Staffing on Wards

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#wardstaffing
Right evidence, better decisions

We put good research evidence at the heart of decision making in the NHS, public health and social care.
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The latest important research, summarised.

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Comprehensiveness vs. Frequency

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Early discharge hospital at home

“I would refer to this when making decisions here and discuss with colleagues…”
**Nurse manager, acute trust**

“This is a thorough review of great interest to practitioners and commissioners given move towards early supported discharge from hospitals.”
**Physiotherapist, community trust**

“Given the current focus on DTOC and red bed days, an important study to share.”
**Hospital manager**

**Scores**
- 5/6
- 4/6
- 6/6
Right evidence, better decisions
Managing transitions to palliative care for older people in acute hospitals

Elaine Maxwell Clinical advise, National Institute for Health Research Dissemination Centre

The fourth article in our six-part series drawing on research funded by the National Institute for Health Research and included in NIHR Dissemination Centre publications

The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Dissemination Centre helps clinical staff, commissioners and patients to make informed decisions about best practice and treatment in health and social care. In our themed review, Better Endings (NIHR, 2015), we look at the evidence on best practice in caring for people who are dying.


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Lifecyle of a research project 4: taking the research project further

This article, the fourth in a series on the lifecycle of a research project, looks at the various ways in which the findings of a single study can help change practice.
Staffing on Wards

Making decisions about healthcare staffing, improving effectiveness and supporting staff to care well

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doi:10.3310/themedreview-03553
Focus on ward staffing – why?

- Staffing costs, shortages, demands
- New roles, productivity challenges
- Gaps in evidence – NIHR commissioned research
Scope of this review

- 22 NIHR studies
- Range of methods – from largescale observational research to mixed methods evaluations
- Selected landmark studies, such as RN4Cast
Making sense of the evidence with...
Shaping the team: size and mix

Managing the team and the ward
What do we still need to know?

Many uncertainties including:

• Contribution of ward staff to positive outcomes
• Boundaries between registered and support staff
• Models accounting for wide range of staff
• Role of temporary and agency staff
• Input from carers and volunteers
• Economic evaluations
• Impact of new digital technology on ward workflow

Opportunities for new research – NIHR programmes and centres with interest in workforce and organisation
Get involved

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https://www.dc.nihr.ac.uk/themed-reviews/Research-onward-staffing.htm

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