

# Bristol Study Centre

# NEWSLETTER

www.dutystudy.org.uk

Issue 8

February 2011

## DUTY staff update

We are pleased to announce that Liz Thomas, Bristol centre DUTY Research Nurse, has been promoted to WCLRN Senior Paediatric Research Nurse. Liz will continue to support the DUTY study, and we will shortly be advertising for one or more Research Nurses to complete the Bristol centre team.

Julie Cunningham and Chris Soper have joined the team as Option 1 recruiters supporting GP practices in Cornwall. Welcome!

## How are we doing?

At the end of January over **800** patients had been recruited by practices supported by the Bristol study centre, with **urine samples** for **92%** of DUTY children. This is fantastic! The Bristol centre is still significantly ahead of our local target, while the study as a whole is well on target with over **1670** recruits.

## Warm wishes from the DUTY team

We hope this newsletter finds you well and keeping out of the winter cold. Thanks to all of your efforts, the DUTY study recruited brilliantly over Christmas and New Year, and we are gearing up for a new push on recruitment as new practices join us in Cornwall, Gloucestershire, Cumbria and Lancashire, Bath and Swindon. In this issue we're delighted to have an interview with Jane Bridger, Network Manager for PCRN SW and experienced researcher. Also, don't miss the update on the importance of the Cardiff research samples on the next page.



## Introducing Dr Jane Bridger, PCRN SW Network Manager



**Q.:** What role do you play in the study?

**A.** I have been involved with DUTY from early days, providing support to the study team on developing materials and discussing recruitment issues. As PCRN (SW) Manager in the Bristol office and now Interim Network Manager for PCRN(SW), I continue to support the roll out of the study across the South West, encouraging hubs and practices to take part.

**Q.** How might the DUTY study help you in the future?

**A.** The DUTY study is important as it can help to develop further research capacity in the South West.

**Q.** What do you think are the main challenges for the study?

**A.** Keeping up with the interest shown in taking part in the study by practices is a challenge, and making sure that as far as possible any interested practice has the opportunity to take part.

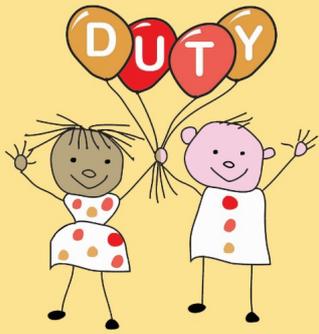
**Q.** What is your top tip for successful recruitment?

**A.** Having two options for engagement means that those with less resource can still take part through Option 1, and as practices become more confident in their research activity or have capacity through existing infrastructure or systems, they feel able to be more autonomous and take on Option 2.

**Q.** What is your favourite holiday destination?

**A.** I am hoping to go back to Oman this year, where I was teaching a post graduate nephrology programme for over 5 years, returning to the UK in 2002. This was the first post graduate education for nurses in the country. It is a beautiful country and I look forward to catching up with friends and past students.

**Recruiting sites update:** DUTY is now recruiting in over 50 practices supported by the Bristol study centre, ranging from Cornwall to Cumbria. Liz Thomas, the full-time DUTY Senior Research Nurse, is able to support up to 2 Option 1 sites in Bristol at any one time and provides support and mentoring for all Option 2 recruitment. **Option 2 is reimbursed at £100 per patient, and Option 1 at £60 per patient.**



## QUICK QUIZ

Although we don't have a quiz this month, here for your enlightenment are the answers from last month. Well done to Judith Edwards and Christine Hobson who win a box of DUTY treats.

1. **The *E. coli* naturally present in our guts produce significant amounts of Vitamin K.** TRUE.
2. **The name *Escherichia* comes from the Greek word meaning "with tails".** FALSE. It comes from the name of the person who first isolated and characterised the bacterium – Escherich in 1885.
3. **The bacterial version of sex (conjugation) occurs only between the same bacterial species.** FALSE. It has long been believed that mating or conjugation only occurs between members of the same bacterial species. This has recently been contradicted by research that reported a high degree of cross-species mating.

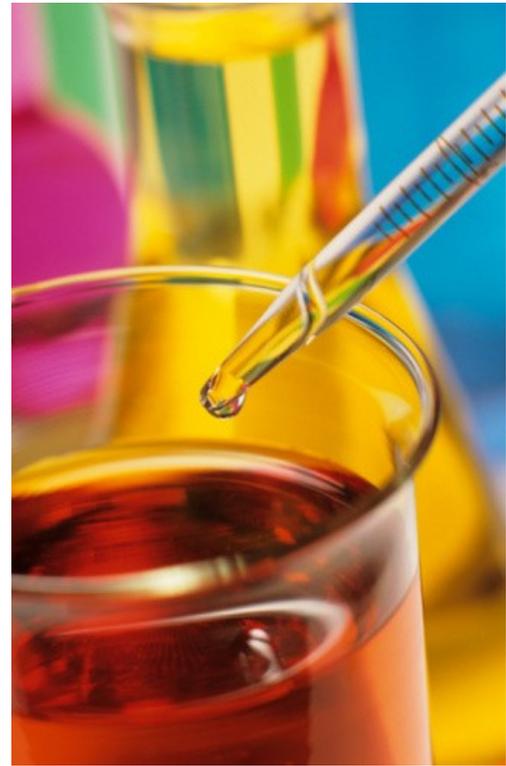
## Cardiff research samples

We now think that the research sample may play an equally important role in the development of our clinical decision rule as the NHS lab results, and possibly even more so. We therefore need you all to **send research samples to Cardiff, for all DUTY recruits where possible**. It's so important that from this summer onwards the payment of full SSCs may be linked to a minimum 90% return rate for NHS samples and an 85% return rate for SACU research samples. In other words, to be reimbursed for recruiting children for whom a urine sample is not obtained, your site will need to maintain an NHS rate of 90% and a SACU rate of 85%. If one rate falls below this, reimbursements will only be made for recruits with urines. Hope that makes sense!

### You only need a tiny amount of urine for these samples:

the minimum volume for NHS labs is 2mls. The Cardiff lab needs this amount as well but even if you just have 1ml, it is worth sending. Here is a quick reminder of the process:

1. Prepare your NHS sample as you normally would. Generally NHS samples can be successfully processed with as little as 2ml of urine. Please follow local guidelines.
2. Draw up to 10ml of urine into the monovette as per instructions in your study manual. Even if you have a borderline amount of urine such as over 1.5ml but less than 2ml please still send the sample.
3. Put the monovette into the clear mailing container with the padding.
4. Put the mailing container into the blue plastic Royal Mail Safebox along with the Cardiff requisition form. You can put two samples into one safebox but never delay sending if you only have one sample for that day. If any of your safeboxes have silver wrappers inside, please discard these.
5. Post to Cardiff as soon as you can, ideally the same day as recruitment. **THANK YOU!**



## Have you got our new contact details?

Our new address (on the website, and on all paperwork issued from now on) is: **The DUTY Study, Academic Unit of Primary Health Care, School of Social and Community Medicine, University of Bristol, Canynge Hall, 39 Whatley Road, Bristol BS8 2PS**. Any mail sent to our previous Belgrave Road address (including the brown envelopes) will be forwarded on to us. You can contact us on the numbers below:



*School of Social and Community Medicine (it's nicer on the inside than it looks from the outside)*

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