

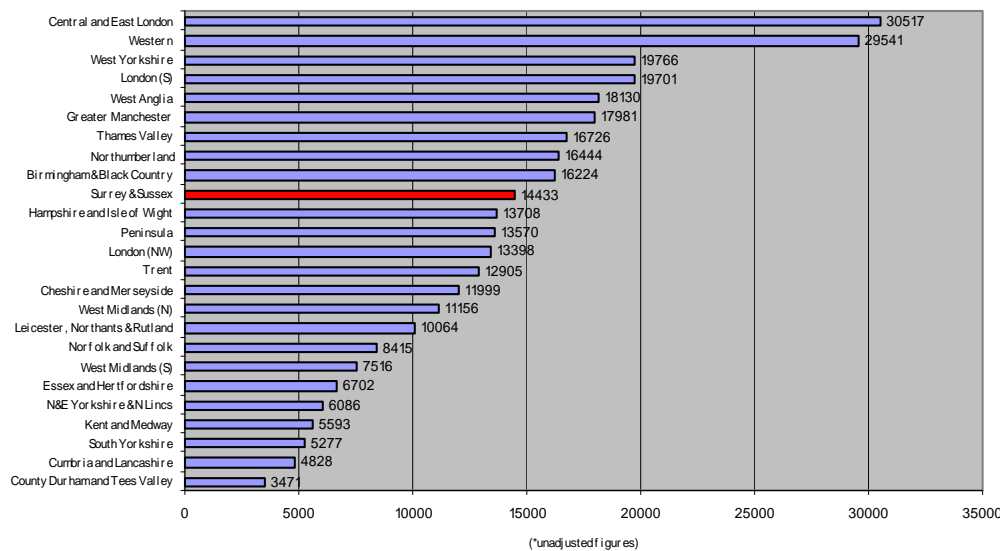
Surrey and Sussex Comprehensive Local Research Network

Welcome to the Spring issue of the Surrey & Sussex CLRN Newsletter. We welcome your feedback on this edition and any contributions you may have for future newsletters (the Summer issue is scheduled for publication in July).

CLRN Briefing

- Surrey and Sussex CLRN has been allocated £6.9 million for 2010/11, which is a 17% increase on the budget compared to last year. The biggest increase is in the Activity Based Element of the budget based on recruitment to NIHR portfolio studies.
- Appointment of the new Clinical Director is still pending. In the interim Prof Gordon Ferns will continue as the Clinical Director.

CLRN Recruitment Analysis: 1 April 2009 - 22 March 2010*



Recruitment to NIHR portfolio studies

The graph indicates SSCLRN recruitment to NIHR portfolio projects (shown in red) compared to other CLRNs.

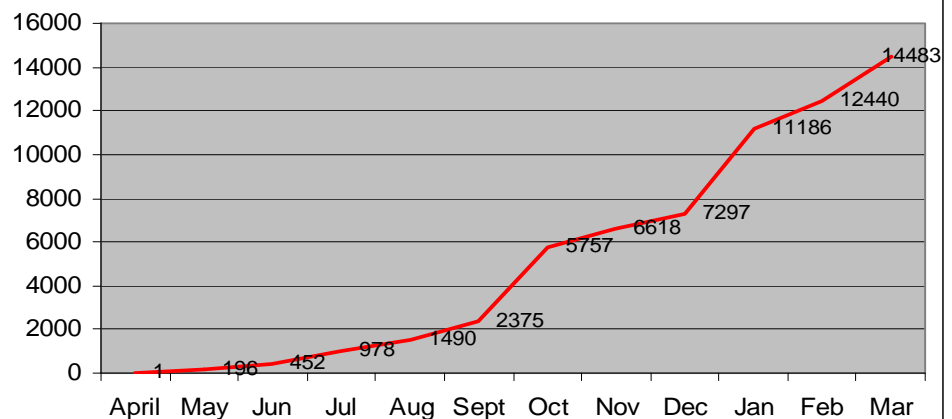
These figures are not adjusted for local population.

Well done to all our research teams and R&D management and governance staff for supporting and recruiting to portfolio studies.

Surrey and Sussex CLRN's monthly recruitment data

Current overall recruitment total is 14,483 which is an increase of more than 200% on the Network's total of 4,103 for 2008-09. SSCLRN would like to say a big thank you to all the Trusts & PCTs whose recruitment has contributed to the total which in turn has had a major impact on our ranking with other CLRNs.

**Total 2009-10 Recruitment for all SSCLRN Trusts
1 April 2009 - 28 March 2010**

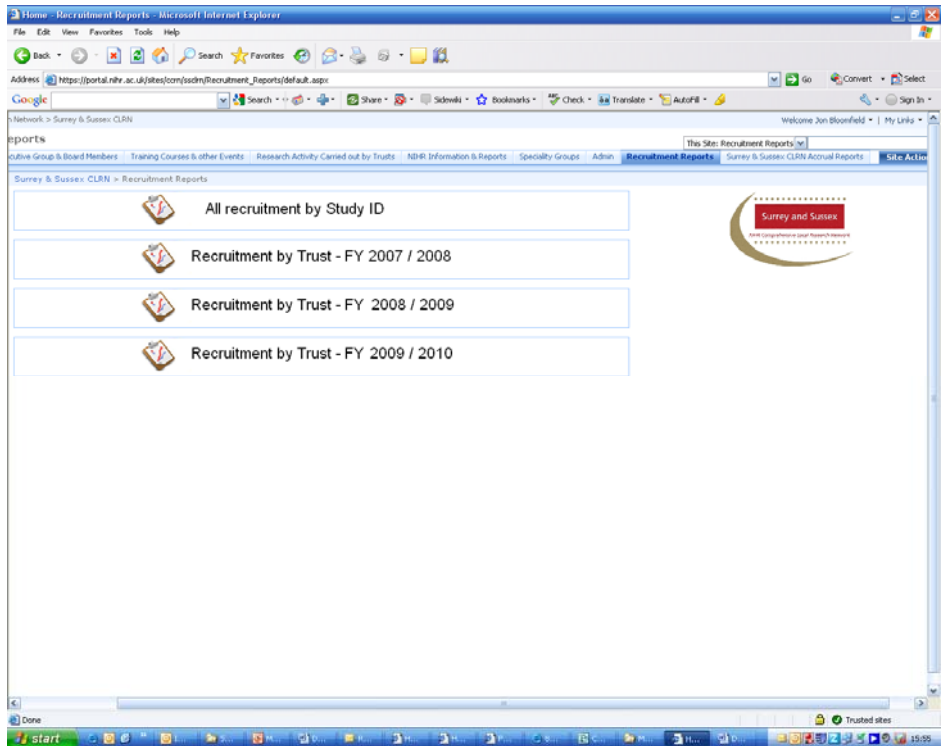


Surrey and Sussex CLRN Portal News: Introduction of First Aid database

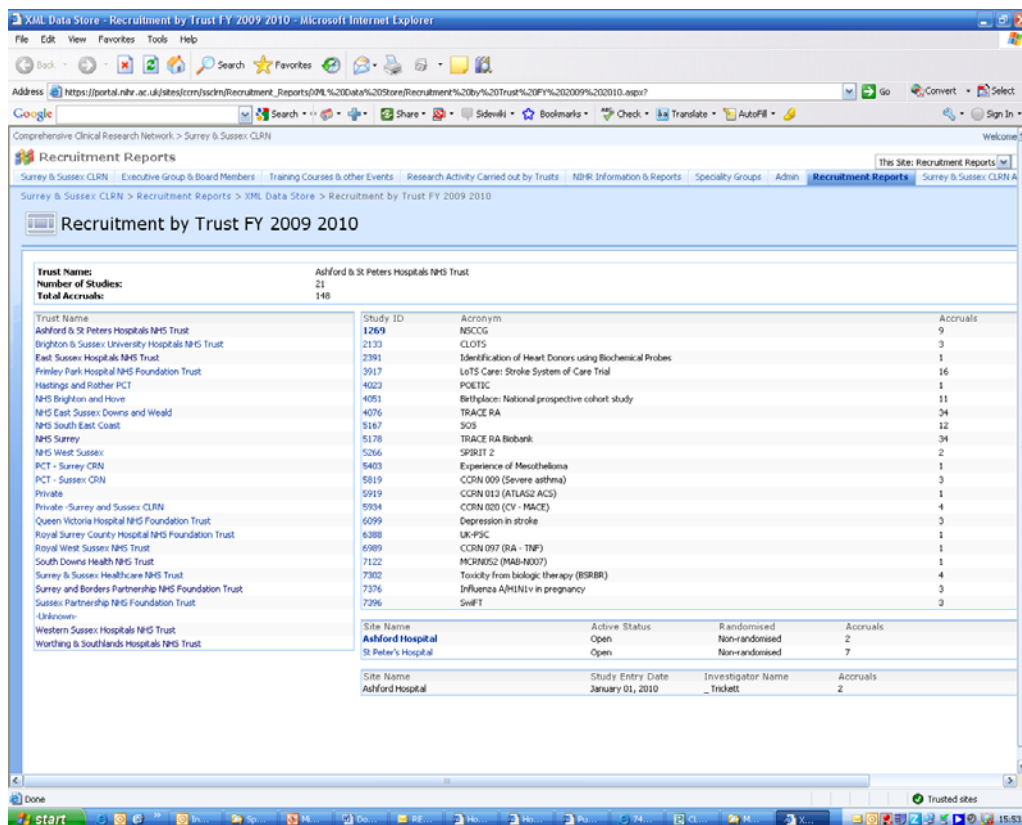
Surrey and Sussex CLRN web Portal

This resource is growing all the time and now holds a wealth of useful information such as dates, minutes and agendas of meetings, reports, training manuals and details of forthcoming events. If you have any meetings or events that you would like to publicise or any other contributions please contact Jon Bloomfield, Information Manager.

The latest (and very significant) addition to SSCLRNs Portal is a newly developed facility called "First Aid", which is an Access based database developed by Cumbria and Lancashire CLRN. This is an invaluable facility which provides users with a much quicker way of searching and checking their recruitment information with data provided by the NIHR. Pivot tables used previously will be discontinued.



First Aid allows you to search for studies of interest by year and Trust and also has a feature which enables users to search for studies by their NIHR ID number to see which Trusts have recruited/recruiting to studies in question and allows users to make year on year comparisons on their recruitment levels. It is very user friendly and I believe you will find it to be an invaluable and very effective reference tool.



Those of you who already have Portal access please CTRL and click on the following link to view: https://portal.nihr.ac.uk/sites/ccrn/ssclr/Recruitment_Reports/default.aspx If you don't currently have access to the Portal and wish to view the First Aid database please email Jon Bloomfield at : jon.bloomfield@wsht.nhs.uk

Network Impact

Comments Received from member organisations:

CLRN funds crucial to develop a robust infrastructure to meet national ambition for research in the NHS:

- *“Increase in capacity for CRN portfolio studies, resulting in 50-70% increase in accruals”*
Western Sussex Hospitals Trust
- *“SSCLRN funds to develop infrastructure to support industry trials resulting in significant increase in number of industry trials”*
Sussex Partnership Foundation Trust
- *“Input and support from SSCLRN crucial in supporting and setting up new ones” (Stroke studies)*
Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals
- *“SSCLRN has made a significant, positive contribution to PCRN-SE resulting in recruitment in local primary care of 2,600”*
PCRN-SE

Central point for providing advice, support and information to researchers:

- *“Providing a clear framework/reference point for us to understand and engage with the NIHR....”*
Surrey & Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
- *“Able to open the study in more centres in Surrey and Sussex.... facilitated by funding and support with R&D approvals”*
Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals
- *“Quality information available through the CLRN office and willingness to provide information and analyses”*
Western Sussex Hospitals Trust
- *“SSCLRN provided useful networking and contacts across the local NHS specifically the ambulance service where we are now engaged”*
University of Surrey

SSCLRN Business Plan 2010/2011

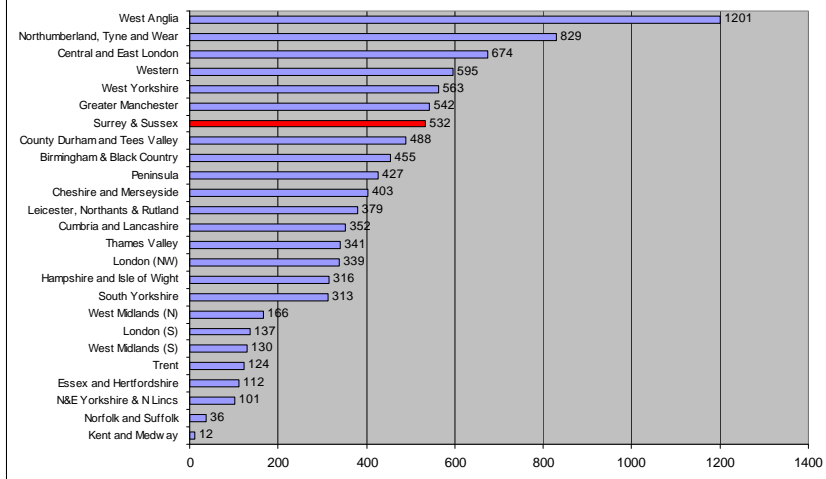
As SSCLRN progresses to the delivery phase, recruitment to NIHR portfolio studies is predicted to grow by 20% annually to meet the national ambition of doubling the recruitment in five years. The Business Plans identified five key objectives that the CLRN will work on in 2010/11. These being developing an efficient research governance system, delivery on the training and workforce development strategy, monitoring recruitment to portfolio studies to ensure that recruitment is to time and target, developing a balanced portfolio which includes increasing the number of industry trials and developing closer links with internal and external stakeholders. Anticipated challenges in 2010/11 include national economic climate, cutback in funding for Universities and pharmaceutical companies moving their business out of UK.



Universities and pharmaceutical companies moving their business out of UK.

SSCLR N RECRUITMENT LEVELS FOR NETWORK PRIORITY TOPICS 2009-2010 (AS AT 22 MARCH 2010)

**Recruitment to Cardiovascular NIHR portfolio studies
(April 2009 - March 2010)**



Cardiovascular

Recruitment level: 532

Made up of recruitment from 13 Studies, including

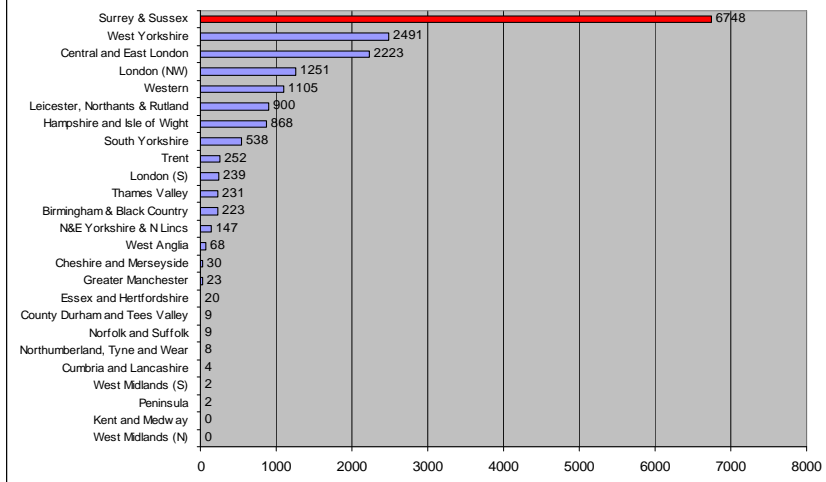
119 accruals for Study ID 5199: HPS2-THRIVE: Treatment of HDL to Reduce the Incidence of Vascular Events: A randomised trial of the long term clinical effects of raising HDL cholesterol with extended release niacin/laropiprant

137 accruals for Study ID 5199: A study investigating the cardioprotective benefits of remote ischaemic postconditioning in different clinical settings of myocardial ischaemia-reperfusion injury

99 accruals for Study ID 6459: Interreg III study into long-term outcomes following coronary artery stenting

30 accruals for Study ID 6791: Xience or vision stent. Management of angina in the elderly

**Recruitment to Infectious diseases NIHR portfolio studies
(April 2009 - March 2010)**



Infectious Diseases

Recruitment level: 6748

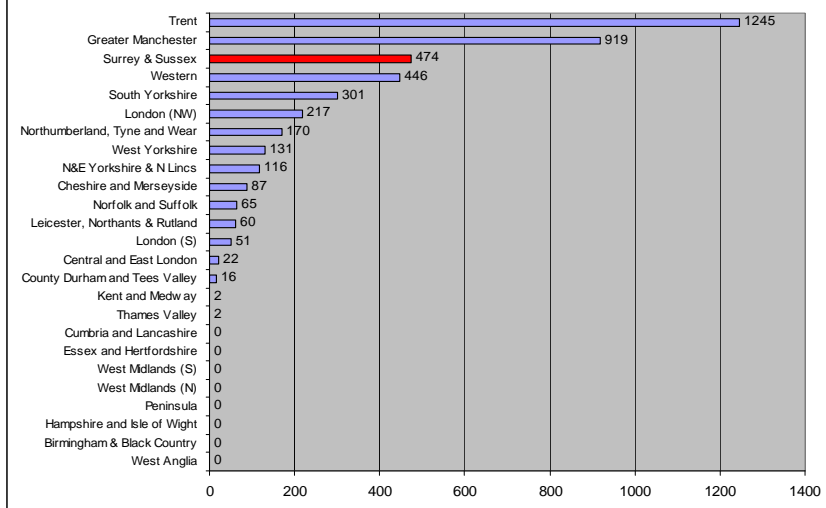
Made up of recruitment from 8 Studies, including

41 accruals for Study ID 4414: A randomised controlled trial of a strategy of switching to boosted protease inhibitor monotherapy versus continuing combination antiretroviral therapy for the long-term management of HIV-1 infected patients who have achieved sustained virological suppression

144 accruals for Study ID 4818: Assessing the potential risk of, and possible responses to, zoonotic diseases on the development of recreational use of British forests and wild-lands: Understanding the patient's perspective

6489 accruals for Study ID 7545: HIV Testing in acute admissions in Brighton feasibility, acceptability, cost effectiveness and effectiveness in reducing undiagnosed HIV.

**Recruitment to Age and Ageing NIHR portfolio studies
(April 2009 - March 2010)**



Age and Ageing

Recruitment level: 474

Made up of recruitment from 7 Studies, including

118 accruals for Study ID 3074: Culture change, organisational performance, and quality of acute hospital care for older people

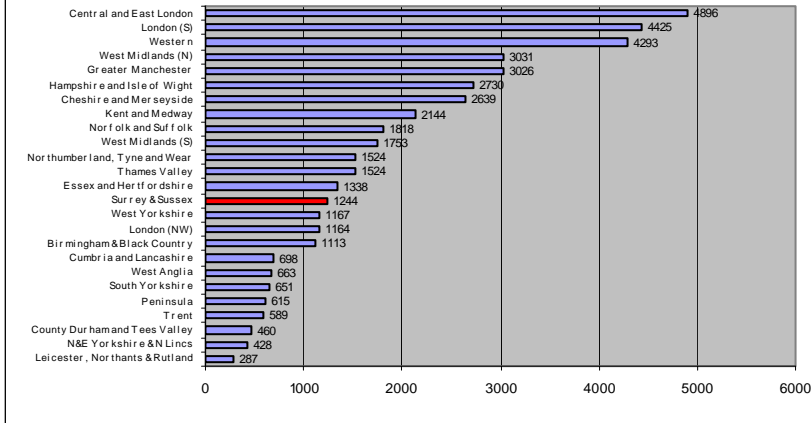
265 accruals for Study ID 5850: EEIC (Enhancing the effectiveness of InterProfessional team working: costs and outcomes)

12 accruals for Study ID 7661: Understanding the impact of progressive neurological speech disorders on interaction between patients and family members.

7 accruals for Study ID 4368: A phase 3 multi-centre, randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel group efficacy and safety trial of Bapineuzumab (AAB-001, ELN115727) in subjects with mild to moderate Alzheimer Disease who are Apolipoprotein E4 carriers

SSCLR N RECRUITMENT LEVELS FOR NETWORK PRIORITY TOPICS 2009-2010 (AS AT 22 MARCH 2010)

Recruitment to Reproductive Health NIHR portfolio studies (April 2009 - March 2010)



Reproductive Health

Recruitment level: 1244

Made up of 1063 accruals for:

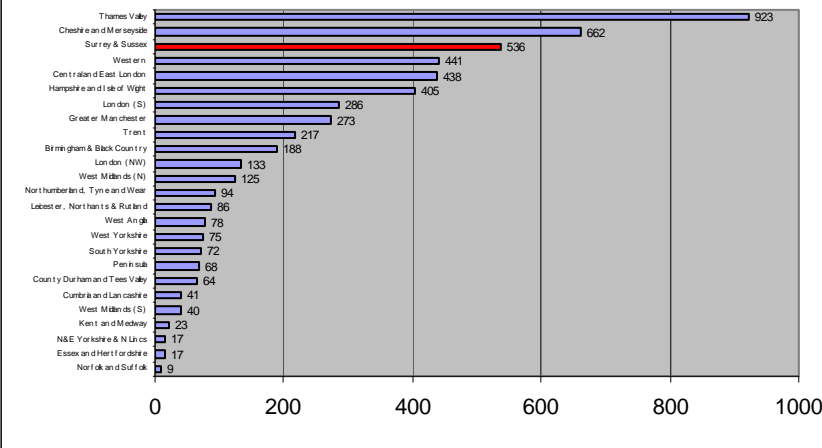
Study ID 4051: Birthplace in England

Research Programme: National prospective cohort study of planned place of birth

181 accruals for:

Study ID 7376: Influenza A/H1N1v in pregnancy: An investigation of the characteristics and management of affected women and the relationship to pregnancy outcomes for mother and infant Count of Study ID

Recruitment to Medicines for Children NIHR portfolio studies (April 2009 - March 2010)



Medicines for Children

Recruitment level: 536

Made up of recruitment from 8 Studies, including

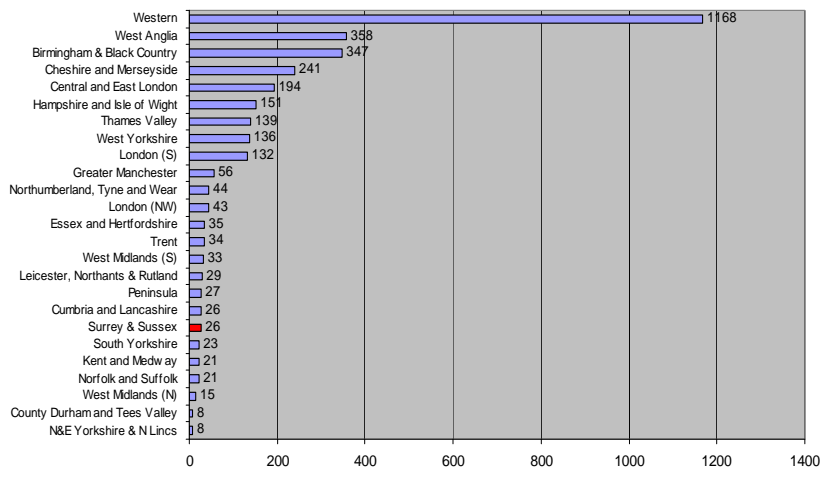
10 accruals for: Study ID 2288: The International Collaborative Infantile Spasms Study: A randomised trial in the medicinal treatment of infantile spasms

19 accruals for: Study ID 2311: Cryotherapy versus salicylic acid for the treatment of verrucae: A randomised controlled trial Count of Study ID

1063 Accruals for: Study ID 4051: Birthplace in England Research Programme: National prospective cohort study of planned place of birth

181 Accruals for: Study ID 7376: Influenza A/H1N1v in pregnancy: An investigation of the characteristics and management of affected women and the relationship to pregnancy outcomes for mother and infant

Recruitment to Immunology & inflammation NIHR portfolio studies (April 2009 - March 2010)



Immunology and Inflammation

Made up of 26 accruals for:

Study ID: 7302 Prospective observational study of the long term hazards of biologic therapy in rheumatoid arthritis Sum of Total



Stroke research at Royal Surrey A Personal Account by Caroline Lawlor

Royal Surrey County Hospital 
NHS Foundation Trust

"Do you have any clinical trials that my brother could participate in?" an earnest looking face asked, peering up at me from a bedside chair.

I had joined the Royal Surrey County Hospital (RSCH) 5 months before that and by then we had three clinical trials up and running: SOS, TARDIS and DNA Lacunar. I place an A4-sized, laminated card on the wall above the bed of the patients who participate in a clinical trials, so even patient and relatives who are not directly involved in our clinical research are aware that clinical research is taking place.

I am based on, and recruit clinical trial patients from, the RSCH's Acute Stroke Unit (ASU) but I also recruit patients from our Medical Assessment Unit (MAU) and from other medical wards that stroke patients have been admitted to when no beds are available on the ASU. I screen around 60 patients per month in this way.

We opened recruitment to our first clinical trial in mid-November 2009 and to date we've recruited 16 patients. Recruitment hasn't been as easy as I had expected and I've learned from experience that there are a multitude of reasons why patients can't be randomised into our clinical trials: They may be either too well (would be discharged before treatment finished), too sick (their prognosis needs to be relatively good so that we can follow them up for 6-12 months), too young (TARDIS doesn't allow patients under 50 years of age), too old (DNA Lacunar doesn't allow patients over 70 years of age), they may live too far away for follow-up (we regularly get "out-of-area" patients – particularly from Epsom - who access our 24/7 thrombolysis treatment, but who then repatriated to the hospital closest to their home once the acute phase of their care has been delivered). Other patients may lack capacity to give informed consent themselves in which case we need to obtain written assent from their relatives before undertaking any study-related procedures. This can be problematic sometimes. The relatives may be uncontactable or they may be unable to get to the hospital in time to provide written informed assent (both TARDIS and SOS have a maximum 48hr time window between onset of symptoms and randomisation), or the relative may simply be unwilling to consent on behalf of the patient.

In view of the numerous barriers to recruitment it was heartening to be so proactively approached by a patient's relative recently. Sadly we didn't have any studies that he was suitable for at that time.

We are however in the process of setting up 4 other clinical trials (IRIS, IST-3, CADISS and PODCAST) and one of them allows retroactive recruitment up to 6 months after the first onset of stroke symptoms so I shall be keeping that patient and his sister in my recruitment sights for now...

Recent Developments at East Sussex Hospitals NHS Trust

East Sussex Hospitals 
NHS Trust

East Sussex Hospitals NHS Trust is reinvigorating its Research and Development Department and have two new members of staff and are excited about developing the department.

Dr Guy Lloyd is continuing as Clinical Lead. Catherine Holley is the new Research Support Manager with a background in research, health and international development, Teresa Baumber is the new Research Support Facilitator after working for ESHT in various other roles for ten years. The team at the Trust have many plans for the progress of Research and Development at East Sussex Hospitals Trust and would welcome enquiries and contact from all involved in R&D. Additionally, they would encourage anyone interested in conducting research to contact the R&D office offer advice and support. The Research Nurse and Coordinator Group and the Research and Development Committee now meets quarterly. CLRN staff are invited to these committee meetings.

You can reach the East Sussex Hospitals NHS Trust Research and Development team on 01323 417400 ext. 3042 or by emailing catherine.holley@esht.nhs.uk or teresa.baumber@esht.nhs.uk

Surrey & Sussex Local Speciality Groups

Overview:

Local Speciality Groups provide a focus for research activity within their speciality. They advise the CLRN on the topic aspects of their portfolio, including infrastructure requirements, and provide oversight of the management and delivery of portfolio studies in that speciality area. The Local Speciality Group meetings provide a forum for researchers to network, identify local research expertise, research undertaken in other parts of the Network and resources available from the CLRN for supporting portfolio research.

For more information about these groups, please email louise.phillips@wsht.nhs.uk or telephone 01903 285222 Ext. 3276

<p>Local Speciality Group meetings held in 2009/10</p> <p>Infectious Diseases and Microbiology Immunology & Inflammation / Musculoskeletal Renal Reproductive Health Respiratory Ophthalmology Paediatrics Age & Ageing Dermatology</p>	<p>Local Speciality Group meetings confirmed for 2010/11</p> <p>Paediatrics tbc at Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital</p> <p>Public Health 29th April at Mayfield House, University of Brighton</p> <p>Infectious Diseases/ Microbiology 5th May at Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford</p> <p>Ophthalmology 23rd September at Sussex House, Brighton</p>
<p>Groups in set-up</p> <p>Anaesthetics / Critical Care Cardiovascular Health Services Research Injuries & Accidents Nervous system disorders</p>	<p>Interim Lead required</p> <p>Gastroenterology / Hepatology</p>

Patient Public Involvement (PPI)



Rosemarie Hutchinson, Network Board representative for Patient Public Involvement attended the first of four workshops on PPI organised by the National Institute for Health Research Comprehensive Research Network Coordinating Centre (NIHR CRN CC).

The first workshop provided a valuable opportunity to understand how PPI is organised and delivered in other CLRNs and there is considerable variation in the Networks. Nationally about one third of the CLRNs have volunteer PPI representatives, some have paid positions some are part time and some PPI posts are shared. The experience so far within the NIHR has been that in order to be effective PPI requires close working relationships between PPI representatives and the senior management team of the CLRN. The attendees of the learning set were encouraged to maintain contact with each.

The Network is currently seeking a volunteer patient and public representative to play a key role in ensuring that the patient remains the centre of the research agenda in the NHS.

Forthcoming Events



Making Research Count.....Brighton **Perspectives on transition for young people with learning disability**



Making Research Count (Brighton) is running a workshop on the 16th April

Perspectives on transition for young people with learning disability

The workshop aims to provide an opportunity to hear about some current research and practice developments in working with transitions for young people with learning disability

To provide an opportunity for practitioners, researchers and young people and parents/carers to reflect on some of the issues involved in the transition process

The workshop will be held in **Room D222, Checkland Building, Falmer Campus, University of Brighton**

If you would like to attend the workshop please email Naomi Smith: nms4@brighton.ac.uk for a booking form.

Sussex Cancer Research Network Conference

Sussex Cancer Network 

The Sussex Cancer Research Network conference is on 15th September 2010 at the Brighton & Sussex Medical School. This event will have presentations from local providers, research units, consumers and from the National Cancer Research Network.

CPD accreditation is pending but please put this date in your diary. Attendance is free, however, a charge will be made for non attendance. Further information will be circulated as it becomes available.

For further information or if you would like to display a poster. Please contact natalie.house@scn.nhs.uk or call 01273 545427

Queen Victoria Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Annual Research Day 22 June 2010

Queen Victoria Hospital 
NHS Foundation Trust

Queen Victoria Hospital NHS Foundation Trust have their annual Research Day on Tuesday 22 June, 9-4pm, in the A Wing Lecture Theatre.

Anyone wishing to present/attend should contact Sarah Dawe, QVH's R&D Manager on 01342 414573

Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust Research & Development Annual Conference

Sussex Partnership 
NHS Foundation Trust

Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust Research and Development Annual Conference is a one day conference Thursday 10th June & runs from 9.00a.m. to 4.00p.m. to showcase the Trust's research activities and will be held at Bramber House at the University of Sussex.

Key note speaker will be Professor Louis Appleby CBE, Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Manchester and Director of the National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Homicide by People with Mental Illness. Speakers, workshops and a poster session will present studies related to the Trust's research themes and an emphasis will also be placed on the developmental journeys of researchers and research groups. Service users and carers are welcome and expenses will be reimbursed in cash on the day.

For further details please contact Lynda Ball, R&D Administrator: Lynda.ball@sussexpartnership.nhs.uk

NHS R&D Forum Annual Conference 2010

The year's NHS R&D Forum Annual Conference will be held on 24 and 25 May 2010 at The Lowry, Salford Quays, near Manchester. It will open at midday on 24 May with an evening reception and will then be followed by a full day on 25 May. The full delegate package is now fully booked, as is the evening reception. Delegates may still book 24th and 25th to attend the conference sessions. There will be 25 exhibition stands and 3 live demonstrations by exhibitors during lunchtime on 25th.

Please see the item below for details on a pre-conference workshop

Full details are available at <http://www.rdforum.nhs.uk/004c.asp?entryid=171>

Forthcoming Training Events

GCP Training at Royal Surrey County Hospital

Royal Surrey County Hospital



NHS Foundation Trust

The Royal Surrey County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Egerton Road, Guildford GU2 7XX

16th April : Full Day Training

14th June: Half Day Training

2nd August: Half Day Training

14th September: Full Day Training

1st December: Half Day Training

Please contact Emma White for further details: <mailto:e.white@nhs.net>

Lead Research Nurse led Training

Over the last three months Martha Wrigley and Caroline Humphreys have been meeting with the R& D managers, as well as Chief Nurses across the network, in an attempt to ascertain how they can work best together and move forward in supporting and facilitating NIHR Portfolio studies across the network.



In February they successfully completed the NIHR CRN Coordinating Centre Introduction to Good Clinical Practice (GCP) Facilitators Course and are working with R&D departments in arranging dates throughout the year. The GCP day is interactive and hopefully fun.

GCP Training dates:

Ashford & St Peter's Hospitals NHS Trust – March 29th 2010

Princess Royal Hospital ~ April 29th 2010

East Surrey Hospital ~ May 28th 2010

Frimley Park Hospital (date to be confirmed)

Further dates are being arranged, and these will be advertised on the portal.

A Clinical Research Skills Workshop will be held at the University of Surrey on the 3rd and 4th June. This is aimed at staff who are new to the clinical research environment. The programme for this will be circulated shortly.

Future developments are to establish regular research forums, in Surrey and Sussex, so that research staff in each region may come together to share best practice, provide peer support, in association with education and professional engagement.

SSCLRN would like to welcome the following new members of staff:

Surrey & Sussex CLRN

Caroline Humphreys has recently been appointed as the Lead Research Nurse and will mainly be responsible for covering the Sussex area, working closely with Dr Martha Wrigley in supporting and mentoring clinical research staff and providing research support for Paediatrics, working closely with the South East, North Central and East London (SENCE), which is a local research network for Medicines for Children Research Network. Caroline has previously worked as the Lead Research Nurse at the Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Facility in Cambridge, and has a particular interest in nursing competencies.

Caroline's email address is Caroline.Humphreys@wsht.nhs.uk

Royal Surrey County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Cathy Mayes has returned to the NHS, bringing with her 20 years experience within the NHS and two years within a Clinical Research Organisation. Her previous work with the NHS included Pharmacy Drug Information, R&D and research within the musculoskeletal speciality as a project coordinator and as a project manager of two national trials for Early Rheumatoid Arthritis.

Cathy's role with the Task Force as the Clinical Task Force Principal Project Manager involved working with over 15 NHS trusts, including nine R&D departments. The majority of her work within the R&D departments has been in pre and post MHRA inspections. This role also brought her to the Royal Surrey County Hospital where she was contracted for one day a week for three months as the interim R&D manager. Cathy then decided to pick up the gauntlet and apply for the full time position. She started at the RSCH in January 2010 and feels very privileged to be working with a great enthusiastic team, who are keen to learn and move forward. c.mayes@nhs.net

East Sussex Hospitals Trust

East Sussex Hospitals Trust is currently reinvigorating its Research and Development Department and now have two new members of staff

Catherine Holley is the new Research Support Manager with a background in research, health and international development. She previously worked as a researcher in reproductive health, sexual health and in widening participation. She has also managed several international health charities and has an MSc from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

Teresa Baumber is the new Research Support Facilitator. She has worked for ESHT for ten years. She started as a clinic clerk in Medical Records, then moved to the Woman's Health Department as Clinic Co-coordinator. She then moved to the Maxillo Facial unit as their Co-coordinator. After completing a secondment auditing chemotherapy across site she realized she would like to be more involved in clinical trials. The opportunity arose when she joined the Sussex Cancer Network Team as Cancer Data Officer in 2008. She is looking forward to working for R&D as she enjoys new challenges.

They have many plans for developing Research and Development at East Sussex Hospitals Trust and would welcome enquiries and contact from all involved in R&D. You can reach them on 01323 417400 ext. 3042 or email catherine.holley@esht.nhs.uk and teresa.baumber@esht.nhs.uk.

Ashford & St Peters Hospitals NHS Trust

Natasha Carter is the new Research Governance Officer at Ashford & St Peter's Hospital NHS Trust. Prior to that she was a Health Care assistant in the Trust. Natasha's background has included working as a Review and Administration officer for a company that trained unemployed people English and maths and prior to that her main role was as an order processor for a big American internet security company. Natasha is new to research but has a great deal of experience in both hospital and administrative work. She has a great interest in research and is looking forward working with future trials and seeing their outcomes. natasha.carter@asph.nhs.uk

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