

School of Pharmacy and Life Sciences

Pharmacy Research Themes & Current Projects

Practice research within the School is considered a form of applied research which engages the health and social care community in the conduct of enquiry directed towards the management, organisation, services, processes, interventions and outcomes of health and social care practice.

Key research themes include:

- Innovations in sustainable models of integrated multidisciplinary health and social care education and practice (E&P) (e.g inter-professional and experiential aspects of E&P, remote and rural E&P, independent prescribing, long term conditions, self-care, polypharmacy and pharmaceutical care and technology enhanced E&P)
- Medicines use, effectiveness and safety (e.g. specific populations, specific medicine groups and individual medicines, specific processes and procedures)
- Models of public health pharmacy that reduce disease burden and risk and improve outcomes (e.g. health inequalities, smoking cessation, alcohol and drug misuse, weight loss / obesity prevention).

Current funded projects:

- Scoping review of the literature on needs assessments for the educational requirements of healthcare practitioners in relation to cannabis-based products for medicinal use in humans.
- An investigation of health and social care early entrant experiences and coping strategies during rapid transition into professional practice during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- An exploration of the role of the Pharmacist Independent Prescribing course Designated Prescribing Practitioner in relation to community pharmacists in Scotland: key stakeholders' views and perceptions of the role, barriers, and facilitators for its implementation
- Evaluation of the influence of Advanced Clinical Assessment (ACE) training on prescribing pharmacists' behaviours and practices related to clinical service involvement in General Practice (GP) in Scotland

Current Doctoral research projects:

- A mixed methods study to identify, quantify and explore determinants of antimicrobial prescribing behaviours among clinicians based in Hamad Medical Corporation, Qatar
- A study to scope structures, processes and related outcomes of clinical pharmacy practice as part of the multidisciplinary care of patients with Chronic Kidney Disease.
- A theoretical exploration of hospital clinical pharmacists' perceptions, experiences and behavioural determinants in relation to provision of optimal and suboptimal pharmaceutical care
- Development of a theoretically derived behaviour change intervention for clinicians on antimicrobial prescribing in Qatar
- Improving medication safety through an exploration of the implementation of theoretically derived interventions for rationalising prescribing, with a focus on polypharmacy in older people in tertiary care in Oman
- Investigating prescribers' experiences of direct acting oral anticoagulants for the management of non-valvular atrial fibrillation

Recent Example Publications

TALKHAN H, STEWART D, MCINTOSH T, ZIGLAM H PALLI VALAPILA, A; MOZA SULAIMAN H, DIAB M, CUNNINGHAM S. The use of theory in the development and evaluation of behaviour change interventions to improve antimicrobial prescribing: a systematic review. *J Antimicrob Chemother.* Volume 75, Issue 9, September 2020, Pages 2394–2410, <https://doi.org/10.1093/jac/dkaa154>

ALRAISI F, STEWART D, ASHLEY C, FAHMY M, ALNAAMANI H, CUNNINGHAM S. A theoretically based cross-sectional survey on the behaviors and experiences of clinical pharmacists caring for patients with chronic kidney disease. *Res Social Adm Pharm.* 2020 May. In press, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sapharm.2020.05.005>

JEBARA T, CUNNINGHAM S, MACLURE K, PALLIVALAPILA A, AWAISU A, AL HAIL M, STEWART D. A modified-Delphi study of a framework to support the potential implementation of pharmacist prescribing. *Res Social Adm Pharm.* Volume 16, Issue 6, June 2020, Pages 812-818. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sapharm.2019.09.005>

JEBARA, T., CUNNINGHAM, S., MACLURE, K., AWAISU, A., PALLIVALAPILA, A., AL HAIL, M. and STEWART, D. [2020]. Health-related stakeholders' perceptions of clinical pharmacy services in Qatar. *International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy* [online], Online First. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11096-020-01114-0>

JEBARA T, CUNNINGHAM S, MACLURE K, PALLIVALAPILA A, AWAISU A, AL HAIL M, STEWART D. Key stakeholders' views on the potential implementation of pharmacist prescribing: A qualitative investigation. *Research in Social and Administrative Pharmacy.* Volume 16, Issue 3, March 2020, Pages 405-414. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sapharm.2019.06.009>

STEWART D, RUSHWORTH G, BAILEY N, PFLEGER S, JEBARA T, MUNRO K, YOUNGSON E, WILSON M, MACLEOD J, CUNNINGHAM S. A cross-sectional survey of the perspectives of older people in the Scottish Highlands on the management of their chronic pain. *Age and Ageing*, 49 (3) May 2020, Pages 432–438, <https://doi.org/10.1093/ageing/afz181>

GENERALOVA D, CUNNINGHAM S, LESLIE SJ, RUSHWORTH R, MCIVER L, STEWART D. Prescribers' experiences of direct acting oral anticoagulants for the management of non-valvular atrial fibrillation: a summative content analysis of data from a survey in remote and rural Scotland" *Pharm Pract (Granada).* 2020 Apr-Jun; 18(2): 1936. Published online 2020 Jun 13. doi: 10.18549/PharmPract.2020.2.1936

HOGAN-MURPHY D, STEWART D, TONNA A, STRATH A, CUNNINGHAM S. Use of Normalization Process Theory to explore key stakeholders' perceptions of the facilitators and barriers to implementing electronic systems for medicines management in hospital settings. *Res Social Adm Pharm.* 2020 Mar 16. pii: S1551-7411(19)31172-6. doi: 10.1016/j.sapharm.2020.03.005. [Epub ahead of print]

STEWART, D; MACLURE, K; NEWHAM, R; GIBSON-SMITH, K; BRUCE, R; CUNNINGHAM, S; MACLURE, A; FRY, S; MACKERROW, J; BENNIE, M. A cross-sectional survey of the pharmacy workforce in general practice in Scotland. *Family Practice.* 2020 Mar 25;37(2):206-212. doi: 10.1093/fampra/cmz052.