

Mr Michael Jenkinson
Consultant Neurosurgeon, The Walton Centre, Liverpool

RDS NW client video transcript

My name is Michael Jenkinson, I'm a Consultant Neuro Surgeon at the Walton Centre in Liverpool and my research interest is in brain tumours particularly in a Meningiomas.

My research project is a randomised clinical trial called ROME. It's comparing patients with atypical Meningioma who had surgery versus those who have surgery and radio therapy.

The Research Design Service North West offer a full range of services. They have a network of highly skilled professionals and in my case they put me in touch with a qualitative methodologist, Bridget Young, who brought an important element to our project looking at bias in terms of research consent for both patients and clinicians.

I'm Anne Ranard. I was case manager for Michael and his team. He sent me a draft of the application form which I critically read and came up with some feedback for him. Most crucial element was the fact that there was no patient and public involvement and I gave Michael advice on how to address that issue, including applying for an RDS North West patient and public involvement bursary. There were some other minor methodological issues; how the actual proposal was written for a lay audience. There were some ethical issues. There also needed to be a more thorough literature review.

As case manager I have accessed to other methodologists, notably a Health Economist and a Qualitative Methodologist. Their input significantly

strengthened the fundability of the project and ultimately lead to a successful application and an award of £1.3M.

I would use the Research Design Service North West again. They've put me in touch with an important Qualitative Researcher; they improved the quality of my application and ultimately they made it more fundable.

The RDS can be accessed through the RDS website and in addition to providing free support on methodology and various aspects of grant applications, we also run seminars and proposal development meetings for perspective applicants applying to funding streams.