

Addressing the needs of the care home workforce

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Questions that
matter

High quality
research

Working **together.**



Partnership and
engagement

Impact and
solutions

Questions that matter

FOCUS ON RESIDENTS

Quality of care

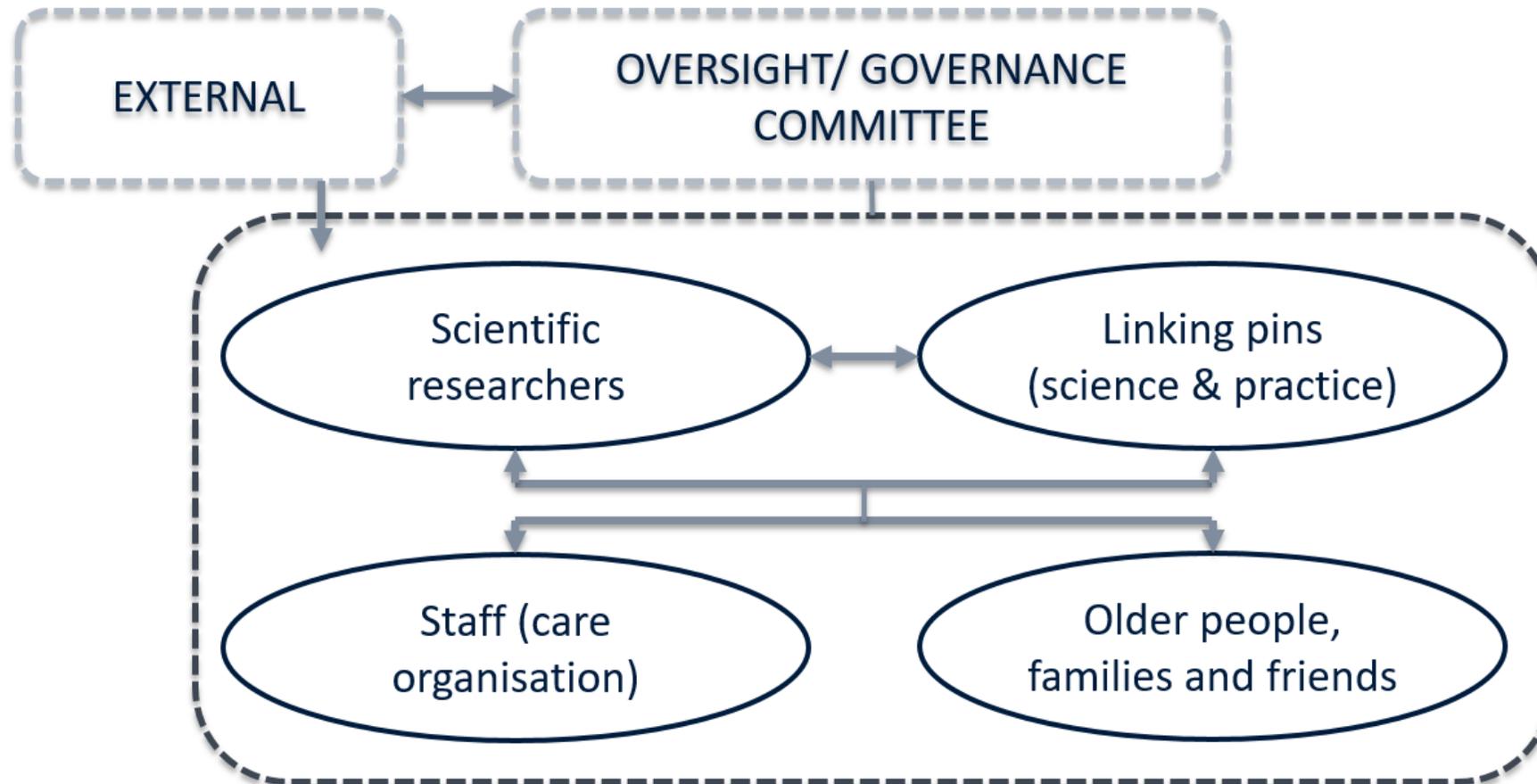
Quality of life

Quality of work



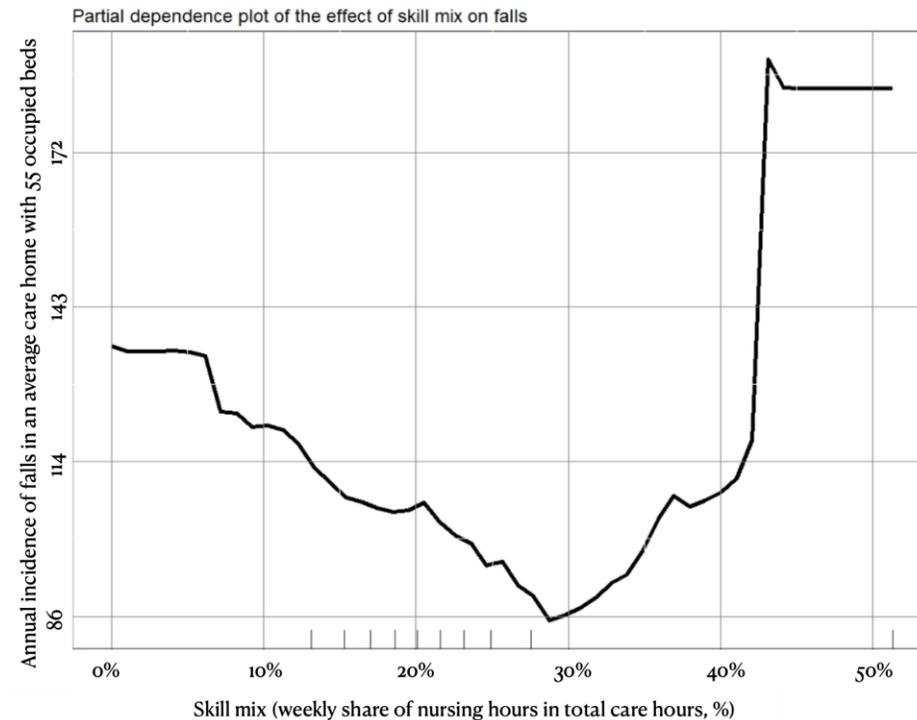
INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATION

Partnership and engagement



High quality research

- More staff \neq quality
- Better outcomes when *actual hours = planned hours*
- Nurse shortages in specific homes = higher risk of falls
- Modifiable characteristics for quality



High quality research



uncertainties of care home managers in the first wave
(doi.org/10.1093/ageing/afaa201)



synthesised knowledge of symptoms, progression, and management
of COVID-19 in home populations (doi.org/10.1111/hsc.13941)



evaluated the feasibility and acceptability of point of care testing
(doi.org/10.1093/ageing/afab072; doi.org/10.1101/2021.04.22.21255948)



debated visiting options for family and friends during the pandemic
([doi: 10.1016/j.jamda.2021.02.020](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jamda.2021.02.020))



explored the acceptability, feasibility and technical performance of
digital wearable devices for contact tracing (NIHR132197)

Impact and solutions

GOV.UK

Blog

Social care

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Organisations: Department of Health and Social Care

Managing infections - don't forget about the indoor air in your care home

Social care

News, views and information updates for anyone working in - or receiving support from - the care and support sector.

Find out more

Categories

Professor Cath Noakes, Professor Carl Thompson, Professor Karen Spilsbury and Professor Tim Sharpe, 26 January 2023 · Care and support, coronavirus, Information sharing, Workforce

As winter takes hold, it is tempting to try and fuel costs lower by hunkering down until the... keeping all the windows and doors shut may n... need ventilation and care homes are no differ... and fellow experts give the reasons a good air...

Age and Ageing 2020, 1-6
doi: 10.1093/ageing/afaa201

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SHORT REPORT

Seeking Answers for Care Homes during the COVID-19 pandemic (COVID SEARCH)

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nursing & residential care

PROFESSIONAL

On your marks, get set, pause: what care home teams should consider before partnering with a trial research group

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Abstract

Research has the potential to inform and enhance the care and experiences of people living and working in care homes. While there is a growing interest in research relevant for care homes, there is also a need to ensure that staff, residents and their families and friends are supported when considering taking part in research; particularly in a type of research called a 'trial'. Trials are a type of research study that can help guide decisions about the best treatment, care and support for both residents (and their families and friends) and care home staff. While potentially important, trials are demanding for both care homes and trial research teams. Before agreeing to support a trial, there are questions a care home manager, staff, residents and their families and friends can consider. These questions are outlined in this article, and the answers to these will help a care home to determine whether they have the capacity, readiness and relationships to support a trial. By taking the time to 'pause' and ask 'are we ready?', care teams can support both care and science.

NICHE KNOW-HOW

Care home staff can use a range of strategies to enable and motivate residents to perform their own mouth care **and** prevent or overcome mouth care responsive behaviours in residents

All changes to the environment (for example, sitting in front of a mirror, placing toothbrush and toothpaste in reach) are important: they promote and enable mouth care.

Step-by-step cues and commands help residents engage with self-care and be more independent:

- Encouraging comments and demonstrating an action improves mouth care for residents with moderate dementia.
- Guiding a resident through each step (for example letting them know when to use water or to use a towel) improves mouth care for residents with severe dementia.

Giving full assistance to residents *reduces* opportunities for successfully providing mouth care for residents with severe dementia.

Any future studies need to focus on practical strategies for supporting care staff with this important aspect of care.

We have produced a list of strategies to help care home staff.



Thank you*



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The views expressed were personal and not necessarily those of the NIHR or the Department of Health and Social Care.