

Professor Rosie Kneafsey—Director for the Centre for Healthcare Research/Strategic Lead for Knowledge and Engagement for the Centre for Care Excellence



I began my career as a registered nurse, within neurosciences. My early clinical work sparked a concern with the rehabilitation needs and experiences of this client group. This led to a research and teaching career which began at Salford University and continued at Birmingham University. I completed a number of substantial research studies exploring aspects of rehabilitation practice whilst refining my skills as a teacher and mentor. In 2012 I completed PhD which examined the nursing contribution to hospitalised older adults' mobility rehabilitation. Since that time, I have worked at Coventry University in a range of leadership roles.

I became the Director for the Centre for Healthcare Research in 2021, as well as the Strategic Lead for Knowledge and Engagement for the Centre for Care Excellence, working in collaboration with University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust. Both centres focus on applied health research and evaluation in order to improve the quality and experience of care, from both the patient, family and staff experience. A central focus of the Centre for Care Excellence is to support the creation of 'clinical academic' roles and to develop career pathways for those who wish to address challenges within clinical practice, derive solutions and implement change to improve patient outcomes.

My own research portfolio revolves around the impact of education on workforce development and transformation. During 2021, I have been engaged in three key education related projects. The first, funded by the World Health Organisation examined the feasibility of introducing reforms to nurse education provision in North Macedonia. The second project is a collaborative activity with Edna Adan University in Somaliland to support midwife upskilling. The third, funded by Health Education England, comprises an evaluation of leadership education on the experiences and activities within Emergency Medicine.

My interest in education connects with my previous 4 year role as Head of School for Nursing, Midwifery and Health at Coventry University. During this time, I was responsible for the strategic leadership of teaching and learning for over 4000 students across a wide range of discipline areas, including: nursing and midwifery, allied health, leadership and management, public health, and advanced practice, with courses at undergraduate and postgraduate level, and delivered via apprenticeships, blended degrees as well as via traditional campus models.

My current role offers an opportunity to continue to support healthcare through education and research. I continue to teach, support PhD students and welcomes collaborations with a wide range of partners.