



Cardiff Study Centre NEWSLETTER www.dutystudy.org.uk

Issue 9

August 2011

Welcome to the ninth edition of the Cardiff DUTY Study Newsletter!



We are pleased to announce this month; that despite the summer lull, the Cardiff Centre has reached its 1000th recruit! Congratulations and thank you to everyone who contributed and if you're wondering who was responsible for recruiting the 1000th child, it was Woodlands Surgery. This is an impressive and mighty figure and we couldn't be more pleased. Keep those recruits coming!

Introducing Victoria Roberts, Research Administrator

Victoria is the Cardiff centre administrator; if you have a problem or require assistance, she is your gal.....



Q: What role do you play in the study? I am responsible for ensuring everyone has their equipment among many other (inexhaustible) jobs. I am the first point of contact for most people involved in DUTY.

Q: What impact do you anticipate DUTY will have on UTI diagnosis in future? Well the aim is obviously to improve early diagnosis of UTIs in young children who may have difficulties explaining what is wrong with them. Hopefully DUTY will achieve this.

Q: What do you think are the main challenges for the study? I think maintaining high recruitment and follow up rates is always a challenge in any clinical trial.

Q: What are the main challenges for you? My biggest challenge is in maintaining a successful 14 Day follow up rate. There are so many influencing factors that come into play when attempting to contact parents; such as the time of day, the age of the child (especially for those children who have started nursery or school) among many other things. I think you just need a lot of patience, persistence and a bit of luck! My other major challenge is in managing my workload, there is so much to do for DUTY and sometimes it seems like there are not enough hours in the day, but I think it's worth it for such a worthwhile study.

Have You Reached Saturation Point?

We are starting to consider whether some of our practices have reached saturation regarding the number of children that have been approached and recruited to the study. To help us look at this, we



would appreciate your views on whether many of the children you see in practice are children you have seen before. Also, it is important that the screening logs are completed and returned to us so we can determine this kind of information.

A new practice in Aberystwyth will hopefully be set up and ready to start recruiting in September. Also, there may be 3 practices in North Wales that are joining the DUTY study.

If you know of any more practices that may be ready to join, please let us know as soon as possible, as it takes time for us to go through the procedures of R&D approval, setting up the labs etc.

How Are We Doing?

So far **1015** children have been recruited to DUTY with **891** urines giving a urine retrieval rate of **88%**!

WOW!

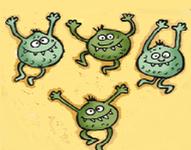
In the words of Chris Butler, the Chief Investigator: "What a study! What a team!"

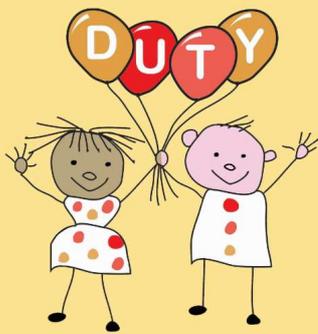
Staff Update

New staff this month include:

- Sarah Evans, NISCHR CRC in North Wales.
- Pauline Jones, NISCHR CRC in South East Wales
- Ann Russell, NISCHR CRC in South East Wales
- Clare Duggan, NISCHR CRC in North Wales.

Welcome to the team and good luck!





More Training Day Info.



We are holding a training workshop day, towards the end of September / beginning of October. A doodle poll has been sent out so we can get an idea of the most convenient date for everyone. Please complete this poll if you haven't already done so, or contact Vicky Roberts if you, for some reason, haven't received the email about the poll.

This training day is intended to be an informal get-together, to recap and refresh, ready for the busy phase of recruitment during the colder months. We will also be having a social event / meal in the evening. More details will be sent out shortly.

We would like everyone to share their experiences. If you have any tips or suggestions that you would be happy to pass on, or have ideas about how you could contribute to the training day, please let us know, as we'd really value your input.

Where's my dollar?



Cheques for recruiting patients up to mid-July 2011 should be winging their way to you very soon! Keep your eyes peeled for that lovely dosh!

Sample Sterility



There has been a worryingly high contamination rate from samples obtained through the use of nappy pads. This needs to improve significantly in order for us to collect useable data.

Please, please, please give clear instructions to parents and really stress the importance of following collection procedures to the letter.

If it ain't sterile, it ain't worth it!

And Now for Something Completely Different.....

All of the following are "real" folk remedies for kidney stones - except one. Can you figure it out?

1. Drinking wild goat's blood (Scotland)
2. Jumping up and down (Ancient Europe)
3. Drinking red onion juice (North America)
4. Not eating beans (Suffolk)
5. Drinking one's own urine (Staffordshire)
6. Carrying a snail shell as an amulet (North Carolina)
7. Applying a hot greasy plate to the abdomen (North Carolina)
8. Roasting the skin of a hedgehog until the prickles become a powder, then adding this powder to a drink (Sussex)
9. Place a bipolar magnet directly over the right or left lumbar of the lower back, depending on which area is affected (www.newagepointtoinfinity.com)
10. Eating the perirenal fat of human victims (cannibals only)



Answers to Microbiology Quiz from Issue 8, July 2011

Q1. In one day, bacteria can multiply to the size of:

A1. (A) a sugar cube

Q2. If bacterial growth were allowed to continue unchecked for one week, the resulting size of this ball of microbes would be equivalent to the size of:

A2. (A) the Earth

Q3. Relative to a garden snail, bacteria can move:

A3. (C) Three hundred times slower [Bacteria move at 0.0001 mph while snails move at 0.03 mph]

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