

Network Update

Issue 3 January 2008



The TV DLRN is a partnership of GP practices and hospitals in the Thames Valley, Coventry and Warwickshire area that have a mutual interest in research in diabetes and have come together to offer a high quality, high performance research environment. The Network provides benefits to patients by rapidly testing new ideas and treatments. We offer clinical support from a team of fully trained research nurses minimising the workload of partner centres. Partners in the network will also have access to extensive training and development opportunities through the UKDRN and UKCRN.

New Network Studies

The **SAMS 2** study is piloting the use of a blister pack recording device to measure tablet taking behaviour in patients with type 2 diabetes. The study is currently recruiting patients from two general practices in the Milton Keynes area.

The following studies are currently being set up:
ICCD – Evaluation of Intermediate Care Clinics for Diabetes. This will be conducted across Coventry and North Warwickshire.

AddIT – Adolescent Type 1 Diabetes Intervention Trial. A national study being conducted locally in Oxford and Reading.

Update on ongoing Studies

The **Telemedicine Support Study** and **YDX Study** are both continuing to recruit well.

The **4T Study**, **SAMS** and **HEELA study** have all completed recruitment and are continuing to follow up patients.

The **ASCEND** study (A Study of Cardiovascular Events in Diabetes) continues to recruit from practices across Buckinghamshire, with three now actively involved with the Study and a number expressing interest. Karen McNicholas and Penny Parsons will be rolling ASCEND out across Coventry and Warwickshire over the next few months.

For a full list of studies on the local portfolio please visit our page on the UKDRN website www.ukdrn.org.

News from across the Network

Dr Ian Gallen, consultant diabetologist at Wycombe Hospital, has been awarded the Davenport Award by Buckinghamshire Hospitals NHS Trust. The award is designed to promote, facilitate and celebrate research within the Trust. Dr Gallen was presented the award to support his collaborative work on diabetes and sports with Brunel University's School of Sports Science.

Staying in **Buckinghamshire**, the TV DLRN had a stand at a patient Diabetes Education meeting in Chalfont St. Peter on 12th January. 70 people attended the meeting and there was considerable interest shown in diabetes research and the role of the DRN. 46 DRN patient information leaflets were taken away and already several have been completed and returned by patients agreeing to be contacted for research.

If you are planning an event locally and would like a member of the team to attend to help raise awareness about diabetes research, then please let us know.

ADDRESS – After Diagnosis Diabetes REsearch Support System

ADDRESS is the UKDRN infrastructure being developed to consent patients newly diagnosed with type 1 diabetes to be contacted about future research studies. There are six sites across the Network that have now agreed to take part. Regulatory approvals are currently being sought for each of the sites with the start of recruitment planned for early February.

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Primary Care Update Meeting

The TV DLRN hosted a Primary Care Update Meeting at the Culham Conference Centre near Abingdon on Tuesday 4th December 2007. The meeting was attended by around 40 GPs and Practice Nurses who received presentations from Dr Andrew Farmer (TVDLRN Clinical Lead), Dr Eleanor Kennedy (Project Manager, DRN) and Dr Jonathan Levy (Consultant in Diabetes, Oxford).

The Network is planning a similar meeting in **Coventry on Friday 29th February**. The meeting will take place at Warwick University with speakers including Dr Tim Holt and Dr Paul O'Hare. Places are limited so for further information or to book a place please contact Julie Allen.

New Partner Sites and Principal Investigators

We would like to welcome the following sites and investigators to the Network:

Hospital of St Cross

Dr Paul O'Hare

George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust

Dr Ponnusamy Saravanan

South Warwickshire Hospitals NHS Trust

Dr Jyoti Sidhu

Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals NHS Trust

Dr Maggie Hammersley, Dr Victor Chong

Westongrove Research Centre

Dr Rory Reed

Team Changes

Karen McNicholas joined the team in November and will be working across Coventry and North Warwickshire on a full time basis.

Annette Williams has been promoted to the post of senior research nurse.

A full time research nurse to work across Berkshire has been appointed along with a full time clinical trials officer to work Network wide.

The part time research nurse post to work across Milton Keynes is currently being advertised with a closing date of Friday 8th February. For further information, please contact Sharon Parsons.

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