Network Update

Issue 1 June 2007

DRN
Diabetes Research Network
Thames Valley LRN

Welcome to the first edition of Network Update, the quarterly newsletter from the Thames Valley Diabetes Local Research Network. In this first edition we briefly set out the objectives of the Network and introduce you to the Team. We also outline some of the studies we are currently involved in.

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 will provide benefits to patients by rapidly testing new ideas and treatments. We will 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.

Current Network Studies

SAMS - Support and Advice for Medication Study

The SAMS study is running in 13 GP practices across Oxfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Milton Keynes and Essex. Eight of the practices are currently recruiting participants, whilst 5 have completed the recruitment phase of the study. The Thames Valley Diabetes LRN is supporting recruitment in the Milton Keynes area.

To date, 244 patients have agreed to participate in the study with 170 of those already enrolled. Twenty five participants have completed the study. Recruitment is expected to continue until the end of July.

ASCEND - A Study of Cardiovascular Events in Diabetes

The ASCEND study has been running in the UK through the secondary care setting since 2005 and has recently started recruiting through Primary Care with the help of the UKDRN. The Thames Valley Diabetes LRN was the first LRN to help support recruitment to the ASCEND study, before the collaboration was extended throughout the country. We are currently supporting recruitment to the study across Oxfordshire and have assisted in mailing information packs out to over 1000 patients from 14 GP Practices.

HEELA – An open label, randomised, two arm parallel trial designed to compare insulin glargine with exenatide in patients with cardiovascular risk factors treated with oral anti diabetic agents.

Within the Thames Valley Diabetes LRN, the HEELA study, sponsored by Lilly, is currently recruiting across Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire.

For further information on the UKDRN portfolio please visit www.ukdrn.org

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