



The On-line Membership Registration System has gone live!!!!

The NIHR TMN Online Membership system has gone live - on time in December 2011. There is information inside this issue about making the most of your online membership experience and of course in February next year we will be officially asking you for your feedback in the annual evaluation survey. Don't be shy, if you want to share any comments with us now about the website or anything else that we are working on, do please get in touch. Please remember this is your network, your website — and we want it to be on your favourites bar!!!

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We are even bigger!

In the last issue we reported that we had 340 registered members on the network. We have now got 373 and rising.

Do make sure to tell any new Trial Managers' joining your departments about the existence of this network. Again—we would like to thank our funder for their proactive support with the NIHR TMN Project.



The Second Oversight Group Meeting

The Oversight group of the NIHR TMN met in London on 25th November to be updated on all that has been achieved so far this year and to give us support and guidance for the future development of the network. We are pleased and encouraged to report to you that they were very happy with the progress to date. The next major launch milestone to be delivered to the network will be the newly updated Efficient Guide to Trial Management. Many of our members have already been supportive in the redrafting stage of the update and we have had people volunteering their services to help out with the final review stage. The OSG have requested that we set up a formal editorial panel to oversee the final stage and we are now in the process of inviting people to join this panel. As a result of these changes the finalised Guide will be available online for our members in July 2012.

The launch of the Public area of the Website was delivered on time and as you have already read—the Online Membership System went live on the 6th December. The final phase of the website project will be the NIHR TMN Forum section which will be launched in 2012.

News Items



The MHRA has recently launched a GCP forum and FAQs. The forum has been created

as a tool to help those involved in clinical trials of Investigational Medicinal Products to comply with the clinical trials legislation and GCP requirements. It provides the ideal opportunity for extended communication between researchers and allows users to put forward their comments and get 'real-life' examples of ways in which they can manage robust quality procedures that ensure compliance and which dovetail with their own business needs and resources.

This forum should not be used for direct questions to the GCP Inspectorate/Clinical Trials Unit, reporting serious breaches or making formal complaints. These should follow the formal routes that are already in place.

Please read the [Good Clinical Practice \(GCP\) Forum introduction and rules](#) before posting on this forum.

To register and access the forum, please click [here](#)

NETS Annual Review Report

The NIHR TMN got a small mention in the NETS Annual Review Report on page 5. There is also so much of interest for trialists to read in this publication so please take a minute to have a look.

http://www.netscc.ac.uk/about/pdfs/nets_annual_review_201011.pdf

Feedback from the last Issue

Tim Skelton has been in touch following upon reading John Warden's article about bespoke databases.

He states that in Leicester they are involved in a JISC funded project to deliver a standard set of research tools using open source software, these include tools for:

- Patient registration and participation to trials
- LIMS
- Electronic CRF / data capture
- Research database for building patient cohorts

The tools will be made available via the 'cloud' in a format that will enable people to 'download and run' via the academic network JANET.

Further details can be found here:

<http://www2.le.ac.uk/offices/itservices/resources/cs/psoproject-websites/brisskit/brisskit>

Visit to Nottingham CTU



What a happy bunch of researchers! Members of Nottingham CTU with Leila Duley at the helm (front row third from left)

I recently visited the Nottingham CTU with my colleague Saeeda Bashir, Coordinator of the UKCRC—Registered CTU Networks. The Nottingham CTU is based within the Queen's Medical Centre Hospital and has just moved in to purpose built offices, looking very smart indeed. The CTU is provisionally registered with the Network.

We were warmly welcomed by their recently appointed Director, Professor Leila Duley, who I had not seen for many years, in fact we were last seen stood together next to our respective posters of our trials at a conference in Birmingham trying to attract new centres!!! Mine for GRIT (Growth Restriction Intervention Trial) and Leila's for the MAGPIE trial (a randomised trial comparing magnesium sulphate with placebo for women with pre-eclampsia)—happy days. Leila introduced us to her team of over 30 staff and showed us around their new offices. We gave a presentation on both the NIHR TMN and the UKCRC Network, answering questions and encouraging them to utilise the networks for support.

One of the CTUs leading studies which has just completed its recruitment phase is A multi-centre randomised controlled trial of rehabilitation aimed at improving outdoor mobility for people after stroke (TOMAS). 42% of people with stroke say that they cannot get out of the house as much as they would like. In this context "Getting out of the house" is not just about improving physical mobility but about confidence, motivation and self-belief. People are prevented from using transport and walking outside by a lack of appropriate information, physical limitations and a fear of falling. As a result researchers have developed an outdoor mobility therapy, with visits from a rehabilitation therapist, designed to help people getting out of the house after stroke. However, they still do not know whether this new method is any better than the current method (provision of verbal and written information about local travel and transport options) at improving outdoor mobility. The aim of this study is to answer this. Long term, if the new rehabilitation was shown to be successful researchers would hope it would become standard care.

Expertise and services available:

- Trial design and protocol development
- CT-IMP trials
- Pragmatic trials
- Complex interventions
- Preparation of grant applications
- Ethics and R&D support
- Trial set up
- Trial management
- Randomisation service
- Database systems
- Data management
- Statistical support

For more information on Nottingham CTU visit:

<http://ctu.nottingham.ac.uk/ctu/default.asp>

Portfolio:

Trials in set-up

GOUT: Funding: Arthritis Research UK

35–39 trial: Funding: NIHR RfPB

VCT: Visual cues for gait training post-stroke

Funding: NIHR RfPB

WORK-IA: Work Rehabilitation in Inflammatory Arthritis

Funding: Arthritis Research UK

Trials open for recruitment

BLISTER: Bullous pemphigoid steroids and tetracyclines study
NIHR HTA

HEELS: Fibreglass casts for heel ulcers in diabetes

Funding: NIHR HTA

LIMIT: Effect of Topical Imiquimod on Lentigo Maligna

Funding: NIHR RfPB

MIBS: Mesalazine for the treatment of Irritable Bowel Syndrome

Funding: MRC EME

PEPS: Psychoeducation and problem solving - effects on social

functioning. Funding: NIHR HTA

ASFOOD: Systematic Evaluation

of Aspirin and Fish Oil Polyp Prevention Trial. Funding: MRC

EME

STOP GAP: Study of Treatments for Pyoderma Gangrenosum

Patients. Funding: NIHR Programme grant for applied health re-

search

TOMAS: Getting out of the house. Funding: NIHR HTA

Getting the most out of the New Website.

The new NIHR TMN website is a strange new environment. Having registered on line and agreed to the Terms and Conditions and the Privacy Policy, you are now a member and we want you to get the most out of the site. We all know the value of networking, but doing that online can be daunting at times. So, here are some simple guidelines that may help you to get started.

Add your **photograph** (optional) and introduce yourself via your profile. This is the way colleagues will find you, or find out more about you. If you don't write a little about who you are and what you do, then it's unlikely that anyone will link to you unless they already know you. Your profile is one of your most important resources on the website. It is your opportunity to showcase your skills and experience to other members - if you want to, that is!

Update your profile— you can access this area in the "Manage Profile" link and then "Edit Bio" in "Information and Settings".

You can also add up to 10 additional personal pages to your profile via the "Pages" link under the "Content and Features" menu on the home page, or any of the other pages, all information needed to manage your profile, set your preferences and renew your membership are on the right side of the page under the "Manage Profile " menu.

Add links to your profiles on other social network sites (e.g. LinkedIn, Twitter), which extends your access to other professionals and lets others access yours (optional). Click on "Networks" under the Manage Profile, Content and Features

Set up your preferences - this will allow you to control the flow of emails and filter the communications as per your requirements. You also have a lot of control over how much information to make available to others and how you would like to be contacted. However, you create greater professional development opportunities by actively participating, balanced, of course, by your individual desire for privacy.

Find colleagues and connect/link with them/follow them. Perhaps you have met someone at this year's Annual Meeting but did not manage to exchange details. Put their name in the community search and hit enter to bring a list of all members with this name. Access the relevant profile and send a connection request. Look for the Connect icon  under their name.

Connections- this is where you may choose to connect to selected members (similar to Facebook) that provides more messaging options (number indicates how many new requests you have received from people who want to connect with you). More help on how to use this feature is available via the 'help' question mark icon within connections. And remember you can use the community search to look for colleagues working in the same town/university (e.g. type Oxford) or expertise (type cancer, stroke, CTIMPs etc.) . The icon  **Online Now!** shows that your connection is online and you can even initiate a live chat. Please do use this feature responsibly.

Favourites - list of NIHR TMN website pages you have designated as your favourites, which speeds your access (no need to navigate through the menu). These can include any custom page on the site (designated by clicking the star at the top of the page. Members may designate categories into which to group their personal favourites.

Refer a friend- share with eligible colleagues the opportunity to join and contribute to the NIHR TMN community. If you invite someone to the NIHR TMN, when they join make sure you welcome them and introduce them to the network.

Post Trial Management Jobs - As a member of the network you can view and post directly to the NIHR TMN Career Hub ensuring that your new job vacancy will be noticed by a large body of experienced Trial Managers.

Please Note: Considerable thought has gone into creating this website, but it is not complete. We will release additional features and content and make improvements as we hear from our members and continue to strive to improve your online experience with the NIHR TMN.



Ho Ho Ho!!!

Enjoy the festive season with some humour from the [institute of clinical research](#)

Some interesting facts for your Christmas Quiz

Did you know that?

- It is estimated that up to a quarter of all clinical trials end because of a lack of volunteers.
- The MHRA issues about 1,100 licences every year for clinical trials - of these, about 300 are for phase I studies, involving healthy volunteers
- On average it takes circa 10 – 12 years and £500 million to develop a major new medicine, about 60% of which is spent on clinical trials
- UK pharmaceutical R&D is second only to the US in discovering the world's most successful medicines.
- A quarter of the global top 100 medicines originated in Britain.
- 12 out of the top 25 medicines prescribed by GP's on the NHS are British

Source - <http://www.entertrials.co.uk/medical-trials-stats>

Job Opportunities

Senior Trials Manager,

University College London, Research Department of Infection (Centre for Clinical Microbiology), UCL Division of Infection and Immunity

Salary £39,668 to £46,822 inclusive of London Allowance

Closing Date 6 January 2012

[Click here](#)

Clinical Trials Manager (two posts)

University of Oxford - Department of Primary Care Health Sciences

Salary Grade 7: £29,099 - £35,788 p.a.

Closing Date 9 January 2012

[Click here](#)

Clinical Research Fellow

University of Oxford - UKCRC Oxford Respiratory Trials Unit (ORTU)

Salary: Grade E64: £30,992 - £49,670 p.a.

Closing Date 3rd January 2012

[Click here](#)

Project Manager for the DUTY Research Study

University of Bristol - School of Social and Community Medicine

Salary: £39,107 - £44,016 (depending on experience)

Closing date 17 Jan 2012

[Click here](#)

We update jobs weekly—so to search for more jobs – please visit our [website](#)

Send us your feedback

Please continue to send us your views and suggestions for improvements. We look forward to hearing from you with any information that you would like to share with your colleagues through this Newsletter.

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