Dr Lucy Chappell, Reader in Obstetrics, has been awarded a prestigious NIHR Research Professorship, one of four awards made in a national competition across all specialties and the first to be made in obstetrics since the annual competition started five years ago. Her research programme in the Division of Women's Health will be focusing on Improving maternal and perinatal outcomes in high-risk pregnancies, particularly those with hypertension and cholestasis in pregnancy.

Additionally, Jane Sandall has been honoured as a NIHR Senior Investigator for 4 years from 2015. Jane comments: “It has been recognised from several external sources that we have a unique setup here which supports the highest level of research in women’s health across all the disciplines.” She is currently the only midwife to hold this award. NIHR have also invited her to work with the Advocates group for academic training in non-medical professions focusing on Midwifery.

Lucilla Poston presented at the MRC Global Health Committee meeting in India in April.

We had a wonderful get together at a hotel in Bedfordshire to celebrate the successful completion of the UPBEAT trial of a lifestyle intervention in obese pregnant women; the paper for UPBEAT is now in press.

Rachel Tribe has been appointed Chair of the Membership and Grants Committee of the Physiological Society and has joined the Executive/Chairs Steering Committee of this Learned Society.

Dr Dusko Ilic had two abstracts at the 31st Annual Meeting of the European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology in Lisbon (14-17 June 2015): Blastocoel cavity contains miRNAs: novel potential biomarker of blastocyst quality and Comparative analysis of twin blastocysts derived from human embryo splitting at cleavage stage, and an invited talk at Stem Cells from Basic Research to Bioprocessing, conference held in London (9-11 June 2015), “Clinical grade mesenchymal stromal/stem cells from umbilical cord Wharton's Jelly - should body mass index be a criterion for donation?”

Abu-Hayyeh S., Williamson C. Progesterone Metabolites as Farnesoid X Receptor Inhibitors. Digestive Diseases. 2015;33:300-306


Persson M, **Pasupathy D**. Parity and neonatal outcome in pregnancies complicated by type 1 diabetes – a nationwide study from Sweden. *Journal of Diabetes & Metabolism.* In press.


Taylor CL, Stewart R, Ogden J, Broadbent M, **Pasupathy D**, Howard LM. The characteristics and health needs of pregnant women with schizophrenia compared with bipolar disorder and affective psychoses. *BMC Psychiatry.* In press.


**Talks/Seminars**

Research in Progress Seminar Series – Seminars are held on the 3rd Friday each month at 4 pm, Rayne Institute Seminar Room, 4th floor Lambeth Wing, St Thomas’ unless otherwise stated. Contact: katharina.mahn@kcl.ac.uk

A 2-day short course on Women’s Mental Health Research will be held by the Section of Women’s Mental Health, King’s College London on the 28th and 29th September 2015. Led by Prof Louise Howard, the course will teach participants about research methods for investigating risk factors and the effectiveness of interventions for women’s mental health problems. The course will also provide practical guidance on safety and ethical issues in women’s health research. For more information and to secure your place, please go to https://www.kcl.ac.uk/prospectus/shortcourses/list/keyword/psychiatry-amp-mental-health

**Abstracts/Deadlines**

King’s College London is offering five £2,000 scholarships for people who work or live in south London who want to study on a new unique Master’s programme, starting this September.

The new MSc in Implementation and Improvement Science, believed to the first of its kind in the UK, is an exciting field of study and can offer real solutions to improving quality, safety, outcomes and population health. [www.kcl.ac.uk/prospectus/graduate/implementation-and-improvement-science/applying](http://www.kcl.ac.uk/prospectus/graduate/implementation-and-improvement-science/applying)

Several new funding opportunities from the MRC International Strategy Team.
- MRC/DFID/Wellcome Trust Joint Global Health Trials scheme
- launch of sixth call for proposals
- MRC/South African MRC: Joint call to support Tuberculosis Control Implementation Science
- UK-Vietnam: Joint Infectious Disease Research Call
- Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases (GACD) – Prevention and management of chronic lung diseases

King’s has been awarded a BBSRC Impact Acceleration Award of £100,000 and this will fund another Sparking Impact Competition 2015/16. The closing date is 21 September 2015. The impact-generating project must be based on ANY BBSRC grant (not necessarily to the person applying for a Sparking Award) – the competition is open to all staff, PhD students and post-docs in all Schools. [https://internal.kcl.ac.uk/health/funding/sparking/index.aspx](https://internal.kcl.ac.uk/health/funding/sparking/index.aspx)

Physiology Society travel grant deadlines occur every month. See [http://www.physsoc.org/travel-grants](http://www.physsoc.org/travel-grants)

**Coming Events**

Upcoming events include:

The next Breakfast Meeting is 3 July in the Teaching Room at St Thomas’ (10th Floor) at 9 am.

Sign up to Safety Launch Lunch on 10 of July 1-2pm in the Nevin Lecture Theatre to celebrate the one year anniversary of the Sign up to Safety campaign itself and the 6 month anniversary of GSTTs involvement in the project. Sign up to Safety is a nationwide campaign led by NHS England to reduce avoidable harm by 50% in three years. E-mail qips@gstt.nhs.uk to find out more.

Kings Improvement Science reading group: 12.30 – 13.30hrs on last Monday of the month. Researchers, academic staff and PhD students are all welcome; focus of the group is to discuss theoretical paper or an empirical paper that fits loosely within the field of improvement science in order to debate some of the issues around methodology, epistemology, application, scale-up etc. Contact: nicola.mackintosh@kcl.ac.uk.

**And Finally ...**

You may be interested in listening to Sally Marlow, from IoPPN, who took part in a discussion on women and sexism in science on Radio 4’s *Inside Science*. You can hear her comments on the show (from 08:45 onwards) via the link below [http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b05y11vz](http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b05y11vz).