

<p><b>Institution:</b> University of Portsmouth</p>
<p><b>Unit of Assessment:</b> 2 Public Health, Health Services and Primary Care</p>
<p><b>a. Context</b>          Our research and impact-related activities are aligned to our four interacting research themes: ‘allergic and respiratory disorders’, ‘health and social care environments’, ‘health and social care of the older person’, and our newest theme ‘global health and social care’. Research within this UoA impacts on public health and well-being by informing policies, guidelines, and educational practices of international significance, and by directly influencing the advice given by healthcare practitioners and professionals to sectors of the population with specific healthcare needs (e.g. older people, parents of babies, and those suffering from a variety of allergies). In addition, it has increased public understanding and awareness of health and welfare, increased engagement of the public in the research itself, made a direct contribution to the economy through offering cost savings to patients and to healthcare trusts, and informed planning decisions around healthcare environments. The beneficiaries of our research are diverse and include <b>public organisations</b> involved in setting standards and guidelines (e.g. local government, NHS, Department of Health, Health &amp; Safety Laboratory), <b>private manufacturing companies</b> (e.g. of flooring, water softeners, baby food), <b>third sector</b> organisations that support sectors of the population with specific healthcare needs, as well as <b>healthcare practitioners</b> and the general <b>public</b>.</p>
<p><b>b. Approach to impact</b>          The primary approach to impact across this UoA is <b>engagement with user groups throughout the research lifecycle</b>. Two of our research themes (‘health and social care environments’ and ‘health and social care of the older person’) are supported by the University of Portsmouth Ageing Network (UPAN), where strategic funds support staff and resources to maximise impact in the area of ageing. Our Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) group, ‘Engage’ (facilitated by <i>Fogg</i>) contributes to the shaping and implementation of all our research activities and has informed other PPI groups (e.g. Involve and the South Central Research Design Service). For example, two members of Engage were part of the research team (co-producing the research) and Steering Committee, on the PEOPPLE (Putting Evidence for Older People in Practice in Living Environments) Project (<i>Burnell, Dean, and Drahota</i>). In this project we partnered with 18 community groups, including Portsmouth Older People’s Group (a stakeholder group of organisations delivering services to older people) to identify and address the unmet needs of older people in Portsmouth, by employing the cycle of evidence-based practice. The PEOPPLE project has, in turn, led to two further collaborative research projects with the Alzheimer’s Society, funded through their Innovation Fund, has informed Portsmouth City Council’s (PCC) Ageing Population Strategy 2010 – 2020 and Portsmouth Healthwatch (the new consumer champion for health and social care services), and led to the establishment (in collaboration with PCC) of a new older people’s wellbeing service in a deprived area of Portsmouth.          The second approach to impact across this UoA is the provision of <b>evidence-based research to inform decisions and influence the economy</b>. By focussing on our research themes, we have built credible portfolios of research activities and excellent reputations with end users. For example, practitioners at Portsmouth Hospitals Trust (PHT), the Isle of Wight (IoW) NHS Trust, University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust, and The Princess Margaret Hospital in Christchurch, New Zealand (undergoing major refurbishment following the 2012 earthquake) have been utilising our research (<i>Dean, Drahota, Higgins, Severs</i>) to make informed decisions around flooring purchases. To date, PHT and IoW have purchased new floors, whilst professionals from the other Trusts have been approaching us for advice. This research is currently contributing to the development of a British Standard on the requirements and test methods of impact-absorbing flooring for the elderly and vulnerable persons, and is referenced in the Department of Health’s ‘Health Building Note 00-10: Part A – Flooring’, which gives best practice guidance on the design and planning of new healthcare buildings and on the adaptation/extension of existing facilities. Our research of shock-absorbing flooring (implemented in four wards), estimates a cost reduction of £843 per patient (see output ref: 2-MS-001). Our reputations in our most established thematic area (Allergic and respiratory disorders) have been acknowledged for example by the British Dietetic Association, with <i>Venter</i> being distinguished on their Roll of Honour and appointed as their Allergy Expert Dietician.</p>

## Impact template (REF3a)

We support (staff secondments and consultancy to key beneficiary organisations. For example, *Drahota's* secondment to the UK Cochrane Centre has facilitated our working with the Cochrane Collaboration to develop online learning materials (*Dean, Drahota, Kilburn*), based on our cross-cutting methodological expertise in systematic review methods, informed by our own research. This impact on educational practices has wider implications on health and wellbeing (given the high utilisation of Cochrane reviews in clinical guidelines and evidence-based recommendations), as these learning materials are now supporting the production of high quality systematic reviews on a global scale. *Venter* regularly provides consultancy to Abbott, Mead Johnson, Danone, and Nestle regarding product development and educational materials, and reviewed all of Raymond Blanc's recipes for the Kitchen Secrets 2 television series (also acknowledged in his book). Staff are supported to provide topic-specific training material to external organisations influencing the education of healthcare professionals, such as on the MSc in Allergy (Imperial College London), the MSc in Medical Nutrition (University of Surrey), and the MSc in Allergy (University of Southampton), delivered by *Dean, Mackenzie* and *Venter*. Supporting our staff in these roles additionally promotes the integration of research findings into patient care. For example, our research directly informs the clinical practice of the Isle of Wight allergy service, housed at The David Hide Asthma and Allergy Research Centre where *Dean* is Honorary Deputy Director. Similarly, seconding *Severs* from the NHS and to the Department of Health provides us with key avenues for knowledge exchange and implementation. For example, *Severs* led the clinical aspects of the information governance review chaired by Dame Fiona Caldicott, which made recommendations (accepted by the government) on sharing personal confidential data for research; this should lead to more innovative research across England. Secondly, *Severs* managed the purchase and ownership transition of the world's leading terminology SNOMED CT. This now supports a range of research applications globally (e.g. the research on sharing of patient summaries across European boundaries and the use of SNOMED CT as the standard for naming diseases and conditions in international genetic/genomic databases used by researchers worldwide), and is particularly important to the ageing population and integrated care agendas. To strengthen our relationships with key beneficiary organisations, we have newly established partnership agreements with all the local Health Trusts.

**To help inform policy, staff are supported to undertake committee roles for local, national** (e.g. *Severs*: appointed Chairman of the Information Standards Board, the approval system for information standards in the NHS and social care; *Venter*: NICE guidelines in food allergy; the Food Standards Agency's Advisory Committee on Novel Foods and Processes (ACNFP), and The Committee of the Toxicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment (COT) to advise on weaning guidance), and **international organisations** (e.g. *Dean*: Scientific Panel on Dietetic Products, Nutrition and Allergies, European Food Safety Authority; *Severs*: Chairman of the Management Board International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation; *Venter*: The European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI) food allergy guideline group).

In addition, we are developing a programme of stakeholder outreach events to foster relationships with beneficiaries and increase public awareness. In 2012, we hosted an event, "Focus on Health: Asthma and Allergy in your Family" (*Dean, Mackenzie* and *Venter*). More than 100 children and adults attended to understand how our research could be used to promote self-efficacy over their condition and treatment plan, and to clarify discrepancies between reported and diagnosed food hypersensitivity in early life. Since 2009 annually we have delivered 'Café-Scientifique' sessions (***Dean, Venter***) on 'Living with your allergy' in different locations in the South. In 2013, we hosted public engagement talks on dementia care environments (supported via University of Portsmouth Ageing Network; *Drahota* and *Severs*), as part of the European Month of the Brain. Participants included members of Portsmouth Pensioners Association, the University of the 3rd Age, carers' groups, Portsmouth City Council, and the NHS. Direct results of these events have been: invited talks at the Wessex British Geriatrics Society Regional Conference, University of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Age, and the European Commission's 'Google hangout' on the future of EU brain research; new members of the public have been recruited to our Engage group, and there is increased awareness of our public engagement work, e.g. with the South Coast DeNDRoN (Dementias and Neurodegenerative Diseases Research Network); and Portsmouth Pensioners' Association regularly provide us with space in their 'Pompey Pensioner' magazine (disseminated to approximately 4000 pensioners). Our 'global health and social care' research theme has hosted a

multi-centre ESRC seminar series on post-transitional fertility in developing countries and pathfinder programme on inequalities in access to health care, with the Centre for Developmental Studies in Trivandrum (India), Nuffield College, University of Oxford, and Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, (Brazil). These events have included outreach to policy planners and non-governmental organisations.

**c. Strategy and plans**

Underpinning our impact strategy is the acknowledgment that significant impact arises from high quality research. As the examples above demonstrate, our existing research has given credibility to our engagement with beneficiaries, and prompted them to seek our expertise. Maintaining a high profile in our respective themes by continuing to participate in national and international research conferences (which include practitioners and end-users) will ensure we will continue to build and develop our existing multidisciplinary academic and practitioner networks. We will continue to build processes into our research strategy where impact-related activities are explicitly acknowledged, resourced, rewarded and can continue to flourish. We will build on our current trajectory by:

- Embedding the importance of impact-related activities into our systems and processes (eg. ensuring impact activities is part of our annual Professional Development Reviews);
- Targeting our internal resources (e.g. secondments, committee memberships), where appropriate, at activities specifically designed to increase the impact of our work;
- Continuing to host community outreach events aligned with our themes, and aiming for at least one such event per academic year;
- Continuing to support our Public and Patient Involvement group, Engage, through providing regular meetings, training events, and enrolling new members, to inform our research;
- Continuing to utilise structures such as the University of Portsmouth Ageing Network, and Research Design Service, to facilitate our interdisciplinary working and broadening our reach to practitioners, patient groups, and organisations;
- Constructing a robust framework for the monitoring, assessment and evidencing of impact of research across the UoA and throughout the research lifecycle;
- Capitalising on, and strengthening our multidisciplinary and practitioner links to underpin our existing ethos of practice-led research and evidence-based practice. For example, working with the NHS (in line with our partnership agreements), the Alzheimer’s Society, the City Council’s Joint Strategic Needs Assessment committee, and other priority-setting organisations, to inform post-graduate (e.g. MRes, PhD, Professional Doctorate) research project ideas, and funding proposals aligned to our research themes, and to create a culture of continual knowledge exchange between our organisations;
- Targeting funding sources for networking workshops, seminar series, exchanges, and engagement activities that maintain our focus on our research themes and increase the volume and diversity of external research income;
- Focusing on follow-through activities (e.g. collaborations, working group memberships) stemming from our networking and outreach events to establish and document significant impacts across all of our research themes;

Working with the University’s Research and Innovation Services to consolidate and build our relationships with commercial companies and attract funding for translational research and innovation, and knowledge exchange.

**d. Relationship to case studies**

Both impact case studies (UOP02ALLERGY and UOP02ECZEMA) are taken from the work of our most established research theme (‘allergic and respiratory disorders’), and exemplify the importance of robust, evidence-based research to influence policies, guidelines, and the economy. In both cases, the impact of the research has been maximised through interdisciplinary and collaborative working and engaging with beneficiaries throughout the entire research process.