Objectives This paper looks at one model of participatory research, the Researcher-in-Residence. The model places the researcher as a member of the delivery team to enable knowledge mobilisation and knowledge coproduction. We draw on recent literature on the ethics of participatory research to develop a framework that can support analysis of the ethical issues as experienced by Researchers-in-Residence. We examine several ethical issues that the researchers had to address at different points of the research process and reflect on different coping and negotiation strategies.

Methods The data that form the basis of this paper were collected iteratively as part of two different qualitative and participatory evaluations of integrated care in East London. Data for this paper consisted of the two researchers’ personal journals and field notes, including reflections from fieldwork and communication with the wider research team.

Results and conclusion We offer a critical reflection on how the four ethics principles of respect for autonomy, beneficence, non-maleficence, and justice often have different implications for researchers engaged in participatory research, particularly when examined in terms of the contrasting norms of procedural ethics and everyday ethics. In line with other literature on participatory research, we found the institutional ethics review process offered no guidance, as it forced us to jump through hoops to fit an iterative process into requirements developed with a sequential steps process in mind. The paper suggests that, whereas the requirements of ethics committees, based on an ethics of principle, at times fail to offer appropriate guidelines for this methodological approach, an ethics of caring based on relationships can offer a complementary framework to address some of the thorny challenges that emerge from everyday practice in participatory research.

013 RULES OF ENGAGEMENT: ETHICS ISSUES IN PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH

Sonia Busu, Minza Lalani, Martin Marshall, Stephen Pattison. Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester, UK; UCL, London, UK; University of Birmingham, UK

Background This paper contributes to the literature on ethics in participatory research by looking at the Researcher-in-Residence model and its application within health services research.