

BRACING FOR CHANGE: THE NEED FOR SUSTAINABLE ORTHOTIST INCLUSION IN RESEARCH

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DECLARATION

This report is independent research supported by the National Institute for Health Research NIHR ICA Doctoral Clinical Academic Fellowship, Miss Eileen Morrow, NIHR302903.

The views expressed in this presentation are those of the author and not necessarily those of the NHS, the National Institute for Health Research or the Department of Health and Social Care.

INTRODUCTION

- Research is important to individuals:
 - One of the four pillars of practice.^[1]
 - Critical aspect band 7 and 8 roles.^[2]
 - Greater job satisfaction.^[3]
- Research is important to services:
 - Services provide better treatment.^[4,5]
 - Provides training and upskilling.
 - Lower staff turnover.^[3]
- In spite of the importance, orthotists are persistently left out of research design and conduct.
- Orthotist priorities are not represented in studies which affect their practice.

Adapted from NHS Scotland^[1]

CLINICAL PRACTICE

FACILITATING LEARNING

LEADERSHIP

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The OSTRICH Study ^[6]



Aim: Evaluate effectiveness of orthotics for children with flat feet

Award: £1,509,764.69

Orthotists on study team: No

Orthotists involved in intervention development: No

Notes:

Trial closed due to poor recruitment.
Orthotics services included as sites.

The OSTRICH Study

Aim: Evaluate effectiveness c

Award: £1,509,764.69

Orthotists on study team: 1

Orthotists involved in inte

Notes:

Trial closed due to poor re
Orthotics services includ

The BASIS Study^[7]



Aim: Full-time vs night-time bracing for adolescent idiopathic scoliosis

Award: £2,777,027.34

Orthotists on study team: One

Orthotists involved in intervention development: One?

Notes:

Trial ongoing.

Orthotists are not Principal Investigators.

The OS

The BIGToe Inserts Trial^[8]



THE
BASIS
STUDY

Aim: Ev

Aim: Evaluate effectiveness of carbon fibre inserts for painful 1st MTPJ osteoarthritis

Award
Orthot
Orthot

Award: £1,916,912.73

Orthotists on study team: No

Orthotists involved in intervention development: After funding

Notes
Trial c
Ortho

Notes:

After securing funding, engaged with BAPO and NOMAG.

The OSE

The B

The TREAD ON Trial^[9]



Aim: Ev

Aim: E

Aim: Evaluate effectiveness of orthotics plantar heel pain

Award
Ortho
Ortho

Awar
Ortho
Ortho

Award: £1,854,191.60

Orthotists on study team: No

Orthotists involved in intervention development: No

Notes
Trial c
Ortho

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Notes:

Trial closed due to poor recruitment.
Orthotics services not included as sites.

What can the profession do?

- Integrate research to preceptorship programmes, apprenticeships and student teaching.
- P&O specific research resources.

What can each of us do?

- Encourage and support publishing findings.
- Encourage and support colleague involvement in research, audit and QIPs.

Empower orthotists to contribute to research



Mandate involvement of AHPs in research which affects their practice

What can the profession do?

- Approach funders to encourage AHP inclusion in relevant studies?
- Collaborate CCGs to include research in service contracts?

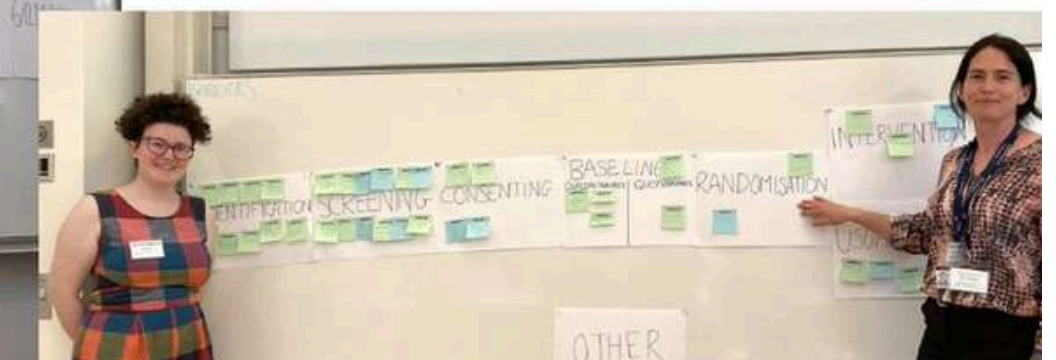
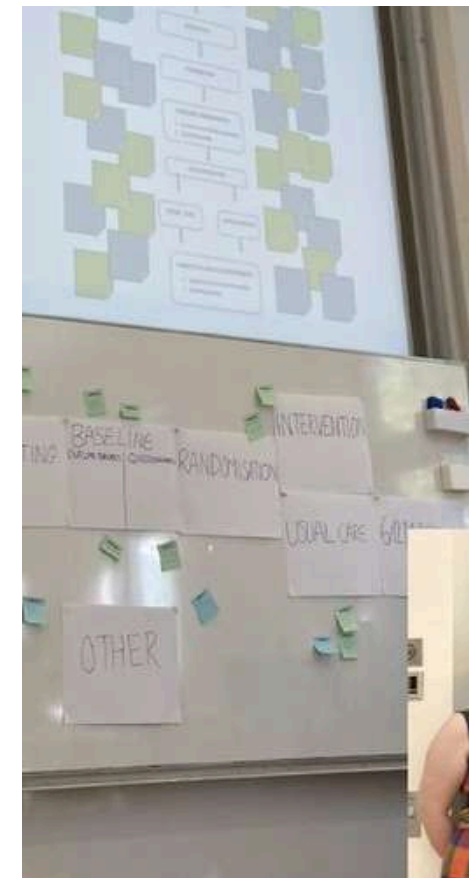
What can each of us do?

- Encourage researchers to approach BAPO for support.

CASE STUDY: SPELL STUDY

SPELL Study: Effectiveness of physiotherapy for children with cerebral palsy

- 6 physios on SPELL study team, and 2 research physios employed by the study.
- Physios are site Principal Investigators and routinely included in the study feedback.
- Physios were included in designing the intervention.
- Physios are being trained in the intervention.



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CONCLUSION

Adapted from NHS Scotland^[1]

- Research active orthotists can contribute to research sustainability.
- Research active services can contribute to workforce sustainability.
- However, orthotists are persistently left out of research which affects them.

- Individual and profession-wide efforts are required to promote orthotist involvement in research.
- Good examples of AHP involvement in research exist in other professions.

CLINICAL PRACTICE

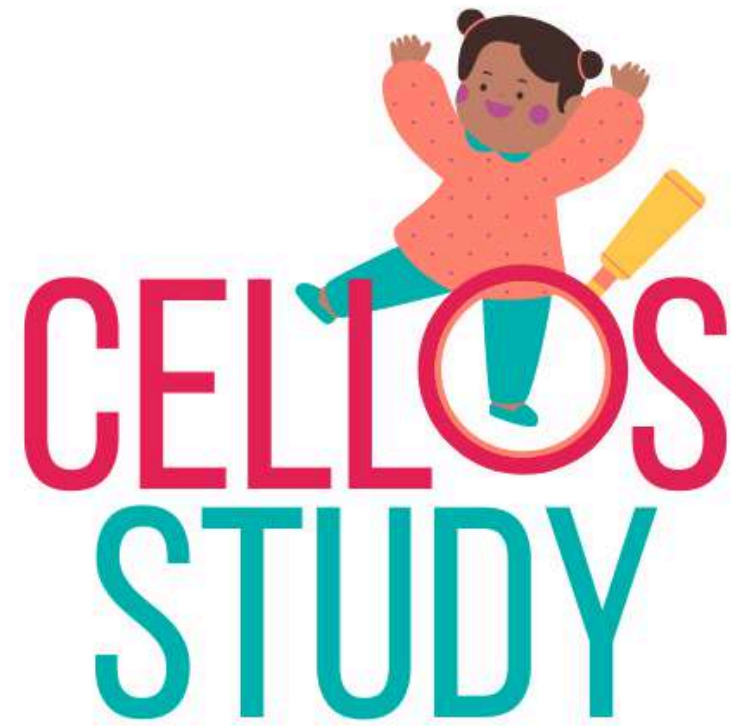
FACILITATING LEARNING

LEADERSHIP

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

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Children's
Elective
Lower
Limb
Orthopaedic
Surgery outcomes

Research question:

What outcomes are important after children have elective lower limb surgery?

**Interested in
taking part?**



**Can you help
advertise?**

Eileen.Morrow@ndorms.ox.ac.uk

**Interested in finding
out the results?**

 @CELLOSstudy