



The University of Leicester Medical School

## **Implemented Activities**

The East Midland INSPIRE Medical Student Research Conference:

Held in conjunction with Nottingham and Norwich (UEA) medical schools. Two
one-day conferences held at Leicester (2013) and Nottingham (2014) giving
students the opportunity to present their research orally and by poster, to
witness the range of student-engaged research in the three Schools, to build a
research network and to meet inspirational clinical scientists.

#### The LINK Scheme:

 The LINK scheme matches medical students seeking research experience to active researchers (non-clinical and clinical) within the University of Leicester and local NHS Trusts.

#### SPARKS Talks:

 SPARKS talks aim to stimulate interest in medical research by highlighting recent and exciting advances yet to find their way into the medical curriculum or textbooks. Students may present their own research or presentations on research skills and methods. In addition to student presentations, 'SPARKS' events host postgraduate and academic staff, who themselves give expert presentations and insight to these sessions.

# Journal Club:

• The 'Journal Club' is designed to provide a relatively formal opportunity to explore recent research papers to develop interest and critical appraisal skills.

### Research Café:

• The 'Research Café' aims to facilitate less structured sharing of medical research interests in a relaxed environment.

ASME Conference Attendance.

## **Impacts**

## Interest Raising:

 Most significantly, this scheme has raised the interest in medical research throughout the medical student body by providing a range of opportunities for students to engage in research-focused activity at different levels. It has empowered the student-led Medical Research Society to take the lead in these activities and has spawned a community of medical students with a research interest.

INSPIRE is coordinated by the Academy of Medical Sciences and supported by the Wellcome Trust. INSPIRE activities are designed and delivered locally by individual medical schools.







The Implementation of the Annual East Midlands INSPIRE Medical Student Research Conference:

A major impact was the implementation of the Annual East Midlands INSPIRE
Medical Student Research Conference. Two conferences gave the opportunity to
students to meet clinical researchers with inspirational scientific and personal
stories, to present and share enthusiasm for their own research outputs and to
network and gain experience of a wide range of research activity undertaken by
other students in the three participating medical schools.

#### Consolidation:

• The consolidation of a regular programme of extracurricular events to maintain a consistency of exposure to current hot research topics.

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