

NHS needs to support researchers from allied health professionals as well as medical/dentist staff. Support needs to be given from all levels of management and greater recognition given to staff who are combining clinical work with academic/research work. This is not given much value currently within nursing/midwifery. Why just fellowships for medical/dental staff – these should be available to all staff as many of us are working towards/have studied at post-doctoral level. If we want to pursue research and change/improved clinical practice and therefore care given to patients, we must be supported and taken seriously at all levels within the organisation. Research culture needs to be nurtured and supported within all fields including nursing and midwifery.