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**CEDAR**  
Centre for Healthcare Evaluation,  
Device Assessment and Research

CEDAR: Centre for Healthcare Evaluation, Device Assessment and Research

# Winter Bulletin

December 2024. Issue 9

CEDAR is committed to supporting patient-centred, evidence-based care through research and evaluation of health interventions, technologies, and NHS services.

## CEDAR News

- Congratulations to Kathleen Withers (Deputy Director) on being awarded the 'Public Involvement Award' at the Health and Care Research Wales Conference for our work on the [National PREMs refresh](#). Kathleen has also been appointed to the [Board of the Co-production network](#).
- In December we welcomed two new members to the team - Carys Wilson (Business Administrator) and Jasmine Rollings (Senior Researcher).
- The [RSA-PACE study](#) is a first-in-human, multi-centre, randomised controlled trial of a novel type of cardiac pacing in patients with heart failure and heart bypass surgery. The trial is now open to recruitment at Cardiff and has already recruited two participants. The study is soon to open in Bristol and Swansea.
- CEDAR, in collaboration with IQ Endoscopes, were awarded the 'Partnership with the NHS' industry award at the MediWales Awards in December, for their partnership in evaluating the potential adoption of the endoscope within Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, funded by the Cardiff Capital Region Challenge Fund. Read more about the collaboration [here](#).
- Congratulations to CEDAR's Senior Researcher Christina Lloydwin on joining the [Nutrition Society's Membership Committee](#) as the first representative for Wales.
- Huey Yi Chong (Health Economist) and Katherine Woolley (Senior Researcher) attended the [International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research \(ISPOR\) conference](#) in Barcelona in November. Here they presented CEDAR's work on the validation of the National People's Experience Survey (PES), the application of social return on investment (SROI) analysis in Wales, and a cost consequence analysis of increasing dental sedation in Cardiff and Vale.

*The CEDAR team celebrated Christmas in style with a festive Spanish tapas feast at Bar44 in Cardiff!*



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## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

### Clinical applications of Cold Stored Platelets: A Delphi-based study

CEDAR is collaborating with the Welsh Blood Service, the Emergency Medical Retrieval and Transfer Service (EMRTS), and the Royal Navy on a project to improve emergency trauma care. The project is called 'Investigations into Cold Stored Platelets for Pre-Hospital Emergency Resuscitation'. Each year in Wales, around 1,300 trauma patients face life-and-death situations, with many desperately needing emergency blood transfusions. Research has shown that including platelets in early transfusions can significantly improve outcomes for severely injured patients.



This project explores the use of platelets stored at cold temperatures. Unlike room temperature platelets, cold-stored platelets last longer and are more effective at helping blood clot. This makes them a valuable new tool for emergency medical teams. Relatively little evidence exists about how platelets might be used in a pre-hospital setting. CEDAR has undertaken a Delphi-based study as part of a wider feasibility project, which included a series of one-to-one interviews with experts from a range of disciplines related to the use pre-hospital platelets, followed by a survey to measure agreement. The Delphi technique seeks to generate consensus from experts around a set of statements on the clinical application of cold-stored platelets. Findings will be published in 2025.

### Evaluation of the Lupus Service in NHS Wales

CEDAR was commissioned by the Welsh Government to evaluate the experiences of services for people with lupus from the perspective of people with lupus and clinicians across NHS Wales. The evaluation employed a mixed-methods approach, including surveys, interviews and focus groups, to provide a comprehensive analysis of the experience of care provision. The findings aim to support the Welsh Government, NHS Wales and the NHS Wales Executive via the Musculoskeletal Strategic Network in understanding what works well within NHS Wales lupus service. A bilingual report of the full findings will be published in 2025.



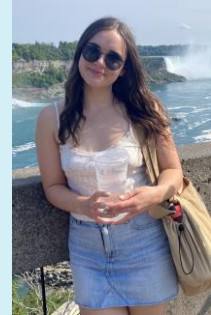
### Foodwise in Pregnancy Evaluation

Launched by Cardiff and Vale University Health Board in 2022, the Foodwise in Pregnancy (FiP) app was developed as part of Nutrition Skills for Life to provide evidence-based information and tips on eating well, keeping active, and achieving a healthy weight in pregnancy, which can contribute towards reducing the risk of developing long term conditions such as obesity and diabetes.

CEDAR was commissioned by dietitians in the All Wales Nutrition Skills for Life programme to assess how the FiP app was received by both users and healthcare professionals. Feedback was sought from a survey, in-app feedback, and interviews, resulting in a number of suggestions for improvements to the app's functionality, accessibility, content and visual appeal. The full report will be finalised in early 2025.

### STAFF SPOTLIGHT

We speak to Carys Wilson, CEDAR's newly appointed business administrator.



**Tell us a bit about you and your role:** I am 24 years old and a graduate in Human Geography. I joined CEDAR this November as an administrator where I respond to enquiries, oversee office inventory and provide other general administrative assistance to the CEDAR team.

**What three words would you use to describe CEDAR?**

Welcoming, intelligent, and hard-working.

**What is your favourite part of your job?**

Getting to know the team and trying to make their lives easier.

**Choose a superpower?**  
Elemental control!

**What is a fact about you that people would be surprised by?**

I used to keep chickens in my garden when I was younger and would often sneak mine (Pecky) up to my room to chill with me.