



Bridging the gap in paediatric clinician's access to research (A PGDiT-led initiative)

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1 Introduction

The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) recommends evidence-based medicine to enhance children's and young people's care.

Research is a core curriculum domain for Paediatric Postgraduate Doctors in Training (PGDiT).

However, a national survey (1) revealed that paediatrics PGDiT face challenges in developing research skills, with significant differences in opportunities and challenges based on geographical location, level of training and paediatric subspecialty.

Trainee-led research activities can lead to the inclusion of research in clinicians' daily work, improving training experience and job satisfaction (2).

NHS England Yorkshire & Humber offers journal clubs and research training days as part of mandatory regional teaching. Still, there is a growing interest among paediatrics PGDiT for more research opportunities.

Our goal was to establish a research network for paediatricians in the region to enhance research opportunities and benefits for children and young people.

- ## 2 What we did

An electronic survey was circulated across East Yorkshire between February and March 2024 to assess current opportunities and demand for additional research-focused teaching and activities.

Invitations for volunteers were advertised, and the BRIDGE research network in Yorkshire and Humber was formed.

A team of 14 paediatric PGDiTs, led by two co-chairs was set up to run BRIDGE paediatric research network.

Monthly research events started in March 2024, using a virtual platform. These events include research-focused teaching and journal clubs with a median attendance of 25 persons.

Recordings of past meetings are available on the BRIDGE website (3).

- ## 3 Our Result

Feedback showed that

 1. 100% of PGDiTs were satisfied or very satisfied with the quality and content of the teaching sessions
 2. 97% were highly likely to recommend the lectures to a colleague.

The team has successfully facilitated collaboration between clinicians for evidence reviews published by Dont Forget the Bubbles (4).

The team organised a stand at the Yorkshire and Humber School of Paediatrics Annual Meeting.

- ## 4 Our Next Steps

The BRIDGE research network is:

 1. Fostering collaborations across Yorkshire and Humber
 2. Highlighting research opportunities
 3. Working to increase awareness of the benefits of research for children and young people.

Feedback has been positive and will be developed further to gain more granular insights that help direct future work to continue to educate PGDiT about research, advertise the benefits of patient and public involvement and encourage collaboration in research to improve the lives of children and young people

- ## 5 References

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