



## Summary document for the Research ABC project

(**Research: Allied Health Professions (AHPs) Building Capacity Across the Black Country**)

### Funding and aim of the project:

The project is funded by West Midlands Clinical Research Network (CRN) improvement and innovation strategic funding to enable the Black Country integrated care system (ICS) to address the four domains: capacity, capability, context and culture to resource and support ongoing AHP research.

**Project team:** (overseen by Dr Ros Leslie, Chief AHP Research Lead)  
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### Research ABC team members:

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**The project will be run across the Black Country place-based partnerships in Dudley Sandwell, Walsall, and Wolverhampton.** The project will include AHPs employed or hosted by one of the six secondary care organisations.

**There will be five phases to the project** to be completed over eight months (please, see flowchart and Gantt chart for details and timings):

**1) Preparation:** The team will prepare for collecting baseline information

### 2) Baseline assessment and analysis:

**a) Individual:** We will collect data about research activity and training needs for AHPs in the Black Country and plan to implement The Clinicians' Skills, Capability, and Organisational Research Readiness (SCORR) Tool (Iles-Smith et al, 2019) to be used with AHPs as part of the appraisal process. This will allow individual AHPs to self-assess their research readiness and will enable structured conversations with line managers to support the development of research objectives.

**b) Trust level:** Research metrics e.g., number of peer review publications written, poster/oral presentations etc. will be collected.

**3) Research development strategies:** Various methods will be facilitated to assist with developing research skills and capability e.g., critical appraised topic (CAT) groups, journal clubs, workshops etc. Networking will also be actively facilitated.

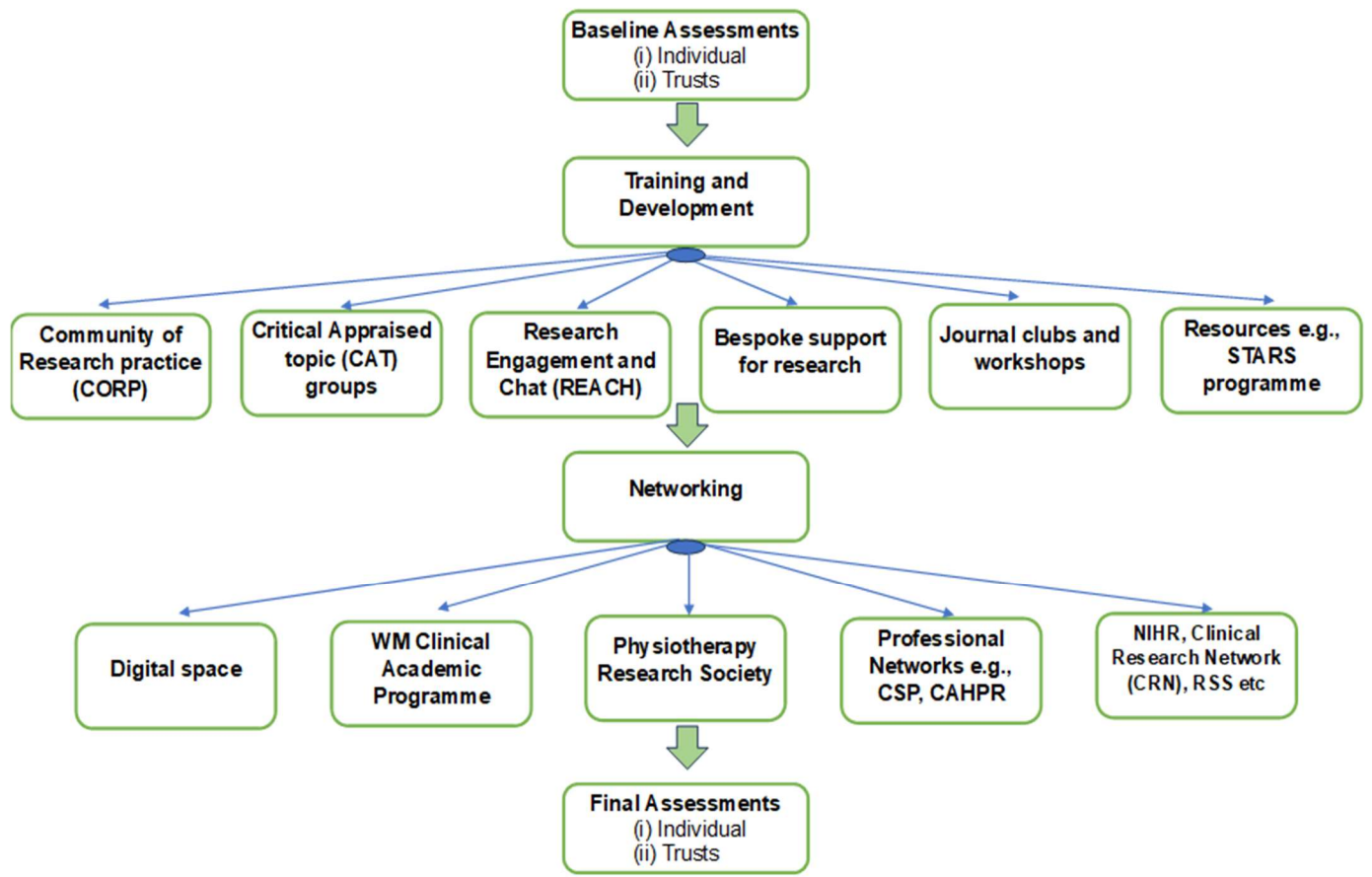
**4) Post Research ABC project evaluation:** On completion of the project.



**5) Report:** Report to be submitted  
who funded the project.

to the Clinical Research Network (CRN)

Reference: Iles-Smith, H., Burnett, C., Ross, D. H., & Siddle, H. J. (2019). The Clinicians' Skills, Capability, and Organisational Research Readiness (SCORR) Tool. *International Journal of Practice-Based Learning in Health and Social Care*, 7(2), 57–68.  
<https://doi.org/10.18552/ijpbhsc.v7i2.644>



**Key to abbreviations:**

- CAHPR= Council for Allied Health Professions Research
- CAT= Critical Appraised Topic
- CORP=Community of Research Practice
- CRN=Clinical Research Network
- CSP=Chartered Society of Physiotherapy
- NIHR=National Institute for Health and Care Research
- REACH=Research Engagement and Chat
- RSS=Research Support Service
- STARS=Supporting the Advancement of Research Skills
- WM=West Midlands

**Figure 1 - Flowchart for Research ABC project**



	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March
<b>1.0 PREPARATION</b>								
1.1 Team building								
1.2 Familiarisation with project plans								
1.3 Work with R & D re permission/information purposes								
1.4 Consider expanding to nurses and midwives if WW,AS, VC willing to lead that part. AA to d/w with Kath Wilson								
1.4 Work with comms to raise profile of project								
1.5 Develop MS Forms or ANO forum for collecting information								
1.6 Pilot MS form - collect needs for training too								
1.7 Set up digital research spaces ? central one via ICS								
1.8 Consider developing an app to support research								
<b>2.0 BASELINE ASSESSMENT</b>								
2.1 Identify individual research abilities and training needs								
2.2 Establish baseline research activity in each of the five trusts								
2.3 Analyse results from baseline assessment								
<b>3.0 STRATEGIES TO INCREASE RESEARCH</b>								
3.1 Identify research champions for each trust								
3.2 CORP								
3.3 CAT groups								
3.4 CAT in a day - try to encourage one person from each trust to attend ? Could be funding for this that is incentive to complete baseline questionnaire								
3.5 REACH sessions								
3.6 Abstract writing workshop								
3.7 Writing for publication training								
3.8 Poster presentation workshop or webinar								
3.9 Promote STARS programme								
4.0 Identify Research Champions in each trust								
4.1 Develop research resources and share in digital space								
<b>4.0 EVALUATION POST RESEARCH ABC PROJECT</b>								
4.1 Final evaluation							END FEB	
4.2 Analyse results								
<b>5.0 WRITE UP OF REPORT</b>								
5.1 Write up report and submit								
5.2 Consider use of SCORR for appraisals								
<b>6.0 FURTHER ACTIONS</b>								BEYOND PROJECT
6.1 Publications								
6.2 Conference presentation/posters/abstracts								
6.3 Consider developing an APP to support research								
6.4 Consider roll out of project to 10 other Midland ICS'								
6.5 Consider roll-out of project across England								

**Figure 2 – Gantt chart for the Research ABC Black Country project (AHPs Building Capacity Across the Black Country)**

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