

Royal College of General Practitioners and Warwick Medical School
Annual Education, Research and Innovation Symposium
16th June 2016

PRESENTER'S DETAILS		
Title (Prof, Dr, Mr, Mrs) Dr	First Name Faraz	Surname Mughal
Department or organisation Warwick Primary Care, Warwick Medical School, The University of Warwick F.mughal@warwick.ac.uk		
Category Education Project		
Authors Mughal F, Bond J.		Title of Project 'Planting the seed of scholarship and academia in general practice'
<p>What's the problem you are tackling?</p> <p>Considering the rising challenges in primary care, innovative and cost-effective ways of working are as vital today as ever. Academic general practice has made great strides in recent decades, however, as a professional group academic GPs remain in 'species extinction' territory and the current crisis is a crisis of capacity.^{1,2} Most GP trainees (non-ACFs) have little awareness of academia and scholarship in general practice; likely due to the increasing demands of clinical training and minimal visibility to academic general practice. We set out to promote and introduce academia and scholarship in trainees and early career GPs regionally.</p> <p>1) Mughal F. Why should you care about academic general practice? <i>BMJ Careers</i> 2012 2) Hobbs FR, Taylor CJ. Academic primary care: at a tipping point? <i>Br J Gen Pract</i> 2014; 64(622): 214-15</p>		
<p>How did/will you do it?</p> <p>As GP trainees we were successful in receiving funding (£1300) from HEWM to run an academic educational programme for trainees in the region. This evolved into running half-day academic seminars co-badged with the Midland Faculty of the RCGP. We have to date organised seminars with leading regional primary care academics teaching and discussing research, statistics, education and leadership in general practice.</p>		

What did you find?

150 GP doctors have attended our sessions. Feedback - response rate of 29. 86% left a seminar with an increased awareness of academic general practice. 59% are thinking about pursuing academic general practice in the future. From the topic specific seminars;17 are encouraged to pursue education career opportunities in the future and 7 are interested in conducting research in general practice.

Anonymous quote: 'fascinating afternoon that inspired me to reflect on general practice with a view to primary care research'.

Why does this matter?

We feel that these seminars have raised the visibility of academic general practice amongst our clinical colleagues. We hope that by attending, the seed of academia and scholarship has been planted. This seed may then grow and mature into providing solutions to the growing problems in primary care, revitalising their own clinical practice, and providing them with a sustainable work-life balance.