



**Royal
Pharmaceutical
Society**
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News release

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2002 PRACTICE RESEARCH AWARDS

The Council of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society has ratified the Research Award Panel's decision to award practice research awards 2002 to Ms Rachel Mullen (Doctoral Student, School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Manchester) and to Jon Silcock (Research Practitioner, School of Healthcare Studies, University of Leeds).

The Sir Hugh Linstead Fellowship of £30,000 is to be made to Ms Rachel Mullen for her project *Skill mix in community pharmacy: exploring and defining the roles of dispensary support staff*. The research will provide a greater understanding of the existing skill mix profile and of the underlying issues within community pharmacy. This will help to inform and shape the development of pharmacy workforce policy in line with NHS plans to make best use of pharmacy support staff.

Ms Mullen said: "I am delighted to be awarded the Sir Hugh Linstead Research Fellowship. The award will provide me with a great opportunity to further my research interests in relation to pharmacy workforce issues."

The Galen Award of £10,000 is to be made to Jon Silcock for his project *Patients' attitudes towards and beliefs about self-management of chronic congestive heart failure*. Jon's research practitioner post is a joint appointment between Pharmacy Services, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and Pharmacy Practice and Medicines Management Group, University of Leeds.

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Jon said: "Self-management of chronic disease is part of the UK Government's health policy, but practical implementation in everyday settings seems to be weak. I will use the Galen award to explore patient-related barriers to the self-management of mild-moderate heart failure. This will be done by conducting and evaluating detailed interviews with around 30 patients in West Leeds PCT. Receiving the award is great news, it will let me start fieldwork very shortly and this project is the first stage of my studies for a PhD."

The Council of the Society invited pharmacists to apply for the 2002 practice research awards back in January this year. The Galen award is funded by a bequest by Rowland Henry Williams and the Sir Hugh Linstead Fellowship is funded by a grant from the Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust. Information about the 2003 practice research awards will be available in January 2003.

Ends

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