

## **The National Database of Ageing Research**

- <http://ageinfo.cpa.org.uk/research>

The Centre for Policy on Ageing is an independent organisation that concentrates on the provision and dissemination of information and data within the field of ageing. It is currently the only organisation doing this work systematically within the UK. The key to this work is AgeInfo – a unique collection of specialist databases on older age issues, produced and maintained by CPA. The Centre is currently developing an ‘information infrastructure’ on ageing and older age and an important element of this is the re-establishment of the national database of ageing research.

The National Database of Ageing Research (NDAR) is a fully comprehensive on-line resource of both research in progress and forthcoming research within the UK on all non-medical aspects of older age. It was originally established in 1955 as ‘old age: a register of social research’ and published annually for many years in directory format. This newly revised on-line database will be made available in October 2004 with the aim of keeping researchers and all those interested in issues concerned with older age informed of current research activities.

The database contents are drawn from research projects, both internally and externally funded, being carried out within a range of settings:

- academic sector
- voluntary and independent sector
- local and central government
- independent ‘think tanks’

The database is fully structured and searchable and covers all aspects of the research including: the researching organisation; title of the research; aims; a summary of findings; subject keywords; research methods used; researchers and other staff involved; funding type and funding body; budget; start/end dates and duration; research outputs including publications and whether the results and data from the research are publicly available.

The research details are collected by two methods:

- CPA information staff tracking and monitoring current research
- Registered researchers entering and editing details of their own research projects with the quality of database content being monitored by CPA.

NDAR will form part of CPA AgeInfo’s developing evidence resource on ageing and older age and will be joined by other elements such as research reviews, summaries of research and an alerting service flagging up new research projects. For further information, contact Gillian Crosby, CPA’s Director.

### **Centre for Policy on Ageing**

19-23 Ironmonger Row, London EC1V 3QP

Telephone +44 (0)20 7553 6500

Fax +44 (0)20 7553 6501

Email [cpa@cpa.org.uk](mailto:cpa@cpa.org.uk) Website [www.cpa.org.uk](http://www.cpa.org.uk)

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