Perceptions of clinical librarians: running a research project

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The Project

Perceptions of clinical librarians:

An examination of the way LKS staff view the role and personal characteristics of clinical librarians in the NHS
Background
Research Objectives

A comparison of the perceptions of:

• the tasks undertaken by clinical librarians and the amount of time spent on these tasks, from the perspectives of clinical librarians and non-clinical librarian LKS staff clinical librarians; and

• the personal characteristics needed to be a successful clinical librarian from the perspectives of clinical librarians and non-clinical librarian LKS staff.
Who to ask?

• Open to **all LKS staff** working for NHS in England

• Two separate groups
  – Clinical/outreach/embedded/specialist librarians
  – LKS managers, assistant librarians, library technicians, library assistants, apprentices
Methods

Quantitative and qualitative questions
Oh the paperwork!

- Protocol
- Participant information sheet
- Invitation to participate
- Consent form
- Survey questions
- Risk assessment
- Statement of activities
- Schedule of events
Ethics

• No Research Ethics Committee approval needed – no patient or public involvement

• HRA approval needed
Results so far

• 124 data points collected
• Analysis still to be done but looks promising from initial viewing
Clinical Librarians - Characteristics
What will we do with the results?

• Presenting at ICLC19
• Journal article
Lessons learned

• Preparation
• Project documentation
• Set up time
• Be prepared to alter methods
• Statistics and data
• Make friends with R&D
Running a research project – a library perspective
What do you want to do?

• The idea
• The elevator pitch
• Getting agreement
• The actual research
• Results
Objectives

Specific
Measurable
Agreed upon/Achievable
Realistic
Timebased
Planning

- Existing research
- Support for research
- Funding
- Who would your participants be?
- Capacity
Who are your stakeholders?

- Your Library
- HEE
- R&D Departments
- Your Trust
- Participants
- Sponsors/Funders
Money, Money, Money

• Research costs
• Sponsorship
• Grants
• “in work hours”

Paperwork

- Protocol
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Ethics

• Probably only need HRA approval as we are unlikely to be contacting patients/public BUT

• Get advice from your R&D department
Methods

• Quantitative/Qualitative/Mixed methods
• Participant recruitment
• Theories/Philosophies
Practical considerations

• Finding the time
• Resources eg survey software, rooms for interviews
• Timeframe
“Without data you’re just another person with an opinion.”

- W. Edwards Deming, Data Scientist
Data

• The why behind your data
• Describing data
• How to collect your data
• Now What- using your data
Data

• Is there existing data you can use? Eg staff surveys, CILIP reports
• Biases in collection – control for them
• Length of time to collect
• Quantitative or qualitative – types of analysis needed
What next?

• Writing up your research
  – Journals – check their requirements

• Presenting to conference
  – Which one – what type of presentation
References

• HRA Approval (April 2018)
  https://www.hra.nhs.uk/approvals-amendments/what-approvals-do-i-need/hra-approval/