

1 Minutes of previous meeting – agreed.

2 Matters arising

- 22 posters for the SOM conference on 30th June
- Rand carrying out review for Work and health unit on centre for work and health.

3 Sarah – Lloyds Register – call for:

- Evidence to inform work, in terms of where safety challenges are, and what to fund to overcome them. Aims to understand how decision making impacts the outcomes, what information do people have, opportunities to improve via implementation of evidence into practice?
- Looking at the needs of OH safety practitioners and those working within the systems, looking at evidence and the supply.
- Closing date for call – 13th August. Budget – £100,000,
- Call run in collaboration for US based National Safety Council, working with them at the proposals.

See www.lrfoundation.org.uk

4 UN goal promoting good work in university training.

Action - Questionnaire to be completed.

5 Colt fellowship

- to fill gap seen in mid-career development. Many finding difficult to give up salaries in clinical practice for academic research initiative – buying up to 2 days for over 5 years - enabling those within 10 years of CCT, to bring research project to them with backing of university, to gain funding and support.
- Need OH commitment to build capacity.
- Also launching non-clinical offering for scientists, at least 3-year post-doc , supported for 5 years at 80% of their salary, covered by their post salary. Needs to be a senior position, that the university will invest 20% of salary.
- There is a mid-career issue that is identified.
- Deadline – 1st March. Plenty of time to spread word and consider hard.

Queries:

- UK based only, UK fees & international students can apply, but need to be based in UK institution, with intention to stay in the occupational research .
- Clinical – occupational health/nursing/medicine – not restricted if they are interested in occupational health research. No need to come from occupational health background but must want to develop a career in occupational research.
- Need to have grant application (budget of up to £100,000 + salaries), including their research project. The research project to be a new project funded by Colt.

Action – All agreed a great initiative and to disseminate and Spread Word!

6 Research studies and more.

(Elaine)

- Part of the advanced pain orgs consortium - thinking about occupation.
- Qualitative study looking at psychological distress in frontline UK doctors during COVID, sampling from an ongoing cohort study (CERA)

(Michael)

Health & Work – Academic Forum

Nick, Sarah, Tash, Finola, Ed, Kim, Michael, Elaine, Nathan, Malachy & Anthony

- looking at impact of covid on MSDs. 3 types – key workers, homeworkers & those furloughed. Identifying the gaps in the literature.
- Much focus on mental health. MSD is growing, and lots of convos leads to the psychosocial aspect.
- Done by literature reviews, focus groups, and 2 state holder workshops.

(Ewan) – Studies:

Virus levels in hospitals. Looking at how to measure and quantify it in 2 Scottish hospitals, showing 15% of all specimens from different sampling identified particles. Possible look at ventilation – much lack on it, and covid has had an impact in clinical areas.

Case complexity. Issue with all work– how do you triage and what level of person to involve. E.g. know not everyone needs to see orthopaedic surgeon for back pain. 85% need to see a therapist. Occ medicine etc. What determines complex case? All services are doing triage and doing that based on anecdotal criteria. Advanced practitioners – possible development, in taking on clinical roles.

Comparing standard treatment pathway for MSDs, with case managed pathway for MSDs in mental health. Opportunistic study. Case managed participants, rather than just seeing therapists had better outcomes, and lower socio-economic groups. Published in rehabilitation magazine.

Also involved in aging population & work, and factors leading to job loss. Much is involved.

(Nick)

SOM happy to showcase reports, perhaps send a dissemination/report or possibly a webinar too.

(Malachy)

- Last time – update surrounding patterns on weight gains for bus drivers. Got approval by the Ethics committee. Been in touch with bus company who have agreed to release data. August (preferably July) will be able to receive the data needed.

(Finola)

- Joined UK conservation association of noise inducing hearing loss. Reviewing as to whether this is RIDDOR reportable. Agreed that separating social from occupational is hard.