

IMI impact on patient involvement | 7 October 2021

Speaker bio



Jane Taylor

Chair of the Patient Council, IMI APPROACH project

I have spent most of my professional life in education and until having to take ill health retirement 12 years ago, was a Senior lecturer in English at Manchester Metropolitan University in the UK. I now work part-time from home for the Open University.

I have lived with different kinds of arthritis for over 30 years, having been diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis aged 26 and having gone on to develop other MSK conditions including osteoarthritis. As well as my own experience, I support and care for two close family members with a number of long term conditions.

My experiences and frustrations as both patient and carer lead me to become involved in supporting and developing good practice in co-production in medical and healthcare research. Over the last 15 years I have contributed as a volunteer to a number of initiatives in this area, working with other patients/carers, researchers and funders to ensure the patient voice is fully integrated into research.

For the last 5 years I have been chair of the Patient Council for APPROACH, an IMI funded 22 centre European study on Osteoarthritis.

I am also currently chair of Versus Arthritis Patient Insight Partners, a large group of patients/carers who help shape the research priorities of this UK charity and a trustee of ARMA, an umbrella charity for organizations supporting both patients and professionals in the area of MSK. I was a former member of the Advisory Committee for INVOLVE, which pioneered the advancement of public involvement in health and social care research in the UK.

For me having the patient voice working with researchers in a genuine shared decision making process rather than in separate spheres is central to getting the best and most impactful research outcomes to benefit everyone.