

Welcome to the autumn 2023 edition of the MARCH trial newsletter!

As we enter our 20th month of recruitment, the MARCH trial family has grown even larger with the opening of 4 new sites:

Glan Clywd Hospital

University College London Hospital

Birmingham Heartlands Hospital; Good Hope Hospital

Sandwell General Hospital

We're grateful for the efforts of the teams locally to reach green light, and wish you all the best with the study!

Recruitment

Huge congratulations to the teams at **Derriford Hospital** and **Sunderland Royal Hospital** for recruiting our **700th** and **800th** participants! We are getting closer and closer to **the halfway point** (978).

Well done to our top recruiters so far:

Royal Stoke University Hospital	80
Bristol Royal Infirmary	58
Belfast City Hospital; RVH	42
Aintree Hospital	35
Freeman; RVI	34

Multiple sites have now recruited over 20 participants - we hope you enjoyed your Ooh & Aah cookies!



Mechanistic Study

Rewards are on offer for collection of sputum samples for this EME-funded study led by Prof Cliff Taggart - will you be this month's '**Cliff's Champions**'??

Some MARCH Reminders...

Confirmation of Eligibility

Eligibility confirmation is **Task 4** on the delegation log — this can only be completed by a **physician** who is listed on the delegation log.

Telephone Consent

Must be **witnessed by a second member of staff** and the telephone agreement form **countersigned**. This witness does not have to be on the delegation log.

Pregnancy Exclusion Criterion

All **women of childbearing age (15–55)** must have a pregnancy test performed, (serum or urine) **before recruitment**, and pregnant patients excluded. It is a **protocol deviation** if a test is not completed and documented.

IMP Continuation

If the treating clinician decides to continue the IMP(s) **post-primary outcome**, it must be documented **in the medical notes**. If continued in error, or not documented, this is a protocol deviation.

Dates for your Diary

Investigator Meetings: Thanks to your feedback, we have reduced our Investigator Meetings to 45 min and introduced monthly topics, join us on:

- **Fri 13th Oct** 14:00-14:45
- **Wed 11th Nov** 11:00-11:45
- **Wed 13th Dec** 11:00-11:45

Data Management Drop-In Sessions: Bring your Data Entry queries to this informal lunchtime meeting with our Data Manager, Una: Holmes

- **Tues 17th Oct** 12:00-12:30

Joining details to follow via email

Spotlight on Royal Stoke

This month, we caught up with **Michelle Davies** at our top recruiting site, Royal Stoke University Hospital, to learn more about their secrets to success on the MARCH trial.



L-R: Michelle and Minnie with their MARCH treats

Involve the physio team in screening e.g. handover sheet with eligibility criteria listed • Encourage participation in API Scheme • Difficult to clear secretions identified via key terms on physio notes • Patients prescribed normal saline flagged for screening.

Communication is key • Highlight eligibility criteria at research meetings • Involve those who usually prescribe mucoactives e.g. ACCPs • Link with bedside nurses.

Reassure relatives • The study uses drugs that are routinely prescribed locally already • Present study as a 'gathering of information'.

Share the love. Nominate local research stars. • Distribute treats amongst all teams involved, including non-research staff.

Meet the MARCH team: Jenny

"Hi Everyone, I'm Jenny, one of the Clinical Trial Coordinators on MARCH. Hope you have all had a good summer? I had a coastal summer with Hedgehog, owls and kittens. Long story..."

