



Association of Respiratory  
Nurse Specialists

Edge Hill  
University

## **A Delphi Survey of UK Respiratory Nursing Research Priorities**

You are invited to participate in this multi-phase survey which aims to identify respiratory nurse research priorities for the future. This is a collaborative project between the Association of Respiratory Nurse Specialists (ARNS) and Edge Hill University, Lancashire. The consensus findings will inform a UK respiratory nursing research strategy. Before you decide to take part it is important to understand why the study is being done and what it will involve. Please take the time to read this information (this should take about 5 minutes).

### **Background**

Respiratory disease poses a significant burden on individuals, their carers and healthcare systems. In times of economic austerity within the NHS, there is a need to reform healthcare delivery. Many respiratory patients have existing co-morbidities and complex needs. Respiratory nurses, with particular expertise in aspects of patient education and self-care, are already offering a significant contribution to the delivery of respiratory healthcare services. Despite this, research regarding both the interventions and the impact of respiratory nursing care is underdeveloped. There is a need therefore not only to adapt services, but also to measure the impact of interventions in order to meet the changing needs of an aging population, and the subsequent increasing number of individuals living with long term respiratory conditions.

### **What is the purpose of this study?**

The aim of this study is to identify and gain respiratory nurses' consensus on respiratory nursing research priorities in order to develop a research strategy and support the future development of a Respiratory Nurse Research Consortium.

### **Why have I been invited?**

As a member of ARNS you have been invited to participate as a clinical expert in the field of respiratory nursing. All other ARNS members (1,300) have also been invited to participate.

### **Do I have to take part?**

No. Participation is voluntary. If you agree to take part, you can follow the link in the e-mail and instructions for completing the survey will be provided. If you do not wish to participate you may delete the e-mail that was sent. There are no identifiers to indicate whether or not you have participated in the study.

### **What is involved if I take part?**

If you enter the survey you will be given clear instructions on how to rank and rate a number of areas for research identified from the published literature. You will also be asked some demographic information regarding your current professional role and past experience. You will be given the opportunity to list any additional research priorities that you think are important. The survey should take no more than 20 minutes to complete. If you complete this first round you are not obliged to participate in the second round, although this would be desirable. The survey does not ask for any identifying information so can be completed anonymously. However, please note that once you have submitted your anonymised responses your data cannot be withdrawn as we will be unable to identify your responses from those submitted by other participants.



Association of Respiratory  
Nurse Specialists

Edge Hill  
University

### **What are the possible disadvantages of taking part?**

There are no anticipated risks or disadvantages from taking part in the study. The data collected will be anonymous so no individuals will be identifiable. If you have any questions about the study please contact Dr Carol Kelly in the first instance on 01695 65 7090 or [kellyc@edgehill.ac.uk](mailto:kellyc@edgehill.ac.uk). If you have any concerns or complaints regarding this study you can direct these to an independent point of contact:

Prof. Clare Austin, Associate Dean for Research & Innovation, Faculty of Health & Social Care, Edge Hill University at [austincl@edgehill.ac.uk](mailto:austincl@edgehill.ac.uk) or telephone 01695 650772

### **What are the possible benefits of taking part?**

There will be no direct benefit to you personally by taking part in this study, but the findings will aim to address the deficit of respiratory nurse led research by identifying priorities and informing a research strategy for the future, ultimately for the benefit of patients.

### **What will happen to the results of the research study?**

The findings of the Delphi survey will be disseminated through conference presentations, peer-reviewed high impact journals, and the popular nursing press. Findings and the research strategy will also be disseminated using the ARNS website and circulated to sponsors and affiliated charities such as the British Lung Foundation (BLF) and Asthma UK. These outputs will inform a plan of work for external funding applications for the future.

### **Who has reviewed the study?**

This study has been reviewed and approved by Edge Hill University's Faculty of Health & Social Care Research Ethics committee (FREC).

### **What do I do now?**

If you wish to participate in the study please click on the survey via the link provided in our email to you. Please note that the survey must be completed in one go as it cannot be saved. Please only complete the survey once.

### **Further information and contact details**

If you would any further information please contact:

Dr Carol Kelly, Senior Lecturer, Postgraduate Medical Institute, Faculty of Health & Social Care, Edge Hill University, St Helens Rd, Ormskirk, Lancashire, L39 4QP

Tel: Direct line. 01695 657090

Email: [kellyc@edgehill.ac.uk](mailto:kellyc@edgehill.ac.uk)

*Thank you very much for your time in reading this information leaflet and for considering taking part in the study.*