

## Happy MARCH month 2024!



As we enter our 26<sup>th</sup> month of recruitment, a big **thank-you** to all site teams for your efforts

**Celebrate** with us by sending through **MARCH** themed photos.

**Welcome** new sites:  
Wrexham Maelor, Yeovil District Hospital, QE Birmingham, Bedford Hospital, Torbay Hospital, University Hospital Monklands, Royal Free Hospital London

We wish you all the best with the study!

### Recruitment

Huge congratulations to  
 the team at **Royal Stoke** for recruiting their **100<sup>th</sup>** recruit,  
 **Royal Preston** recruiting the **1300<sup>th</sup>** participant!

Site	Participants
Royal Stoke University Hospital	100
Bristol Royal Infirmary	92
Belfast City Hospital; RVH	60
King's College Hospital	55
Guy's and St Thomas'	53


For the competitive teams out there!  
Well done to our top recruiters - **wouldn't it be great if each site could recruit at least 1 participant every month to the finishing point.**


### Mechanistic Study


Rewards are given to recognise the additional work involved in collection of sputum samples for this EME-funded study led by Prof Cliff Taggart - will you be one of this month's 'Cliff's Champions'?


### Some MARCH Reminders...

 **MACRO: no patient names please**

 **Amendment 18: Please send in Protocol v3 R&U logs and updated delegation logs**

 **Randomisation Form: an additional question on pregnancy testing has been added to complete**

 **Clarification that the start of unassisted breathing does not always coincide with extubation**

 **Hospital discharge: please record on MACRO as soon as possible**

### Dates for your Diary

**Investigator Meetings:** Join us on:

- **Wed 24<sup>th</sup> Apr 13:00-13:45**
- **Tues 14<sup>th</sup> May 14:00-14.45**
- **Mon 24<sup>th</sup> June 14:00-14:45**

**NIHR Research Learning Lectures:**

*Health Economics in Clinical Trials*

- **Wed 26<sup>th</sup> Apr 13:00-14:00**

Dr Caroline Clarke (MRC Clinical Trials Unit UCL)  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/research-learning-lectures-tickets-472469798887>



### Meet the MARCH team:

*Ashley is the Senior Health Economist at the NICTU and is leading on the cost-effectiveness analysis and the SWAT (study within a trial) for MARCH. She has worked at the CTU for 17 years! Fun fact: Ashley loves to crochet and talk about crochet to anyone that will listen!*

### MARCH -to- MARCH

In March 2024, The Royal Free Hospital London opened to recruitment. The staff took an opportunity to ask 'egg-experienced' David Shaw at the Royal Liverpool University Hospital, which opened in March 2022, some important study questions about taking part in the MARCH trial.



L-R: Francesca Gowing, Sharon Augustt, Sint Sint

• **"How do you determine whether an antibiotic was solely for a pulmonary infection? What if it is given to treat multiple infections?"**

*I think the easiest way is to confirm this with the treating clinicians or microbiologists.*

• **"What are your biggest recruitment challenges?"**

*I think that one of the biggest recruitment challenges we had, certainly at the start of the study, was defining what is classed as difficult to clear secretions, as there can be differences from person to person. We have for sometime now involved the physiotherapists and had a physiotherapist as an API for the study which has certainly helped.*

• **"For an afternoon pick-me-up, is it a Crème egg or a Maltesers bunny with tea?"**

*After a discussion of the pros and cons for each followed by a vote in the office, Malteser bunnies won the vote.....but it was vey close!*

