

NIHR Nottingham Digestive Diseases BRU, the Djanogly Gallery (Nottingham Lakeside Arts, University of Nottingham) with Elpida Hadzi-Vasileva (20 August - 30 October 2016)

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

In 2015/16, artist Elpida Hadzi-Vasileva in collaboration with the University of Nottingham and NUH observed research into Inflammatory Bowel Disease including the use of novel MRI techniques. This work exposed a highly regarded medical research activity to larger public awareness, the balance and fragility of our bodies, and reflection on the delicate nature of these medical components.

WHAT WAS INVOLVED and PPI IMPACTS

Andy Wragg facilitated patient interviews which were filmed to demonstrate an understanding of symptoms, the impacts and effect of living with and controlling severe IBS. In addition opportunities for further engagement for PPI activities were promoted.

The exhibit featured reconfigurations of two of Elpida's work:

<http://elpihv.co.uk/works/haruspex>
<http://elpihv.co.uk/works/fragility>



Making Beauty exhibit, with Andrea Bennett, Sam Warburton and Suzanne Henry

Supporting the exhibit, the BRU and the Sir Peter Mansfield MRIC provided wall mounted images alongside the main exhibits. The BRU stood an information stand offering promotional materials, from which 84 volunteer registration forms were taken. **Thirteen were returned (increasing the total number sent in to the BRU since 01/01/16 to 47). In these two months, the number of potential participants to the BRU database rose by 28%.**



NIHR NDDBRU wall mounted exhibit

The lived IBS/IBD experiences of the five PAG members (**Karen Andrews; Patricia Stanfield-Bowen; Mary Ellis; Michael Prior and Sally Taylor**) were audio-fed through a holed out cow's stomach, and via the traditional TV monitor



PAG Member Michael Prior (left) alongside the centre piece of exhibit Haruspex

Other PPI events supporting the Exhibition:

Dr Giles Major created an arts workshop with local school children using a range of models of how the gut assembles and processes food through the digestive system.

Art Workshop with Elaine Winter: 'Super Inside Me' provided an arts workshop for members of the BRU's PAG recounting previous and current experiences of living with IBS/IBD



PAG members at arts workshop, Saturday, 22nd September 2016

EVALUATION

Opportunities to deliver 'meaningful' Patient & Public Engagement are rare. This event, 15 months in the making brought together the diverse and complementary fields of science and the arts, enabling each speciality to meet and engage with people from communities that they seldom meet. There were numerous articles in scientific and arts related publications covering this event.

<https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2016/aug/07/elpida-hadzi-vasileva-making-beauty-exhibition>

<http://edition.cnn.com/2016/08/19/arts/elpida-hadzi-vasileva-making-beauty/>

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