

CLAHRC North Thames & PenCLAHRC Learning Exchange Visit

Date: 26th September 2017

Location: University of Exeter



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Introduction

On Tuesday September 26th staff, researchers and patient and public contributors came together for an exchange visit.

A delegation of CLAHRC North Thames public partners, staff and researchers (right) visited colleagues at PenCLAHRC to make connections, compare notes on involving people in research and discuss future working together.



Background to the visit

The visit followed on from wider discussions between the two CLAHRCs about collaborating more closely and taking advantage of their respective populations and settings to complement each other's work.

NIHR CLAHRC North Thames serves a population of six million people covering north central and north east London, south and west Hertfordshire, south Bedfordshire and south west and mid Essex,

PenCLAHRC (CLAHRC South West Peninsula) is a partnership of NHS Trusts across a large geographical area covering Cornwall, Devon and Somerset, plus the Universities of Exeter and Plymouth. This is a region popular for retirement and leisure, second homes are prevalent as well as nursing and care homes. It is a largely rural area with the largest city being Plymouth. Plymouth and Exeter contrast with the villages across all three counties in that they are increasingly multi-cultural and multi-faith.

Prior to the visit

There was extensive planning by the PenCLAHRC PPI team and CLAHRC North Thames PPI staff to arrange the day and create an agenda.

1. The first part of the visit focused on introducing people to each other.
2. The second part of the meeting explored working together on a research bid.

Part 1 of the day

Introductions and networking

PenCLAHRC Director Professor Stuart Logan opened the event, setting out the aims and objectives of PenCLAHRC and their partnership working with patients and the public. In the room were -

- Members of CLAHRC NT's lay Research Advisory Panel joined by PPI/E officer Steven Towndrow and CLAHRC PhD Nehla Djellouli who is investigating involving people in large scale service change in the NHS.
- The PenCLAHRC PPI Team – Kate Boddy, Kristin Liabo, Helen Burchmore, Emma Cockcroft and Tanya Hynd, led by Professor Nicky Britten.
- Members of the Peninsula Cerebra Research Unit for Childhood Disability Research (PenCRU) Family Faculty – made up of families of disabled children involved in PenCRU's work.

Patient and public contributors attending were -

- 9 x South West Peninsula CLAHRC Patient Involvement Group ('PenPIG')
- 4 x PenCLAHRC Peninsula Cerebra Research Unit ('PenCRU') Family Faculty
- 8 x CLAHRC North Thames Research Advisory Panel (RAP)

A full list of attendees is in Appendix 1

Short bios were collected from attendees to inform a "speed dating" networking exercise to kick off the day. Attendees provided a bio with their areas of interest, examples of work they had been involved in and achievements they were most proud of

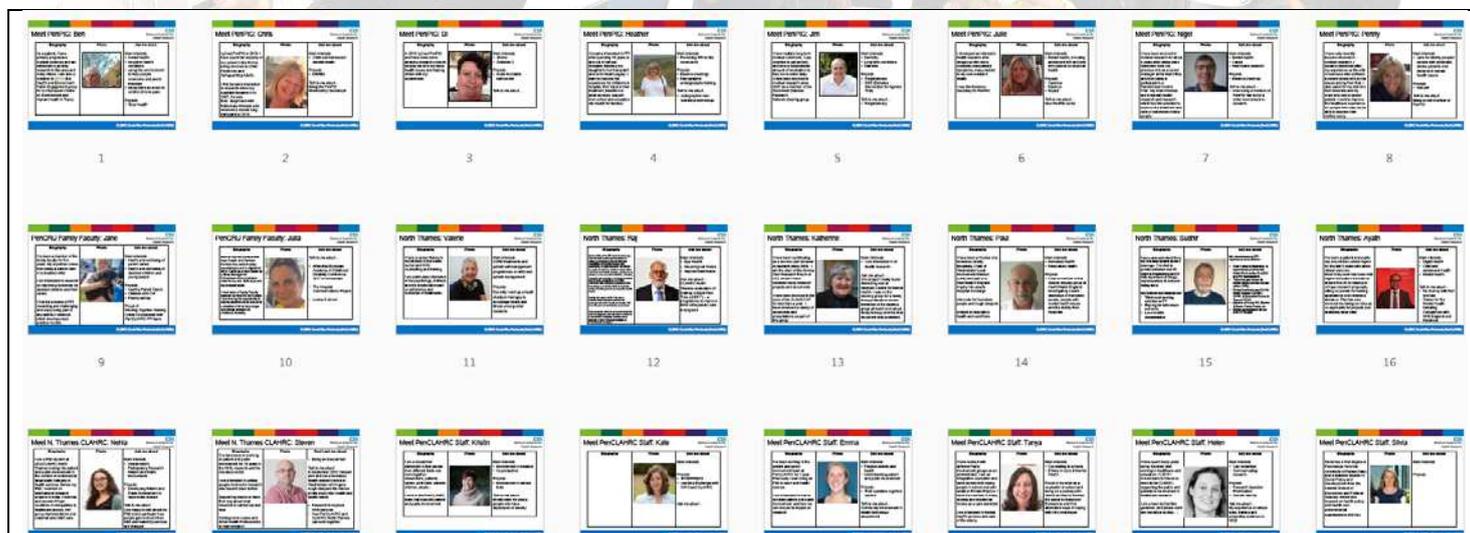


Figure 1 Attendees bios

The speed dating exercise gave attendees the opportunity to meet each other and talk about their previous work and areas of common interest.



Part 2 of the day

Reviewing a proposed research project

The working title for this potential PenCLAHRC, CLAHRC North Thames and Wessex CLAHRC study is ***Working together to improve the NHS: researching stakeholder collaboration in operational research.***

The research is concerned with using Participatory modelling - operational researchers using “local” knowledge that patients, carers and health professionals have, in combination with research knowledge when developing their models.

There will be modelling projects happening at each of the 3 CLAHRCs. The group discussed participation in those modelling projects by clinicians, patients, carers, managers and commissioners. The proposed new research will involve observing those modelling projects, assessing how each of the CLAHRC’s are engaging key NHS interest groups in their modelling projects, and analysing how to optimise modelling through collaboration.

This session was an example of how PenCLAHRC involves people in its research.

Attendees were sent a Plain English summary of the modelling research idea in advance. Patient and public members reviewed the summary by email to give researchers a first impression of what needed to be clarified or changed, or further developed.

On the day, the two PPI groups from the two CLAHRCs worked with Mark Pearson, the researcher, to:

- understand the main research idea.
- discuss and clarify the research

This session went as follows

1. Research bid workshop – overview of format
2. Introductions to the research
3. Introduction to operational research
4. Move into three groups
5. Reconvene in large group

PenCLAHRC’s Mark Pearson and Mike Allen presented the proposed work in its early form

Outcomes

After the learning exchange public members from each CLAHRC have come forward to be involved in the modelling study; two from NT CLAHRC, two from PenCLAHRC and two from the Family Faculty. The Plain English summary was revised according to people’s reviews. This meant that much of the wording changed completely, for example one of the PPI members from NT CLAHRC suggested new sentences to explain ‘operational research’ and these are now used in the summary. Previous reference to ‘stakeholders’ was also removed, as it was suggested this term is unhelpful jargon. Version 2 of the summary is now with PPI members in Wessex CLAHRC. We are awaiting a second iteration of the research application from the researcher.

Next steps

The proposed research study will develop with input from both sets of patient public contributors.

We are planning a return visit by PenCLAHRC staff researchers and patient public contributors in the New Year.

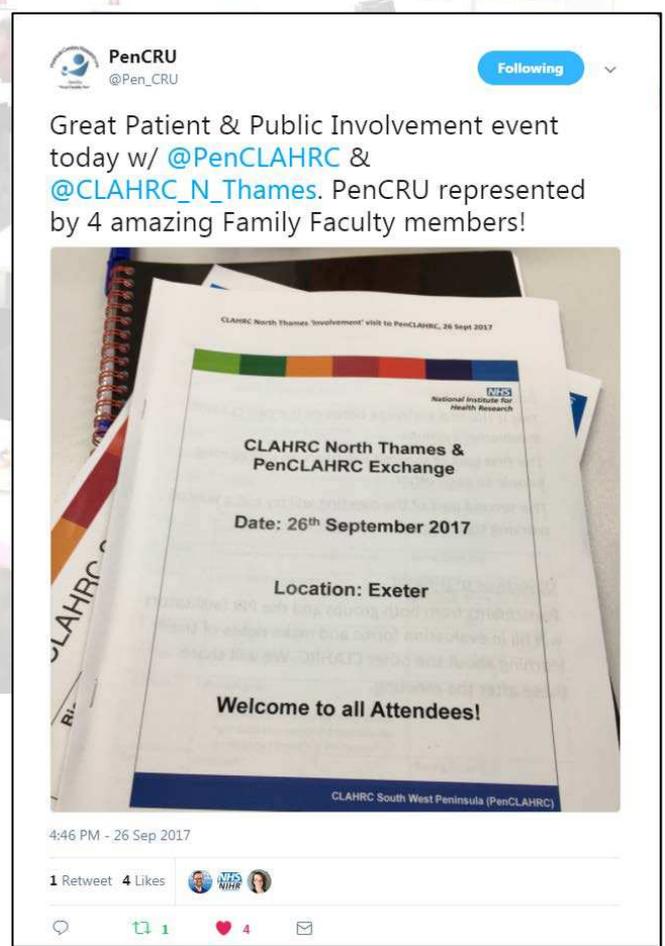
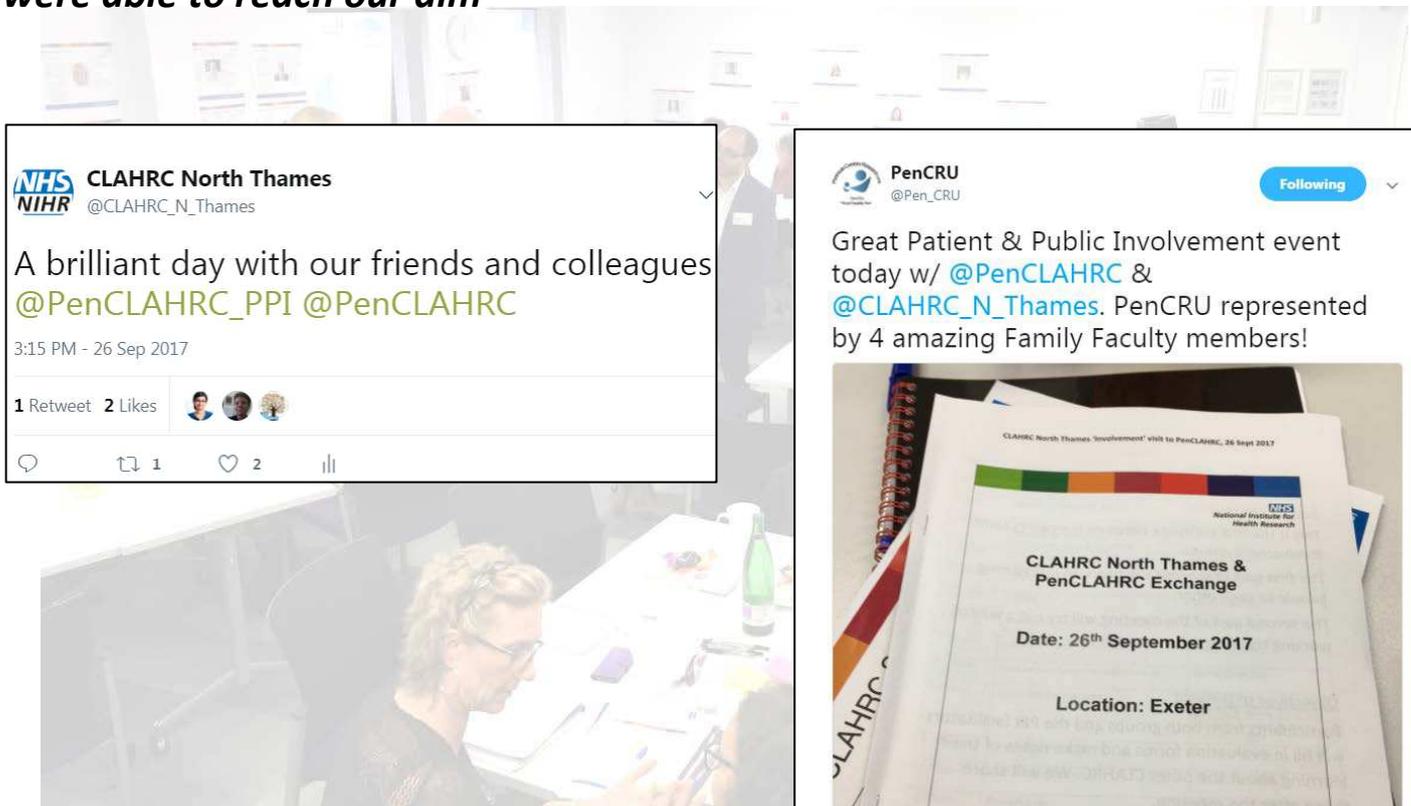
Feedback from attendees

“There was misunderstanding from the group but the researcher responded really well and we were able to come to a conclusion going forward”

“Good mix of networking and work. Lots of prep work by the PenCLAHRC team. Nice to hear from the Director”

“Enjoyed the speed dating – interesting to speak to other PPI members”

“I found the workshop complicated; however Kate assisted with this and we were able to reach our aim”



Appendix 1 – list of attendees

Name	Surname	Affiliation	Role
Raj	Mehta	NT CLAHRC	Research Advisory Panel Member
Paul	Wilson	NT CLAHRC	Research Advisory Panel Member
Katherine	Barrett	NT CLAHRC	Research Advisory Panel Member
Sudhir	Shah	NT CLAHRC	Research Advisory Panel Member
Joan	Manning	NT CLAHRC	Research Advisory Panel Member
Rahila	Bashir	NT CLAHRC	Research Advisory Panel Member
Valerie	Rosambeau	NT CLAHRC	Research Advisory Panel Member
Ayath	Ullah	NT CLAHRC	Research Advisory Panel Member
Steven	Towndrow	NT CLAHRC	PPI Officer
Nehla	Djellouli	NT CLAHRC	PhD Student
Ben	Marshall	PenCLAHRC	PenPIG Member
Chris	Marriott	PenCLAHRC	PenPIG Member
Diana	Frost	PenCLAHRC	PenPIG Member
Heather	Boult	PenCLAHRC	PenPIG Member
Jim	Harris	PenCLAHRC	PenPIG Member
Julie	Harvey	PenCLAHRC	PenPIG Member
Kryisia	Hawken	PenCLAHRC	PenPIG Member
Nigel	Reed	PenCLAHRC	PenPIG Member
Sharon	Cooper	PenCLAHRC	PenPIG Member
Penny	Thompson	PenCLAHRC	PenPIG Member
Kristin	Liabo	PenCLAHRC PPI Team	Senior Research Fellow
Kate	Boddy	PenCLAHRC PPI Team	Research Fellow
Helen	Burchmore	PenCLAHRC PPI Team	Associate Research Fellow
Emma	Cockcroft	PenCLAHRC PPI Team	Associate Research Fellow
Tanya	Hynd	PenCLAHRC PPI Team	Administrator
Jo	Shuttleworth	PenCLAHRC	Operations & Finance Manager
Stuart	Logan	PenCLAHRC	Director
Nicky	Britten	PenCLAHRC	Professor
Silvia	Bortoli	PenCRU	Family Involvement Co-ordinator
Jane	Ring	PenCRU	Family Faculty Member
Faye	Maylam	PenCRU	Family Faculty Member
Julia	Melluish	PenCRU	Family Faculty Member
Jan	Heskin Martin	PenCRU	Family Faculty Member
Mark	Pearson	PenCLAHRC	Senior Research Fellow
Kerry	Pearn	PenCLAHRC	Research Fellow
Mike	Allen	PenCLAHRC	Senior Modeller