

PRESS RELEASE

ICR AWARDS ITS FIRST CHARTERED SCIENTIST

The Institute of Clinical Research (ICR) has congratulated the first member to achieve its Chartered Scientist status at its Annual Spring Conference and Exhibition in Birmingham.

Fiona Graham, an academic research co-ordinator in research and development at Glasgow Royal Infirmary, was awarded for her achievement with a certificate at the ICR's Annual General Meeting yesterday.

With more than eight years of clinical research experience and as a Professional member of the ICR, Fiona was eligible to apply for Chartered Scientist status when the level was introduced late last year.

"Fiona's significant experience, her PhD in molecular Pharmacology and glowing references made her an ideal candidate for the Chartered Scientist status," explained Susan Ollier, chair of the ICR.

The ICR offers a range of membership levels rising on the basis of academic qualifications and relevant experience. Members start as an Affiliate or Registered Member (RICR) and follow through to Professional Member (MICR) to Fellow (FICR). This new Chartered Scientist (CSci) status is available to individual members who meet the high standards for the designation. As each member reaches a new level they are able to add the relevant designatory letters after their name and instantly convey their level of experience.

Fiona said: "I am absolutely thrilled to be awarded the Chartered Scientist status. I joined the ICR around four years ago after recommendations from colleagues and I think it is really valuable. It is through working with clinicians that I have built my career and achieved this. I am proud to support our clinical professionals in Glasgow.

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"Being a member of the ICR keeps me up to date with industry news and I've taken part in a number of training courses. The Scottish forum is particularly relevant to me. Some of the clinical research rules are different in Scotland so having our own forum is very useful."

The ICR is the largest professional clinical research body in Europe and India. Putting members first, its vision is to be internationally recognised as the premier organisation for clinical research, respected as a key influencer, promoting knowledge and understanding by engaging the healthcare community and the general public.

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Image caption: Fiona Graham was presented with her certificate by Alastair Orr from the Science Council.



About the Institute of Clinical Research (ICR)

The ICR has been in existence since 1978 and with an expanding global presence, is the largest professional clinical research body in Europe and India. Putting members first, its vision is to be internationally recognised as the premier organisation for clinical research, respected as a key influencer, promoting knowledge and understanding by engaging the healthcare community and the general public.

Each year the ICR holds two conferences; a Spring Conference in the UK and an Autumn Conference in Europe. Both events are attended by a broad range of delegates from across the pharmaceutical industry, academia and the NHS, all looking to keep up to date, make new contacts, renew old acquaintances or cement relationships.

The 2007 Autumn Conference was held on 8th and 9th November in Belgium titled ***Europe - The best place in the world to do clinical research?*** while the next Spring Conference, the largest of its kind in Europe, will be held on 8th and 9th April 2008 at the ICC in Birmingham and will focus on ***Communication in Clinical Research: Challenges in a Complex World.***