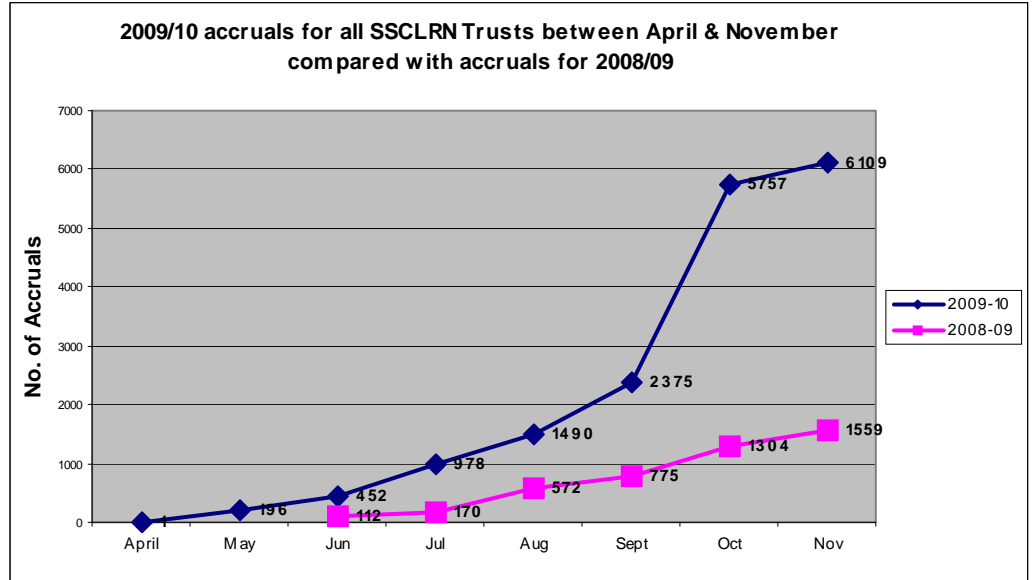


Surrey and Sussex Comprehensive Local Research Network

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Surrey & Sussex CLRN Accrual Increases in 2009-10



Surrey and Sussex CLRN's current overall accrual total is 5,608 and is a sizeable increase on the Network's total of 1,304 at the same time last year. The Network would particularly like to say a big thank you to Nicky Perry and the team at Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust for uploading all their accruals for HIV Testing in Acute Admissions study, which with it's weekly accruals at the end of October took SSCLRN's overall total for 2009-10 up from 2,699 to 2,909 which has had a major impact on our ranking with other CLRNs.

Comment from Mike Lacey, WCLRN Information Manager Western Comprehensive Local Research Network on SSCLRN's assistance with dealing with a Study adoption request:

"the UHBristol R&D office are very impressed with the speed with which the CLRNs have managed to resolve this!"

Forthcoming Good Clinical Practice Events:

Introduction to Good Clinical Practice (London)

12 January 2010. Click on link for further information:

<http://www.crncc.nihr.ac.uk/index/>

[training/courses/governance/](http://www.crncc.nihr.ac.uk/index/training/courses/governance/)

[gcp_intro.html](http://www.crncc.nihr.ac.uk/index/gcp_intro.html)

Good Clinical Practice

Training Day (Redhill, Surrey)

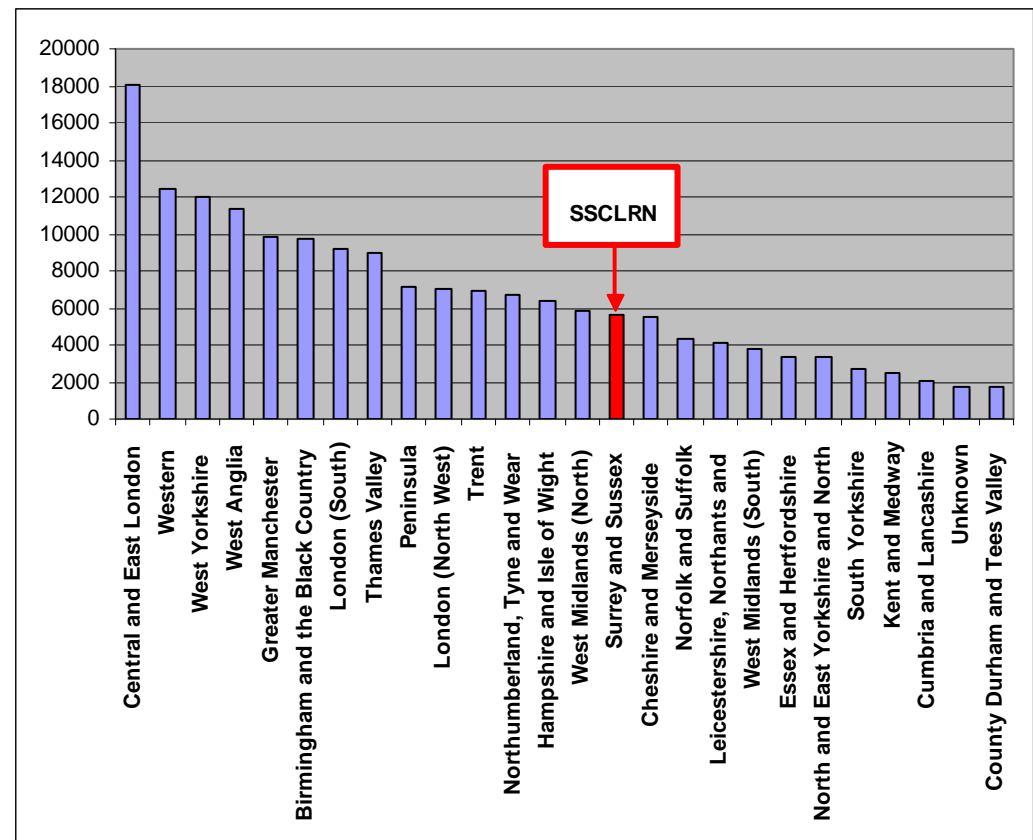
12 March 2010

For further details please contact

Oon Chiu on 01737 768511 ext.

6843 or email

Oon.Chiu@sash.nhs.uk



Surrey and Sussex Comprehensive Local Research Network

Curious Minds Research Conference : Making a Difference With Evidence Based Research

Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust is hosting the 2nd Curious Minds Research Conference on 26th November 2009 at Leatherhead Leisure Centre.

The theme of this years conference is 'Making a difference with evidence based research' and one of the aims is to showcase and promote National Portfolio Studies.

There are 3 eminent keynote speakers of national standing and many breakaway sessions: Prof Tom Burns, Professor of Social Psychiatry, University of Oxford will be presenting on the OCTET study. Prof Paula Nicholson, Professor of Critical Social Health Psychology, Royal Holloway University will speak on Leadership, Authority and Power in Multidisciplinary Teams and Dr Kirsten Windfuhr will give an overview of the National Confidential Inquiry study in to suicide in people with mental illness. There will be stands and posters from the Mental Health Research Network, the Innovation Hub, the CLRN and other current research work.

For further information and to obtain a registration form please contact:

Dorrie Mystris R&D Facilitator, Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust The Ridgewood Centre Old Bisley Road Frimley Surrey GU16 9QE Tel: 01276 605597 or Email: Dorrie.Mystris@sabp.nhs.uk

Expressions of Interest for New Studies

The current feasibility process is labour-intensive and we are trying to suggest ways of making this more streamlined. We understand that R&D managers and Principal Investigators have a heavy workload and other commitments, and that Expressions of Interest can be overlooked. To try and address this problem, we would like you to forward the names of your research nurses in each therapy area so that we can target them, as well as Chief Investigators and Principal Investigators, when requesting feasibility. We hope that by targeting the research nurses we can obtain more robust feasibility but everyone will still have an awareness of new studies as they come in.

Please forward the contact telephone number and email addresses of your research nurses to kay.steele@wsht.nhs.uk until 20th November. After this date details can be forwarded directly to Amanda Walke Amanda.walke@wsht.nhs.uk

Surrey and Sussex CLRN Portal

The Surrey and Sussex CLRN

Portal has grown and now contains several sections including details of Executive Group and Board Members meetings, training courses, conferences and future R&D Managers' Meetings. It also holds up to date listings of all Calls for Proposals for Funds,

reports, newsletters, forthcoming events and contact details for Research Networks.

Further to this, Surrey and Sussex CLRN Trust's 2009-10 Accrual Report summaries are now updated and uploaded onto the Portal on a weekly basis. As you should all now have your NIHR Portal i.d. and password which allows you access to the Portal, these updates can now be accessed and

Provide you with an up to the minute snapshot of how your Trust accruals are currently progressing. If you have forgotten your password for the Portal, please use the following link to re-set it: <https://portal.nihr.ac.uk/Pages/default.aspx>

Frimley Park Studies picked for Section of Surgery Prize Session

Frimley Park NHS Foundation Trust Research and Development Department are pleased to announce that three Frimley Park NHS Foundation Trust vascular papers have been selected for the Royal Society of Medicine Section of Surgery Prize session at this December's National Meeting .

The Studies in question being: "Is catheter directed intervention for venous recanalisation in upper limb deep vein thrombosis superior to anticoagulation alone?" (Muzzafer Chaudery)

"Abdominal aortic aneurysm in patients with concomitant metastatic cancer: is surgical intervention warranted?" (Yasmin Jahari)

"Surveillance of abdominal aortic aneurysms in octogenarians" (Jon Barratt)

Dr Martha Wrigley Senior Lead Research Nurse

Martha Wrigley has been seconded part-time to Surrey and Sussex Comprehensive Local Research Network as the Senior Lead Research Nurse. She has worked at Ashford and St Peters Hospital for the past nine years as a Cardiac Research Sister developing the Trust's research portfolio of cardiac studies. She completed her PhD in primary prevention for heart disease at Southampton University last year. Key aspects of her role as the Senior Lead Research Nurse include mentoring and providing support for professional development for clinical research support staff in the Network. She will be working closely with the research staff to identify individual training needs and develop a training programme in collaboration with the University of Surrey and University of Brighton.

Surrey and Sussex Comprehensive Local Research Network

Surrey and Sussex Healthcare research development mini event

Surrey and Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust are currently organising a research development mini event to showcase resources and support available to investigators when starting a research project or agreeing to become a participating centre. The Research Design Service have been invited to give a talk on the 29th January regarding their services and host a drop in surgery for questions

The Trust also want to set up stalls over the lunch-time period for other contributors as well as a few researchers and would like to invite you to participate and bring information such as leaflets/posters about your Network or service. This event would be an opportunity for you to meet with current or potential PIs and highlight the services or support available to them.

Would you be willing to contribute to this event? If so are there any resources that you would require at the site?

If you are interested in contributing or would like any more information, could you please contact Louise Bell by email: Louise.Bell@sash.nhs.uk by the 20th of November.

PCRN-SE

PCRN-SE is currently working on around 30 studies, with another 20 on set-up in the next few months. Some of the studies currently open include 3 that focus on the current pandemic 'flu, including a study looking at the effects of the virus in pregnancy, monitoring 'flu-like symptoms in the community and the new vaccination.

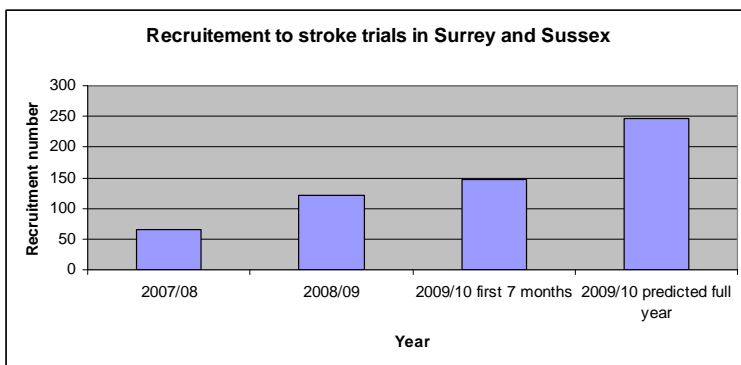
PCRN-SE has 2 new members of staff in the Brighton office and are pleased to welcome Clair Wavell as our permanent Team Administrator. Clair has been working with us on a temporary basis for a few months, and we are delighted to have her here as a permanent addition to our team. We are also happy to welcome Ian Hockaday, currently working with us as Data Manager, on a short-term contract.

If you would like to find out more, or are interested in talking part in research in primary care, please contact PCRN-SE on: 01273 644565.



SRN highest recruiting stroke research network in the UK

The Stroke Research Network (SRN) provides a world-class health service infrastructure to support clinical stroke research and remove barriers to its conduct. The aim of the Network is to facilitate stroke research by bringing about focused, effective investment to enhance NHS research infrastructure for stroke, and to increase collaborative working between academics, stroke clinicians, stroke service users and research funders.



The SE SRN are currently the highest recruiting stroke research network in the UK, Collaboration between the SE stroke research network and the Surrey and Sussex Comprehensive network have led to an increased number of stroke patients entering clinical trials within Surrey and Sussex In 2007/08 a total of 66 patients were recruited to stroke trials in this CLRN. In 2008/09 this had nearly doubled to 121 patients as shown in the graph. In the first seven months of 2009/10 147 patient have been recruited thus we have already exceeded last years total recruitment to stroke trials.

Additional stroke research nurses / co-ordinators have been funded, a comprehensive training and education package has been implemented thus allowing additional hospitals who had previously not recruited to any stroke trials to now participate ,as well as increasing recruitment in established centres. The Network has employed a number of new researchers since April 2009 including: Gavin Spurling (BSUH), Emma Burbon (Eastbourne), Caroline Lawler (Royal Surrey), Sarah Webb (Frimley Park) and Andrea Jolly of East Surrey.

Feedback: We are keen to hear from you regarding any feedback or information you would like highlighted in our newsletter. Additionally, if you have any key dates or events you would like publicised, please let us know and we will include them in forthcoming issues. Please email us at jon.bloomfield@wsht.nhs.uk

Surrey and Sussex Comprehensive Local Research Network

The Amaze Trial



The Amaze Trial: A randomised controlled trial to investigate the clinical and cost effectiveness of adding an ablation device-based maze procedure as a routine adjunct to elective cardiac surgery for patients with pre-existing atrial fibrillation (AF).

(NIHR CRN portfolio trial ID 5245)

Chief Investigator: Mr Sam Nashef, consultant cardiac surgeon, Papworth Hospital

Lead Centre/Sponsor: Papworth Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

Funder: DH Health Technology Assessment Programme (HTA)

Design: Multi-centre (UK only), randomised, double blind controlled trial

The Amaze Trial Atrial fibrillation (AF) is the most common disturbance of heart rhythm and has considerable impact on patients' quality of life and NHS resources. This randomised controlled trial will test the hypothesis that incorporating a modified maze procedure (using an AF ablation device) into elective cardiac surgery of patients with AF will improve their quality of life as well as being cost effective from an NHS perspective. It responds to the European Heart

Rhythm Association and European Cardiac Arrhythmia Society's call for high quality prospective multi-centre trials to adopt consistent definitions of procedural success in long term assessments of the safety and efficacy of ablation devices. The results of this trial will inform patients, clinicians and the NHS about the routine adoption of this new technology. The Amaze Trial aims to recruit 400 patients from 8 UK surgical sites over 2 years. Brighton is one of the sites currently screening patients.

If you would like further information on this, please contact Chrissie Thomas, Clinical Trial Co-ordinator, Christine.Thomas@papworth.nhs.uk
Tel: 01480 364641.

News from the NIHR

Registered Clinical Trials Units

Expertise in the design, conduct and analysis of clinical trials and other well-designed studies is vital to ensure high quality and successful timely trial conduct, and to meet regulatory and governance requirements. Clinical Trials Units (CTUs) can provide the full spectrum of expertise required to deliver high quality clinical research.

The [UKCRC Registered Clinical Trials Units website](#) provides comprehensive information and direct contact details for the UKCRC Registered CTUs. The website offers a resource for clinical researchers and funders wishing to identify Registered CTUs that have expertise in centrally coordinating multicentre clinical trials, as well as in trial design, data management and analysis.



The NIHR Clinical Research Network National Conference

The next NIHR Clinical Research Network National Conference will be held on Thursday 28 January 2010 at the ExCeL Conference Centre, London. The conference is aimed at delegates from the NHS, academia, pharmaceutical and medical technologies companies, clinical trials units, funding organisations and charities and at patients, carers and the public.

Places are limited, therefore Directors, Assistant Directors, Clinical Leads / CLRN Directors, and Network Managers are initially invited to register. Further Network places may become available at a later date. The attached flyer provides further details. Alternatively, please visit www.crncc.nihr.ac.uk/index/networks/conference2010.html for more information and to register for attendance.

Fostering the role of pathology in research

October saw a major step forward for pathology research in the UK with the publication of a report from the National Cancer Research Institute (www.ncri.org.uk). The report was produced by the NCRI Pathology and Research Task Force which was set up in response to concerns about the difficulties that pathologists face in conducting research. It highlights a series of actions across three key areas to rejuvenate pathology research and better enable pathologists to engage with and contribute to research.

To access the NIHR website for further information on the NIHR Clinical Network Research Portfolio, all Clinical Research Networks and to keep up to date with news and forthcoming events, access the NIHR CRN website on the following link: <http://www.crncc.nihr.ac.uk/index.html>