

# International Conference on Clinical Trials

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## Power of clinical trainees in research

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**The decline of UK academic anaesthesia research:** Over the past decade, there has been increasing concern over the decline of academic anaesthesia in UK with dwindling numbers of academic departments, trainees undertaking research and reduction in successful grant funding. A 2005 review on the state of academic anaesthesia in UK and described the 'crisis' that the specialty was facing. The report identified multiple factors including modern medical training in anaesthesia, restructuring of university funding and excessive procedures to obtain bureaucratic approval for research.

**The need for trainee in research:** Trainees represent an untapped and valuable resource that can both support on-going research and develop new research ideas. Trainees are enthusiastic and keen to get involved. Trainee networks set up by UK surgical trainees and have been extremely successful in spearheading and generating nationally funded trials (e.g. West Midlands Surgical Research Collaborative: ROSSINI trial, DREAMS study). Research network organised by trainees with experience in research will be invaluable in mentoring and assisting those with less experience or less local support. National Institute for Health Research has created research training posts as part of Integrated Academic Training Pathways to make research training more accessible to trainees in all specialties including anaesthesia. Despite this progress, there is still a recognised lack of support for anaesthetic trainees in clinical training who want to participate in high quality research projects. A previous national survey revealed a broad interest in research by trainees (60%) but very few (8%) had any research experience. It was alarming that 41% of final year trainee failed to fulfil the curriculum requirement of completed audit, research involvement or systemic review. My talk will highlight the reasons that I believe we should include trainees in all aspects of research. I will describe my experience in setting up a regional network (West Midlands Trainee Research in Anaesthesia and Intensive Care Network, WM-TRAIN), which have grown into a national movement.

## Biography

Joyce Yeung completed her anaesthetic training at Warwickshire School of Anaesthesia. Her PhD into strategies to improve quality of cardiopulmonary resuscitation was awarded the first PhD fellowship from Resuscitation Council UK. She is an expert reviewer for International Liaison Committee for Resuscitation and regularly contributed to the international resuscitation guidelines. She is a member of Editorial board of Resuscitation Journal and a faculty speaker at European Resuscitation Council Scientific Symposium. She is a Clinician Scientist in Anaesthesia and an NIHR Post-Doctoral Fellow at the University of Birmingham, and an honorary consultant in anaesthesia and critical care at Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust. As part of Perioperative, Anaesthesia, Critical Care and Trauma Trials (PACCT) group, she leads research studies in anaesthesia, critical care and resuscitation. Current research projects include the impact of anaesthesia on peri-operative outcomes, chronic pain, acute lung injury and education in resuscitation. Joyce is passionate about making research training more accessible for anaesthetic trainees and is the co-founder of West Midlands Trainee Research in Anaesthesia and Intensive Care Network (WMTRAIN) and a consultant advocate for Research and Audit Federation of Trainees UK (RAFT).

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