## Newsletter October 2022 October 2022 October 2022 October 2022

Welcome to our first newsletter which will bring you up to date with all our Network activities. We're extremely proud of how much the Network has achieved so far and the important role it is beginning to play in bringing together people, knowledge, resources and infrastructure with a focus on effective translation of ageing research for patient and public benefit.

Many thanks to you all for contributing to the Network and for helping us build our community.

Prof Miles Witham, Prof Rachel Cooper, Prof Avan Sayer, Dr Kelly Bowden Davies, Prof Claire Stewart, Dr Sandra Ortega Martorell and Gayle Cain.





#### Launching the Network

In May and July we held online launch events for our Network. These were great opportunities to introduce the Network to our colleagues and begin to facilitate interactions across disciplines.

At these events we placed a spotlight on the biology of ageing. Many thanks to our excellent speakers from Newcastle, Liverpool John Moores and Manchester Met - Dr Gavin Richardson, Dr Satomi Miwa, Prof Jatin Burniston and Dr Nasser Al-Shanti - who all gave great summaries of their research and outlined their thoughts on opportunities for collaborative working across disciplines.

Over 100 people participated in these events. We thank all those who attended and contributed to their success. Further events to bring together people from different disciplines and institutions are being planned so watch out for further details.









Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council

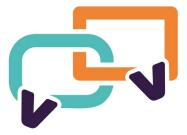


# ART (Ageing Research Translation) of Healthy Ageing Network

#### External Advisory Group

We are privileged to have assembled a leading group of international researchers and UKRI representatives to oversee our Network's activities. The first meeting of the External Advisory Group (EAG) in June was a wonderful opportunity to showcase our plans and benefit from their valuable insights which have since been shaping our priorities.

We are very grateful to all of the EAG members for sharing their knowledge and expertise and contributing to the success of the Network. We look forward to meeting them again in December.





#### Listening to Early Career Researchers

At the heart of the Network is our work to support the development of Early Career Researchers (ECR) keen to pursue interdisciplinary, translational ageing research. To identify the needs of this ECR community, we launched a national online survey in July. We received 69 responses from ECR working in a range of disciplines at institutions across the UK. Dr Kelly Bowden Davies, our ECR lead, has been analysing these responses and is currently busy planning two focus groups that will be held later

in October to explore the survey findings in depth and identify next steps.

Development of future ECR activities will be guided by the outcomes of this engagement with our thriving ECR community – thanks to everyone involved.

#### Pump-priming funding call

In September we were pleased to launch our pump-priming funding call.

Through this call we hope to support projects that will develop building blocks for a future translational ageing research platform, catalyse interdisciplinary collaboration and/or support the development of ECR. In line with the overall aims of the Network, this call will facilitate interdisciplinary working across institutions. For more details please see our <u>website</u> – the call closes on 10th November and we hope to announce outcomes before Christmas.

We look forward to bringing you news on the successful projects next year.



### Raising awareness, promoting involvement and inspiring action

Working together, the Network Management Group have been raising the profile of the Network and its aims.

This includes publication of a Nature Aging correspondence piece [rdcu.be/cWmL6]. In this we highlight what exciting times these are for ageing research and the role we look forward to playing in driving forward interdisciplinary research that delivers real-world benefits for our ageing population.

In September our network co-lead, Prof Miles Witham, presented overviews of the Network at the RESETageing conference in Newcastle and the European Geriatric Medicine Society (EuGMS) conference in London. These events gave us the opportunity to introduce the Network to national and international audiences from different disciplines and to encourage people to join us in our endeavours. We look forward to presenting to other audiences at upcoming events including the British Geriatrics Society autumn meeting.





