



IAGG Global Research Network on Health & Ageing Questionnaire for selection process

Name of the Centre: **Ageing, Health and Society Group, Institute of Health and Society and Institute of Health and Society**
Newcastle University
Key Investigator / Head of Department: **Prof John Bond/Louise Robinson**
Phone: **+44 191 222 6777**
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Description of the Centre:

a) Type of investigations:

- Basic Science / Fundamental
- Clinical Research
- Health Services Research
- Epidemiologic/Public Health Research
- Other

b) Themes investigated (please specify):

- Dementia
- Frailty
- Sarcopenia
- Other Neurodegenerative Disorders
- Geriatric Disorders
- Cardiovascular Risk Factors
- Metabolism
- Ageing research
- Genetics
- Gerontechnology
- Other

c) Number of investigators in ongoing positions:

- Less than 5
- to 10
- More than 10

d) Number of investigators funded by specific projects:

- 1 to 3
- 4 to 5
- More than 5

e) Does your Centre have a:

- Clinical affiliation
- Academic affiliation

f) Does your Centre have a basic sciences program? (Please specify topic)

- Yes **Social gerontology and health services research**
- No

If your Centre is affiliated to a Geriatric Department, please provide the following information:

a) Types of units:

- Acute Ward - **Number of beds: 0**
- Outpatient Ward - **Number of patients/year: 0**

- Community Care Unit - **Number of visits/year: 0**
- Day Hospital - **Number of places/day: 0**
- Geriatric Rehabilitation Unit - **Number of beds: 0**
- Long-Term Care - **Number of beds: 0**
- Special Units (stroke, memory, ortho-geriatric, psycho-geriatric) - **Number of beds: 0**

b) Number of staff in the Department:

Geriatric: **0**
 Gerontology: **0**
 Other: **0**

c) Does the Day Hospital have specialist services?

- Dementia / Memory
- Cardiovascular clinic
- Rehabilitation
- Falls assessment clinic
- Parkinson's disease clinic
- Other

d) Does your Geriatric Department already cooperate with supervising clinical trials?

- Yes
- No

Management of the Centre:

a) Is your Centre an existing national or government recognized medical research Centre?

- Yes
- No

b) Does the Centre receive funded grants? (Please specify source)

- Yes **UK MRC, UK EPSRC, UK ESRC, UK National Institute for Health Research**
- No

c) Does the Centre collaborate with trials funded by pharmaceutical companies?

- Yes
- No

d) Will the Centre shortly begin investigation projects?

- Yes
- No

Indicate the three main publications over the last 2 years:

1/ Name of Journal: **Internal Psychogeriatrics 2009; 21(3): 494-502**

Title of article: **Keeping in Touch Everyday (KITE project); developing assistive technologies for people with dementia and their carers to promote independence.**

2/ Name of Journal: **BMJ 2009; 399:b4904 doi:10.1136/bmj.b4904**

Title of article: **Health and disease in 85 year olds: baseline findings from the Newcastle 85+ cohort study.**

3/ Name of Journal: **Sociology of Health and Illness 2009; 2: DOI 10.1111/j.1467-9566.2009.01203.x**

Title of article: **Ageing in place and technologies of place: the lived experience of people with dementia in changing social, physical and technological environments.**

Please add short biographies (maximum 1 page) of the Key Investigators and Head of Department

Senior members of the Ageing, Health and Society Research Group John Bond is a social scientist and Professor of Social Gerontology and Health Services Research. He does health research in order to transform the health of older people and help develop person-focused health and social care services. He has been doing health research for over 30 years and with colleagues in Newcastle has established a

strong team of health researchers who investigate the effectiveness of a range of treatments, interventions and services for patients from their viewpoint. His particular expertise is in researching older people (especially vulnerable older people and people with dementia) and health policy for older people. He is author (with Lynne Corner) of *Quality of Life and Older People* [OUP, 2004], (with Christina Victor and Sasha Scambler) *The Social World of Older People* [OUP, 2009] and is the senior editor (with Sheila Peace, Freya Dittmann-Kohli and Gerben Westerhof) of *Ageing in Society: European Perspectives on Social Gerontology* [Sage, 2007]. He was recently Guest Editor (with John Vincent and Emmanuelle Tulle) of the *Journal of Aging Studies* (2008) for a special edition on *The Anti-Aging Enterprise: Science, Knowledge, Expertise, Rhetoric and Values*. Louise Robinson is a GP and Professor of Primary Care. She has been an academic General Practitioner for 17 years and earned her MD from Newcastle University in 1999. Her research programme is centred on Primary Care and Ageing, with a special interest in the care of people with dementia in primary care. Louise is currently the Royal College of General Practitioners National Clinical Champion for Ageing and Older People. She also leads the Primary Care Clinical Studies Group of the Dementia and Neurodegenerative Diseases Research Network (DeNDRoN). Louise is part of the project team for the Newcastle, Medical Research Council funded, 85 plus study and part of the Newcastle group of the Medical Research Council Cognitive Function and Ageing Study (MRC CFAS). She has secured funding from a variety of research bodies, including Department of Health, BUPA and National Institute for Health Research, and has co-authored chapters for the Oxford Textbook of Old Age Psychiatry and the Oxford Textbook of Practical Geriatrics. Suzanne Moffatt is a social scientist whose research interests focus on the health and well-being of older people and tackling poverty and social exclusion in later life. She has carried out extensive research into the impact of welfare rights advice on people over state retirement age and ethnic minority elders. She has a keen interest in methodological issues, particularly the integration of quantitative and qualitative methods, straddling the boundaries between epidemiology and sociology, particularly the limitations of quantitative and qualitative methods alone within public health research, as well as mixed methods research. Suzanne has considerable experience in involving participants and the wider public in research and has disseminated research findings to a wide range of academic and non-academic audiences and has published on this topic. Katie Brittain is a Lecturer in Social Gerontology. She is an experienced health services researcher with an academic background in sociology. She uses both quantitative and qualitative research methods to examine the social impact that illness can have on the lives of older people. Her recent work has focused around the well-being of older people and their lived experiences, particularly around how technology might support older people to 'age in place'. She currently collaborates on SiDE (Social Inclusion through the Digital Economy), the RCUK Digital Economy Research Hub based at Newcastle University. The aim of SiDE is to tackle social exclusion by making it easier for people to access the potential benefits offered by digital technologies. Her principal research interests lie within issues surrounding the use of assistive technologies within the home for older people and how these might inhibit or promote connections to the wider social networks / services outside of the home. Ben Heaven has a background in health psychology and medical sociology. His work has focussed on the processes of developing healthcare technologies targeting people from late midlife to the older old. Some examples of this work include: (i) Exploring the way in which decision aids intended for people with atrial fibrillation were used by 'patients' and GPs in a randomised controlled trial (RCT) (the DARTS2 trial); (ii) A process evaluation and ethnographic study of an RCT of diet and lifestyle interventions for people with chronic constipation (LifeLAX trial); (iii) An assessment of the acceptability of Food Standards Agency (FSA) guidelines in residential care for both staff and clients (Eating for Wellbeing study); (iv) Mapping barriers and facilitators to the development of a prototype system to address the malnutrition of older people in hospital (MappMal). Currently Ben is working within a large multidisciplinary team to develop interventions to promote and support health and wellbeing for older people in the pre-retirement window (LiveWell programme). Ben uses qualitative methods to capture data in the field, including: participant observation; visual recording in situ (video and photography); interviews and focus groups. His work is informed by Strauss's (1993) theories of action (notably a social worlds perspective), and Normalisation Process Theory (May 2009). Lynne Corner is the Engagement Manager at the Institute for Ageing and Health (IAH) at Newcastle University. The IAH is Europe's leading research Institute on Ageing and brings together a range of researchers to understand how and why we age, the treatment of associated disease and disability and the support of through-life health, wellbeing and independence. Dr Corner established Voice North - a regional engagement panel to involve a wide range of members of the public and their communities in research on ageing and demographic change. Currently over 800 people are involved. The IAH also hosts Years Ahead: the North East Regional Forum on Ageing, which Dr Corner co-ordinates.