

**“Qualitative Enquiry Supporting Trials (QUEST):  
Enhancing the use of qualitative methods in clinical trials research”**

**Prof Frances Rapport, Professor of Qualitative Health Research Swansea,  
University College of Medicine**

**Wednesday 8 July 2015, Queens Building 01.11  
Seminar 1 – 2pm**

**Seminar presentation**

This presentation describes aspects of the work and work experiences of those within QUEST – the Qualitative Enquiry Supporting Trials Unit, which is based at Swansea University’s College of Medicine. QUEST works as a dynamic part of the Swansea Trials Unit, and acts as its qualitative arm. QUEST was funded in 2012 by the Welsh Assembly Government to enhance clinical trials in Wales. It offers a qualitative component to Trial Development & Management Groups and ensures that trials aligning to the Swansea Trials Unit actively consider the value of qualitative methods as they develop their work. It also extends the existing collaborations between the four Regional Clinical Trials Units in Wales.

**Brief Biography**

**Frances Rapport (PhD)** is Professor of Qualitative Health Research at the College of Medicine, Swansea University, Director of the Qualitative Research Unit (QUARU) and Director of the Qualitative Enquiry Supporting Trials Unit (QUEST). She works in health services and medical research and has a background in the Arts. Frances has held a number of Visiting Professorships at: Harvard University, Texas University, King AbdulAziz University, Bournemouth University and the University of Tromsø. Her wide research interests have led to investigations in: the influence of environment on healthcare practice, patient-centred professionalism, the impact of chronic conditions on patient need and expectation, and patient’s ease of access to Assisted Reproductive Technology medicine. Frances has written about the scope of qualitative methodologies for enhancing rigorous health research, and most recently their embedment in clinical trials.

**Selected references**

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- 2013 **Rapport F.**, Storey M., Porter A., Snooks H., Sanchez A., Thorne K., Jones K., Clement C. and Russell I. Developing a Standard Operating Procedure for a clinical trials unit: qualitative research and the quasi experimental study or pragmatic randomised trial, *Trials (Biomed)*. 14: 54 doi: 10.1186/1745-6215-14-54. <http://www.trialsjournal.com/content/14/1/54>.
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**Contact Sally Beet: 01603 591212 or email: [Sally.Beet@uea.ac.uk](mailto:Sally.Beet@uea.ac.uk)**

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