healthcare



The Wellington Hospital in London is owned and operated by HCA Healthcare UK.

Dr Thomas Frist founded HCA (Hospital Corporation of America) in 1968, with a vision of creating a healthcare company that had the scope, resources and expertise to provide the highest possible standard of care. Now, with nearly 300 hospitals across the USA and UK, 240000 nurses and 37000 doctors, HCA is the world's largest private hospital group.

The Wellington Hospital is the largest independent rehabilitation unit in the UK and provides comprehensive interdisciplinary inpatient rehabilitation programmes for patients aged 18 years and over, with Acquired Brain Injury, neurological conditions and complex medical disability. The acute rehabilitation unit is based on the 4th, 5th and 6th floors of its North Building, with its offices and a hydrotherapy pool on the ground floor. The extensive services provided by The Wellington Hospital are all available to patients, and the hospital offers access to local community resources that can assist in community reintegration.

The patient, their families and carers are at the centre of their rehabilitation programme and are involved in all aspects of their care, treatment and discharge planning. Cultural, spiritual beliefs, lifestyles and values form the foundation of the rehabilitation programme and the patient is supported by an eminent multidisciplinary team.

For further information visit:
www.thewellingtonhospital.com/patient-services/acute-neurological-rehabilitation/

Neurobehavioural disability after Acquired Brain Injury: advances in the management of social handicap

27 November 2017, Swansea University

Leading experts in neurobehavioural rehabilitation will provide authoritative accounts of the latest developments in the management of challenging behaviour and social handicap.

Speakers will present state-of-the-art reviews and describe the latest innovations regarding how social

handicap can be minimised in the five domains of neurobehavioural disability captured by the St Andrew's Swansea Neurobehavioural Outcome Scale: interpersonal relationships, neurocognitive function, inhibition, aggression, and communication.

The programme will appeal to all

those interested and/or involved in the care of individuals with an Acquired Brain Injury, including case managers, commissioners, rehabilitation and healthcare professionals, clinicians, academics and legal fraternity.

For further information contact:
Claire.williams@swansea.ac.uk

All Party Parliamentary Group on Acquired Brain Injury

An All Party Parliamentary Group on Acquired Brain Injury (APPG on ABI) was formally set up in October.

Objectives of the APPG on ABI:

- To raise awareness of ABI and seek improvements in support and services for people directly affected by ABI and also their families and carer
- To provide a voice for those who are not always heard by Ministers and MPs
- To be the main forum for ABI in Parliament, raising key issues across health, social care and welfare which all affect people living with ABI in the UK

The APPG will also collaborate with other key APPGs to pool and disseminate knowledge. The members are cross-party and the APPG will be chaired by Chris Bryant, Labour MP for Rhondda.

There are plans for an official launch on the 28th November 2017.

For more information contact:

Chloë Hayward info@in-pa.org.uk

Rehabilitation Assistant training update

INPA is currently looking at the options for training Rehabilitation Assistants to ensure quality and consistency throughout the UK.

INPA members vary in their training delivery methods for Rehabilitation Assistants, and although this is not an issue, the organisation would like to ensure practice quality and consistency. Rehabilitation Assistants, like all members of the rehabilitation multidisciplinary team, need specialist training and specific skills to work with individuals who have a brain injury. By establishing standards this will raise and promote good practice throughout the independent sector.

Various training options are currently being investigated with consideration to include accreditation. Training modules will be developed, together with a competency framework and guidance, but using existing member resources.

INPA will report back on developments in the next issue of the newsletter.

Extending membership to aspiring providers

INPA has extended membership to those neurorehabilitation providers that do not currently fulfil all the criteria for full membership of the organisation. The newly-created Associate Member must meet at least four of the eight key standards for full membership and demonstrate that it is working towards full membership within two years.

UK neurorehabilitation providers vary from smaller companies with single units and few staff to much larger, multi-unit companies. Currently the full membership fees reflect the size of the company ranging from an annual fee of £900 for companies with one facility and less than 20 beds, to £1500 for companies with 20 or more beds.

Associate membership is now available for companies with one facility and less than 20 beds at a cost of £500 per annum for a maximum of two years, on the basis that they would be expected to progress to full membership in that time scale. The fee is dependent on the number of facilities and beds.

In addition community neurorehabilitation companies are welcome to join and the fee structure will be a matter of discussion.

Diary dates

UKABIF's 9th Annual Conference Monday 13th November 2017

Navigating the future for brain injury survivors: health, rehabilitation and beyond.

The Royal Society of Medicine
1 Wimpole St, London W1G 0AE
www.ukabif.org.uk

10th World Congress for NeuroRehabilitation (WCNR) 7th - 10th February 2018

Mumbai, India
E: traceymole@wfnr.co.uk
www.wcnr2018.in