



## EPIC Participant Advisory Panel (EPAP)



It is acknowledged that research which is directed towards public need is better informed and therefore likely to produce more useful results. Subsequently, these results can then be used to further improve practice in health and social care.

EPIC-Norfolk wishes to actively promote greater participant involvement in our research. For this reason, in 2010 we set up the EPIC Participant Advisory Panel, or EPAP. The panel acts as a consultation group to advise on many aspects of our research and also to make us more aware of our participants' interests and views on specific areas of our research. We see the formation of this panel as a PARTNERSHIP between EPIC Participants and the research team.

### March 2010 - Scoping Meeting

**Aim – To discover a way forward in our approach to participant involvement in the EPIC research activities.**

The afternoon took the form of an informal discussion group, with sessions structured to enable the participants in attendance to have a say on how they thought this partnership should proceed. The EPIC Principal Investigators addressed the meeting, presenting an overview of the contributions the panel may be asked to make, both towards the current activities and in future research planning.



#### Dissemination of Results and Information

The Panel has openly discussed possible methods to improve the current strategies for information feedback:

- To the large number of participants
- To professionals
- To the general public
- Methods of promoting EPAP membership and involvement



#### EPAP

##### Members

12 EPIC Participants and 6 members of the EPIC research team

Additional EPIC staff are invited should an agenda item require specialist involvement

#### Questionnaires

Review of current and future questionnaires, regarding:

- Layout
- Content
- Wording

#### Public Engagement Activities

- Planning of the Cambridge Science Festival stand
- Planning of the stand held in The Forum, Norwich
- Volunteering to help on The Forum stand, during the event

#### EPIC Website

Constructively advised on:

- Home and other page layouts
- Website navigation
- Additional elements for inclusion
- Methods of promoting the website - development of postcard
- Methods of gathering additional information via the website

#### Future EPIC Plans

- Consulted on intervention studies
- Consulted on possible future collaborations