UK Prevention Research Partnership

Professor Dame Sally Macintyre
Background

- Increasing burden of NCDs
- Common risk factors for NCDs
- Clustering of risk factors
- Cost effectiveness of preventive strategies
- Recent capacity building in public health research
- AMS report
- NPRI review
What is UKPRP?

• Multi-funder partnership of Research Councils, Health Departments and Charities
• £40-50 million over 6-7 years
• Aim to produce robust new knowledge about implementable, cost effective, scalable, ways to improve population health and reduce inequalities in health
• Substantial long term investment to bring together a wide range of disciplines and stakeholders to build multidisciplinary teams answering big questions
• Capitalising on/developing opportunities: e.g. digital technology, ‘big data’, basic sciences
Focus

• NCDs, not infectious disease
• Common risk factors for a number of NCDs
• Solving problems rather than analysing or describing them
• Focus on systems, settings and environments
• Mental health and wellbeing as well as physical health
• Improving population health
• Reducing inequalities in health
• Improved targeting
• Costs and benefits of proposed solutions,strategies
• Studying existing and proposed new preventive strategies
Some other key features

• Disciplinary mix should be appropriate to the research question
• Stakeholder and user engagement is essential and should be appropriate to the research question
• Methodological approaches should be appropriate to the research question
• Continuous effort actively to align the interests of the funders, stakeholders and research teams
• The outcomes and value for money of the partnership will be evaluated
In summary, UKPRP will:

• fund research into the primary prevention of physical and mental NCDs
• encourage an upstream, and whole systems, approach to prevention
• provide substantial long-term investment to develop and build on basic research in a number of relevant disciplines
• build ambitious new multidisciplinary teams and researcher networks
• engage with stakeholders at every stage to produce clear answers relevant to decision makers
• capitalise on emerging digital technologies, ‘big data’ and basic science
• in order to generate useful new knowledge about how to prevent NCDs