

## Member profile for QNI Community Nursing Research Forum



**Name:** Dr Amanda Young

**Job title:** Director of Nursing Programmes (Innovation)

**Employing organisation:** The Queen's Nursing Institute

**Country of residence:** England

### How would you describe your current role and research interests?

My current role is varied, supporting community nurse innovation projects, ensuring that outcome and impact is measured in a way that demonstrates the projects value. I am interested in a wide variety of research and have a district nurse and academic background in end-of-life care, pre-registration nursing and advance practice.

### How did you first get involved in doing clinical research / your own research?

I undertook a part time, international, distance learning PhD in palliative care at Lancaster university, which was very interesting and whilst it took 6 years to complete (I worked full time and did this in my own time). It was during this time liaising with an American colleague that I became interested in moral distress as it was a new phenomenon and not researched in the UK at the time. I investigated whether care home staff experienced moral distress when caring for residents at the end of life.

### What difference has your research training and experience made to your career / clinical practice / academic practice?

Originally, it enabled me to move back into education as a senior lecturer with more say on the modules of study that I was able to teach. Being able to support MSc and PhD students to see how to develop ideas into research ideas and service improvement plans that were realistic. Having undertaken a PhD widens the perspective and understanding of evidence, and the importance of demonstrating value in practice.

### What has been your favourite research experience so far?

Meeting like-minded colleagues with brilliant research ideas that enabled them to inform practice and improvements in service for people. Having a better understanding of how to go about making evidence matter in practice.

## **How did you develop your research career?**

My research career has taken me away from carrying out research myself, but I still have involvement in supporting others to realise their small ideas into realistic achievable projects that really make a difference.

## **What are your top tips for anyone wanting to become a clinical academic / become more research active?**

- *Have a go, you have nothing to lose!*
- *Small projects can have a big impact.*
- *Innovation projects are testing out research ideas under a different guise.*

**[Find out more about the QNI's Community Nursing Research Forum.](#)**

**[Find out more about the QNI's Community Nursing Innovation Programme.](#)**