



## ehps 2009 – synergy workshop



### PRAGMATICS OF RUNNING CLINICAL TRIALS: DESIGN, MANAGEMENT AND THE PROCESSES OF CHANGE.

**SYNERGY 2009 Workshop**  
20th-22nd September 2009, Pisa, Italy

Recently, there has been a strong call for health psychologists to engage in more translational research. Two recent editorials in *Psychology and Health* by leading health psychologists focused on this theme. Taylor (2008) proposed that intervention research should ask two interrelated questions “how can we make a difference in prevention or patient care, and if we do, what mechanisms might underlie these effects?” (p 133). Leventhal et al. (2007) argued that we not only need to translate concepts from theory into practice to create interventions but we also need to make sure our work meets the standards of current evidence-based practice. Intervention trials are often the most challenging forms of research but if set up correctly they can also be the most rewarding. This year’s SYNERGY workshop will provide an opportunity to bring together experienced and more novice researchers to critically examine some of the more pragmatic aspects of clinical trials and address the following key topics:

- Designing trials to maximise outputs throughout the trial focusing on process and outcome (e.g. choosing control conditions, addressing ethical issues, assessing therapist effects and fidelity of treatment)
- Setting up intervention trials and the day-to-day running of clinical trials
- Testing mediator and moderator designs both in relation to improving theory and enhancing intervention effectiveness

The workshop will last three days and the scheduled timetable is: Sunday 20th September 1400-1730, Monday 21st September 0930-1730 and Tuesday 22nd 0930-1730.

The workshop will be facilitated by: **Prof Rona Moss-Morris**, University of Southampton, UK; **Prof Trudie Chalder**, Institute of Psychiatry and King's College London, UK; **Dr Alison Wearden**, University of Manchester, UK; **Prof Gijs Bleijenberg**, University Nijmegen, Netherlands.

The facilitators will guide the work, support and moderate the discussion.

The workshop fee is EUR 255 (this includes the workshop materials, lunch for Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd Sept, coffee breaks and the workshop dinner). Please note that accommodation is not included. Rooms have been reserved at the Hotel Granduca (approx. 85EUR pn; see <http://www.hotelgranduca.it>). Also a few rooms are available at the Campus (approx. 35 EUR pn) for students and/or low economy citizens (see contact info below). Alternatively, you can check for further options via <http://www.comune.pisa.it/turismo/index-gb.htm>.

Note that the EHPS is offering 2 grants to those who want to attend the SYNERGY workshop but do not have sufficient financial resources. Each grant will be EUR 1100. For further information about the grants, please check the EHPS website (<http://www.ehps.net/>) and under EHPS Grants and Stipends 2009

The workshop will be held at Congress Palace of Pisa.

The workshop will be held in English language.

Participants need to [become a member of the EHPS](#) and therefore will also receive the benefits of EHPS membership ([www.ehps.net](http://www.ehps.net)). ►

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### Application Procedure

1. In order to facilitate the discussion within the workshop, each participant is required to submit the following information:
  1. a brief CV (including **ONLY** name, contact details, current position and relevant publications).
  2. a brief **abstract** summarizing your research on the topic (not more than 500 words).
  3. a paragraph on: a) your expectations regarding the workshop, i.e. which topics would like to concentrate on and what would you like to get out of it and b) your possible contributions.

Please submit this information to [ab2406@soton.ac.uk](mailto:ab2406@soton.ac.uk)

**Submission deadline – June 30th, 2009**

2. You will be notified by email or regular mail whether you have a place at the workshop by **July 15th, 2009**.
3. Please note that participation must be confirmed by registering and paying the workshop fee (**deadline is July 25th, 2009**).
4. The other participants' abstracts and a programme outlining discussion topics will be sent to all participants by **August 8th, 2009**.

### Registration (only for accepted workshop participants)

Participants need to [become a member of the EHPS](http://www.ehps.net) and therefore will also receive the benefits of EHPS membership (www.ehps.net).

For registration and payment please use the [online form](#)

Please note that the registration **deadline** is **July 25th 2009**.

For questions or further information please contact the workshop organisers:

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### Synergy 2009 Facilitators



Gijs Bleijenberg



Rona Moss-Morris



Alison Wearden



Trudie Chalder