

# **Canterbury Medical Research Foundation**

Final report for Clinical Research Training Fellowship - Nursing 2016 NFS

## **Grant recipient**

Mr ian averill Canterbury District Health Board Specialist Mental Health Service ian.averill@cdhb.health.nz 03 332 7064 18 Alderson Avenue, Murray Aynsley, Christchurch, New Zealand 8022

#### **Grant details**

GRANT TYPE Clinical Research

Training Fellowship -

Nursing

GRANT REFERENCE 2016 NFS

FUNDING ROUND 2016 CRTF GRANT AMOUNT \$40,000

# Final report

### 1. Report for the Scientific Assessing Committee

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CMRF Final Report for Ian Averill 16192.pdf

#### 2. Brief summary

This grant has allowed me to become an integral part of the research team at the University of Otago's Department of Psychological Medicine (Clinical Research Unit). It has given me the opportunity to learn much about the processes and disciplines involved in planning and conducting research involving depressed inpatients. The studies we have undertaken have involved the measurement of physical attributes and performance often affected by a Major Depressive Episode. Our objective has been to identify change in these attributes (activity levels and psychomotor speed particularly) which correspond to changes in clinical (mood) state during active treatment. In this way it is hoped that data can be accumulated to support more accurate and timely treatment response measures. Useful results were obtained during a pilot study and have since been published. A further research project using more refined measures has been planned and required approvals obtained. This study aims to identify early changes in activity levels and psychomotor speed which predict outcomes in treatment as usual compared with treatment augmented by Activation Therapy. The protocol is published and the study is now underway.

#### 3. Photographs

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## 4. Feedback