

East Midlands & South Yorkshire



RPI – Really Positive Involvement

We would like to take this opportunity to thank those practices in Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland that have supported the incentive scheme since April 2009. Thanks to your commitment, the scheme has been a resounding success. Just look at the statistics:

- A total of 51 LNR practices joined the scheme: 42 practices at Level 1 and nine at Level 2, with an even geographical spread.
- Between them, these practices helped to deliver 23 studies.
- By the end of March, all these practices will have met the basic requirements for their level and many will have exceeded them. For example, a Level 1 practice was expected to deliver at least one portfolio study; however the vast majority have done two or more.
- Many of the Level 1 practices went one step further and completed the RCGP's Research Ready self-accreditation scheme and/or NIHR training.
- One of the Level 2 practices went the extra mile and completed eight portfolio studies.

Each practice is supported by a Research Development Officer and a Clinical Studies Development Officer, both of whom work closely with practice staff to identify studies that meet their patients' needs. The practices are also supported by GP Facilitators – one in Northamptonshire and one in Leicester – who make themselves available to advise on practical issues.

The incentive scheme is relevant to practices that have limited or no experience in delivering research studies as well as those with a proven track record. Of the 51 practices that joined the scheme, nine had never delivered portfolio studies.

You'll be glad to hear that we plan to roll out the incentive scheme again from April, with a new name – Research Practice Initiative, or RPI. Watch your inbox for updates, or contact Janice Strand.

In the equivalent scheme in Trent, there are six practices involved in Nottinghamshire, two in Bassetlaw, six in Lincolnshire and three in Derbyshire.

To find out about Sessional Funding in Trent and the Cutler Group in South Yorkshire, please get in touch with your Locality Manager.

Co-ordinating Centre

Louise Young

Network Manager

Andy Wilson

Clinical Lead

Judy Martin

Office Manager

Najma Vayani

Assistant Management Accountant

Denise Butler

Information Officer

Sally Tipper

Communications Officer

c/o NHS Leicester City
6th floor, St John's House
30 East Street
Leicester LE1 6NB

Locality Managers

Leics, Northants and Rutland

Janice Strand

E: janice.strand@emsy.nhs.uk

T: 0116 295 1589

M: 07825 316269

Trent

Nathalie Bailey-Flitter

E: nathalie.bailey-flitter@nottspct.nhs.uk

T: 01623 673317

M: 07825 316291

South Yorkshire

Michelle Horspool

E: michelle.horspool@shsc.nhs.uk

T: 0114 271 8804

M: 07814 867370

studies in progress

Reeact

REEACT is a randomised trial investigating usual care versus computerised CBT for people with depression. The study also aims to establish the clinical and cost-effectiveness of the addition of computerised CBT to usual GP care over a two-year follow-up period.

The trial is up and running locally at 16 GP practices across Sheffield,

Barnsley and North Derbyshire. The first participant entered the study in September 2009 and 17 participants have been recruited so far. Our target is 150 participants by May 2011 (approximately 10 per practice). For participants, we offer a quick follow-up to GP referral. We aim to contact participants within two days and then we do our best to make appointments suit participants' needs.

The study team has had great support from Michelle Horspool, PCRN EMSY Locality Manager for South Yorkshire, and many GPs have been contacted and brought on board thanks to her efforts.

For further information, contact Michelle (details on front page) or local researcher Diane Lee on 0114 222 0843 or d.lee@sheffield.ac.uk.

reeact

The SCOT Trial



SCOT
The Standard care versus
Celecoxib Outcome Trial



SCOT is a large streamlined safety study designed to compare the cardiovascular safety of celecoxib versus traditional non-selective Non Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drug (NSAID) therapy

Funders	Chief Investigator	Principal Investigator
University of Dundee and Pfizer	Prof Tom McDonald (University of Dundee)	Prof Chris Hawkey (University of Nottingham)

Participants: Pain and inflammation in osteoarthritis or rheumatoid arthritis patients (>60 years) who are free from ischaemic heart disease, cerebrovascular disease, peripheral arterial disease, and moderate or severe heart failure.

Background: NSAIDs are widely prescribed to relieve discomfort in arthritis. However, they can sometimes cause side-effects such as irritation of the lining of the stomach, which can lead to ulcers. Stomach problems due to NSAIDs are the most common

serious side-effect reported for any group of drugs.

Celecoxib/'Celebrex' is one of a newer group of drugs within the NSAID family that have gained wide use, as they are associated with a lower incidence of stomach problems. This trial will compare the strategies of continuing with current NSAID therapy or switching to celecoxib therapy in the normal patient care setting of the NHS.

For information, please contact Nathalie Bailey-Flitter (details on front page).

Ready, Willing and Able

Research Ready is a two-part online self-accreditation process, developed by the Royal College of General Practitioners in conjunction with the NIHR Clinical Research Network and the Primary Care Research Networks.

It is a basic entry guideline to primary care research in England, which signifies a practice's up-to-date knowledge of the standards needed to undertake research and the physical facilities required to successfully comply with research demands based on the latest research governance frameworks.

PCRN EMSY is now dedicating resources, including backfill, to help you gain accreditation by working closely with your practice managers/research lead to answer any questions you have, and to reduce the time the accreditation process can take if you are unfamiliar with it.

Further information about Research Ready can be found on the RCGP website (www.rcgp.org.uk then follow the Clinical Innovation and Research Centre link), or from your local PCRN EMSY contact.

studies in progress

The Pathway Studies



**University of
Leicester**

Pathway is a programme of three hypertension studies running in Leicester and Leicestershire, funded by the British Heart Foundation.

Pathway 1 looks at whether patients who are randomised to receive combination therapy to control hypertension achieve better blood pressure control, as compared to the patients who are randomised to receive monotherapy.

Pathway 2 tests the hypothesis that the most common cause of resistant hypertension is sodium retention and that further diuretics will be superior to other potential medication. The study involves patients with inadequate hypertension control, despite being prescribed the drug regimen recommended by NICE, at the highest tolerated or maximum recommended dosage.

Pathway 3 aims to determine whether a potassium sparing diuretic will improve glucose tolerance in patients with hypertension and at least one other component of the metabolic syndrome.

For more information, please contact Janice Strand.

DRN 262 Guidance



**University of
Leicester**

Guidance aims to assess and compare the quality of care of people with type 2 diabetes in eight European countries including England & Wales, specifically looking at levels of adherence to guideline recommendations.

An additional aim is to identify and understand physician and patient barriers to the implementation of guidelines for the management of type 2 diabetes. Patients will be recruited either at the time of the retinal screening service visit to the practice or during diabetes review clinics. Patients and GPs who agree to participate will be asked to complete a short questionnaire.

**For more information, please contact
Brian Mayahle on 0116 295 1172 email: brian.mayahle@emsy.nhs.uk
or Janice Wiseman on 01522 513355 ext 5485
email: janice.wiseman@lpct.nhs.uk**



Claim Your Costs

If you have recently participated in a study, then your practice might be eligible for service support costs. These costs are paid in order to provide an infrastructure that will enable research activity to take place, for example, covering for administrative time, and it's crucial that the money is claimed.

In order to do this, invoices should be sent to PCRN EMSY at the following address:

Shared Business Services
FAO Louise Young
NHS Leicester City
5PC Payables 6955
Phoenix House
Topcliffe Lane
Wakefield WF2 1WE

If you have any queries regarding service support costs and whether your practice is eligible to claim this funding, please contact Louise Young (0116 295 8096, louise.young@emsy.nhs.uk) or Najma Vayani (0116 295 1119, najma.vayani@leicestercity.nhs.uk).

further afield

Given the opportunity, Allied Health Professionals are very well placed to play an invaluable role in PCRN research, in a variety of settings. Here, two radiographers share their experience of clinical trials. To find out more about the work AHPs can undertake in research, please see our website, www.pcrn-emsy.org.uk.

Leading the Way

In January 2001, the first dedicated clinical research radiographer post was created by the Radiotherapy Services Manager and funded by the Northern Ireland Cancer

Clinical Trials Unit to lead in the development of a radiation oncology trials portfolio in Belfast.

There were 1,810 patients screened for radiation oncology trials from January 2001 to November 2009, with 481 patients recruited into 19 studies for cancer sites. The success of radiation oncology trial recruitment in Belfast led to the appointment in November 2007 of a second clinical research radiographer.



In August 2008, the first radiographer-led study was opened. Lead Clinical Research Radiographer Sharon Hynds, as Principal Investigator, developed a multi-professional study protocol, secured funding and successfully recruited 30 patients.

Sharon Hynds
Lead Clinical Research Radiographer



A Whole New World

The past two years in which I have been a research radiographer have been challenging and rewarding. With no predecessor to guide me, and with not very much experience in the world of research and clinical trials, I have had to carve and define my role.

Being a radiographer trials co-ordinator gives me the advantage of being able to follow the patients through from recruitment to completion of their radiotherapy treatment. My background also allows me to have a better understanding of the radiotherapy-based trials.

Stepping into the world of clinical trials co-ordination means a whole new world has opened up to me, and having to step well out of my comfort zone has pushed me to learn new things.

Anne-Maree Thoi
Research Radiographer

new recruits

Sarah Nutbrown
Research Nurse
sarah.nutbrown@doncasterpct.nhs.uk

Rachel Hobson
Research Development Officer
rachel.hobson@emsy.nhs.uk

Denise Butler
Information Officer
denise.butler@emsy.nhs.uk

For more information about PCRN EMSY, our research portfolio and our staff, please visit our website, www.pcrn-emsy.org.uk.