

## Save the date!

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September  
9.45am - 4.30pm

University of Bristol, G13/14 (TBC)  
Bristol Life Sciences Building  
24 Tyndall Avenue  
Bristol  
BS8 1TQ

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## Preparing our sexual health services to meet the challenge of antimicrobial resistant bacteria

This is an opportunity for academics, clinicians, commissioners and service providers who are grappling with the challenge of antimicrobial resistance in sexually transmitted infections to discuss how sexual health services can evolve to meet this challenge now and in the future.

Register FREE now at [this link](#)

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# SHIP News

## Newsletter of the Sexual Health Improvement Programme

### Summer 2018

The purpose of SHIP is to promote evidence-based sexual health improvement in Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire (BNSSG) as well as nationally. Although we do not provide funding, we can help with projects at all stages by:

- linking together academics, clinicians, patients, providers, commissioners and other stakeholders
- advising on funding applications e.g. through liaising with the National Institute for Health Research HPRU (Health Protection Research Unit), CLAHRC West (Centre for Learning Applied Health Research) and the RDS (Research Design Service)
- providing advice and support for the evaluation and dissemination of ongoing projects

We also support education and patient and public involvement activities. Please think about how SHIP might support your activities this year. We welcome your thoughts and ideas – please do get in touch!

We have recently updated our website which is available [here](#).

## SHIP themes for 2018/19

Our themes for 2018/19 are as follows:

1. Increasing uptake of HIV testing
2. Improving STI testing and responding to antimicrobial resistant (AMR) infections
3. Patient and public involvement in sexual health
4. Ending domestic violence
5. Reducing health inequalities
6. Informatics and digital transformation
7. Developing a national network

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Please visit our [Google form](#) to register your interest in our themes

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## Bristol Pride Day

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July, Bristol Harbourside

Details available [here](#)

## Do you have an idea for research?

A [new website](#) supported by the National Institute for Health Research aims to link public health professionals and academics with the view to discussing possible research projects.

## Contact us

We are very happy to hear from you at any time with your ideas for how SHIP can add value to the great work which is going on in our area: contact us at [katy.turner@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:katy.turner@bristol.ac.uk).

We welcome new members – please email [katharine.looker@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:katharine.looker@bristol.ac.uk) to be added to the SHIP mailing list.

# Bristol Health Partners Health Integration Team Conference

SHIP was recently represented at the Bristol Health Partners Health Integration Team (HIT) Conference at Bristol City Hall on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2018, where we displayed a poster highlighting our work:

## Sexual Health Improvement Programme

### Aims of SHIPP

Good sexual and reproductive health is important for everyone.

Most people will use sexual health services at some point in their lives for contraception, planning parenthood or testing for sexually transmitted infections.



The Sexual Health Improvement Programme (SHIP) brings together service providers, public health professionals, local authorities, commissioners and researchers to improve the sexual health of our local population.

### Working with other HITs

Sexual health intersects with social and economic factors which can make it challenging for those people at highest risk to access the services they need.

Mental health, domestic violence and drug and alcohol dependency often play a part in increasing individual risk of sexual ill-health.



### Call for collaboration

We plan to create a cross-HIT working group on domestic violence and mental health.

### Reducing HIV infection: research in focus

#### Challenges and Opportunities of PrEP (CHOP study)

We want to find out if the increasing availability of PrEP changes attitudes to sexual risk and testing for sexually transmitted infections.



Pre-exposure prophylaxis for HIV (PrEP) is a medicine for HIV negative people that reduces the risk of acquiring HIV.

#### Study population

Patients who are most at risk of HIV infection: men who have sex with men (MSM) and trans people who have sex with men (TPSM) will be recruited from Unity clinic.



#### What do we want to know?

- 1) What are their attitudes towards PrEP?
- 2) Are they able to access PrEP now?
- 3) Does taking PrEP affect how likely they are to have unprotected sex?
- 4) What are patterns of testing and diagnosis for sexually transmitted infections like gonorrhoea?

We will analyse anonymised patient records and questionnaires.

#### Why is it important?

PrEP is not available in England on the NHS but can be bought online. This study will add value to the NHS funded national PrEP trial (IMPACT) by understanding how to engage service users and improve sexual health services for people at most risk of HIV infection.

### SHIP Themes

#### Increasing community HIV testing

- Working towards 90:90:90
- Making Bristol a Fast Track City for HIV: 0 new infections & 0 stigma

#### Improving STI testing & responding to antimicrobial resistant (AMR) infections

- Evaluate new diagnostics for STIs
- Workshop on STIs and AMR (BASHH)

#### Patient and Public Involvement in Sexual Health

- Embed PPI in all activities
- CHOP study (see [research in focus](#))



#### Developing a national network

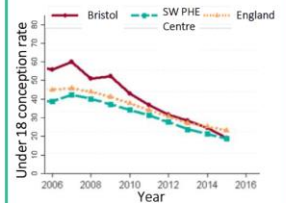
- Host workshop on STIs and AMR
- External SHIP co-director (Dr Harding-Esch)
- Influence commissioning and combat cuts to services

#### Domestic violence

- Cross HIT working group on DV

#### Reducing teenage pregnancy

- Build on previous success
- Maintain access to Long Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC)



Contact: Katy Turner (SHIP director) [katy.turner@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:katy.turner@bristol.ac.uk)

**Bristol Health Partners**

## Send us your updates!

We are aiming to send out two or three newsletters a year. If you have anything you would like included in our next newsletter, please contact us at [katy.turner@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:katy.turner@bristol.ac.uk).