



University of the
West of England



Public involvement in research: assessing impact through a realist evaluation

Guidance Notes and Example - Resource Diary for Members of the Public Helping Researchers

The resource diary will help us to find out more about being a member of the public helping researchers in this research project (name of project here).

We wish to ask about a **two week period**. We wish to know how much money and time were spent by you in being a member of the public helping researchers.

It may be helpful to complete the resource diary on a daily basis, however, if this is not possible and you can't remember the exact details then please just give us your best guess. If there has been no involvement in the research project during this period, please write 'none' on each day.

Typical types of activity/costs for members of the public may include:

- Attending research project team meetings
- Reading documents related to the research project
- Responding to emails related to the research project
- Attending training sessions (for yourself)
- Travelling to and from meetings
- Raising awareness of a particular medical condition/or issue at a clinical training day for nurses/doctors
- Informal meetings with research team member over coffee/tea

- Telephone conversations
- Attending academic workshops or academic conferences
- Going to the nearby library to get an internet connection
- Paying for childcare while you attend a research team meeting
- Paying for someone to care for a relative/friend while you undertake patient research partner activity
- Home help costs – while you undertake research partner activity
- Lost income, taking time off paid employment while you undertake research partner activity
- Computer printer paper/ink costs

..... and many, many more activities and costs!

Thank you for completing the enclosed Resource Diary

Example 1 - we are interested in what it costs you to be involved in this project - costs can be financial or in terms of time or other resources. An example of a resource diary used over a four day period is given below.

Week 1 - MONDAY																											
Date	Description of activity	Time taken hours/minutes	Estimate cost or other useful information																								
16/04/12	<i>Meeting with project team at local health centre (we meet every two months)</i>	<i>Spent 1 hour in meeting and 1 hour travel time Total = 2 hours</i>	<i>Travelled by car, about 5 miles each way. Petrol (£2:00) and parking costs (£5:00). Total = £7:00</i>																								
	<i>Needed to print off paperwork for meeting and read documents before meeting</i>	<i>1 hour Total = 1 hour</i>	<i>20 pages of paper printed (used home computer) – unknown cost</i>																								
<p>Q1. What would you otherwise have been doing as your main activity if you had not been undertaking patient research partner activity today? Please circle or highlight the number (just one) that best applies to you.</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 35%;"><i>Housework</i></td> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="width: 35%;"><i>Attending school/University</i></td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center;">6</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Childcare.....</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td><i>On sick leave</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">7</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Voluntary work.....</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> <td><i>Seeking work</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">8</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Leisure Activities</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td><i>Paid work</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">9</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Caring for a relative or friend</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> <td><i>Other, please specify</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">10</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"></td> <td style="text-align: center;">_____ 10</td> </tr> </table> <p>No patient research partner activity today 11</p>				<i>Housework</i>	1	<i>Attending school/University</i>	6	<i>Childcare.....</i>	2	<i>On sick leave</i>	7	<i>Voluntary work.....</i>	3	<i>Seeking work</i>	8	<i>Leisure Activities</i>	4	<i>Paid work</i>	9	<i>Caring for a relative or friend</i>	5	<i>Other, please specify</i>	10				_____ 10
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<p>Q2. Is there any other thing that you'd like to add here?</p> <p><i>I normally don't do research activity on a Monday and so needed to get someone to take my elderly aunt to the supermarket (which I do on a Monday). I bought flowers (£5) as a thank you.</i></p>																											

Week 1 - TUESDAY

Date	Description of activity	Time taken hours/minutes	Estimate cost or other useful information
17/04/12	<i>Answered some emails about being a member of the public supporting research activity</i>	<i>1 hour</i> <i>Total = 1 hour</i>	<i>Internet connection at home used – no other costs (except my time)</i>

Q1. What would you otherwise have been doing as your main activity if you had not been undertaking patient research partner activity today? Please circle or highlight the number (just one) that best applies to you.

Housework	1	Attending school/University	6
Childcare.....	2	On sick leave	7
Voluntary work.....	3	Seeking work	8
Leisure Activities	4	Paid work	9
Caring for a relative or friend	5	Other, please specify	
		_____	10

No patient research partner activity today 11

Q2. Is there any other thing that you'd like to add here?

Week 1 - WEDNESDAY

Date	Description of activity	Time taken hours/minutes	Estimate cost or other useful information
18/04/12	NONE UNDERTAKEN		

Q1. What would you otherwise have been doing as your main activity if you had not been undertaking patient research partner activity today? Please circle or highlight the number (just one) that best applies to you.

- | | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|----|
| Housework | 1 | Attending school/University | 6 |
| Childcare..... | 2 | On sick leave | 7 |
| Voluntary work..... | 3 | Seeking work | 8 |
| Leisure Activities | 4 | Paid work | 9 |
| Caring for a relative or friend | 5 | Other, please specify | |
| | | _____ | 10 |
| No patient research partner activity today 11 | | | |

Q2. Is there any other thing that you'd like to add here?

Week 1 - THURSDAY

Date	Description of activity	Time taken hours/minutes	Estimate cost or other useful information
19/04/12	<i>Training Session - Half day at the University</i>	<i>Spent 3 hours in training session and 1 hour travel time Total = 4 hours</i>	<i>Travelled by car, 4 miles each way. Petrol (£1:50) and parking costs (£7:50). Total = £10.00 Training session was free for me.</i>
	<i>Research coordinator asked to speak to me after training session</i>	Total = 30 minutes	<i>Bought tea/coffee for us both. Total = £3:40</i>

Q1. What would you otherwise have been doing as your main activity if you had not been undertaking patient research partner activity today? Please circle or highlight the number (just one) that best applies to you.

Housework	1	Attending school/University	6
Childcare.....	2	On sick leave	7
Voluntary work.....	3	Seeking work	8
Leisure Activities	4	Paid work	9
Caring for a relative or friend	5	Other, please specify	
		_____	10

No patient research partner activity today 11

Q2. Is there any other thing that you'd like to add here?

Training good, so worth attending. Nice to meet other members of the public who were doing similar things. And got a free lunch!