

Welcome to the first SESRN newsletter. We aim to provide you with updates on current trials within the SESRN portfolio and provide items of general interest. The South East Local Research Network (SE-LRN) Research Network is part of the Stroke Research Network (SRN). The SRN is part of the United Kingdom Clinical Research Network (UKCRN) which was established by the Department of Health and aims to improve the speed, quality, and integration of research, ultimately resulting in improved patient care. The aim of the network is to facilitate and increase the throughput of multi centre clinical trials and other high quality studies in all areas of stroke including acute care, prevention and rehabilitation

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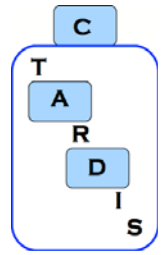
P6. Sources of Stroke
Information



**Involving people who have had
a stroke, their carers and the
public in stroke research**

The 'Triple Antiplatelets for Reducing Dependency after Ischaemic Stroke' (TARDIS)

An international, randomised controlled trial looking at the effectiveness of taking two blood thinning medicines, as in current practice, compared to taking three medications in patients that have had an ischemic stroke or TIA. Recruitment as of 8th June 2010 :131 patients recruited as of 4th June 2010 from 27 active centres across the UK. (ischemic stroke 81 (62%), TIA 50 (38%). The trial finishes once 5000 patients have been recruited



Stroke Oxygen Study

A randomised controlled trial to assess whether routine oxygen treatment in the first 72 hours after a stroke will improve long-term outcome. Recruitment as of 8th June 2010: 1417 participants from 58 active centres across the UK. The trial finishes in November 2013



Third International Stroke Trial

An international randomised controlled trial for acute ischemic stroke to study the safety and effectiveness of giving clot-busting medication within 6 hours. Recruitment at 1st April 2010:UK 931, Poland 299, Italy 219, Sweden 208, Norway 171, Australia 155, Belgium 71, Portugal 46, Austria 36, Switzerland 11, Canada 8, Mexico 3. There are 13 months left for recruiting to this trial and achieving target of 3100 participants. The trial will finish in June 2011.



DIAS-4

An international randomised controlled trial for acute ischemic stroke to study the safety and effectiveness of giving clot-busting medication within 9 hours. This trial is sponsored by the pharmaceutical company Lundbeck. Recruitment for June is 24 patients and the target is 400 by May 2012



Efficacy of Nitric Oxide in Stroke

The 'Efficacy of Nitric Oxide in Stroke' (ENOS) study is an international, randomised controlled trial designed to test the safety and effectiveness of controlling blood pressure using nitric oxide patch compared to continuing or temporarily stopping prior anti-hypertensive medication. Recruitment at 8th June 2010: 1849 participants from 129 centres across the globe. The trial plans to run until October 2013



Surgical Trial in Lobar Intracerebral Haemorrhage

To establish whether a policy of early surgery will improve outcome compared to a policy of initial conservative treatment. The trial will also help to better define the indications for early surgery. Recruitment as of 8th June 2010: 316 participants from 92 centres across the globe. The trial plans to run until August 2011.



Cervical Artery Dissection in Stroke Study

A randomised controlled study comparing two blood thinning medication regimens for patients with carotid and vertebral artery dissection. Recruitment to date: 51 patients in the randomised arm and 70 patients into the non-randomised arm from 30 centres across the UK. The trial plans to run until December 2011.



Vertebral artery Ischemia Stenting Trial

A randomised trial for patients who have had a recent stroke and a narrowing of the arteries in the neck to compare the effects and safety of surgery to widen the arteries against standard drug treatment. The trial plans to run until December 2011.

Longer Term Unmet Needs After Stroke

LUNS is a UK trial assessing a questionnaire that can address patient's social, emotional, physical, medical and information needs in one format compared to current practice. Recruitment to date 317 patients have been recruited and the study plans to run until February 2011

South London Ethnicity Study

Stroke is approximately twice as common in UK Africans and African-Caribbean's compared with Caucasians. Afro-Caribbean patients will be recruited from St Georges, Kings College and St Thomas' hospitals and compared to Caucasian controls to see which type of stroke is more common amongst the afro-Caribbean population. The study plans to run until December 2011.

A DNA Resource for Lacunar Stroke

This project will collect DNA from 1100 Caucasian patients who have had a lacunar stroke. To date 564 patients and 1727 controls have been recruited and the study plans to finish at the end of 2011.

Antiplatelets – drugs that prevent clots forming in the blood.

Adverse events – an unwanted effect experienced whilst taking study medication.

Approved drug – that have authorisation for use in specific patient groups.

Arm – treatment groups that patients are randomised in to.

Blind – participants are not told which study arm they are on.

Control group – used to compare against experimental group by taking placebo or standard treatment.

Dissection – cut or tear of lining of artery wall, common in young strokes.

Efficacy – ability of drug to show an effect.

Endpoint – outcome that the trial is evaluating.

Experimental drug – not licensed for use in humans or in a disease area.

Haemorrhagic stroke – caused by a burst blood vessel.

Informed consent – process of receiving information and deciding whether to take part in a clinical trial.

Ischemic stroke – caused by narrowing of the arteries.

Lacunar stroke – narrowing of the arteries that lie deep within the brain.

Stenting – an artificial tube inserted in to the arteries to widen and improve blood flow.

Placebo – inactive drug that is compared to the experimental drug.

Protocol – document that states how the trial should be carried out.

Randomisation – assigning participants to groups based on chance.

Randomised controlled trial (RCT) – participants randomly allocated to study treatment.

USEFUL WEBSITES FOR RESEARCH

STROKE ASSOCIATION

■ www.stroke.org.uk

PATIENT FORUMS

■ www.stroke.org.uk/talkstroke

■ www.healthtalkonline.org

PATIENT INVOLVEMENT IN CLINICAL RESEARCH

■ www.invo.org.uk/index.asp

■ www.londonstrokedirectory.org.uk

THE STROKE ASSOCIATION HAS A GOOD FUNDRAISING PAGE WITH CHALLENGES AND SPORTING EVENTS YOU CAN ENTER OR VOLUNTEER OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS TO ENTER ON YOUR BEHALF TO RAISE MONEY.

- ❑ Dragon Boat races
- ❑ Fun runs
- ❑ Triathlons



CONNECT

<http://www.ukconnect.org>

Connect Wandsworth is open to anyone with aphasia who lives in the borough or is registered with a Wandsworth GP.

All our services are fully supported and run by people with aphasia.

The service offers the following activities:

[Conversation groups](#)

[Befriending](#)

[Conversation Partner Scheme](#)

[Hubs](#)

Please contact [Wasi Daniju](#) or tel. 020 7367 0845

Suggestions or comments for next issue please email Jackie Coleman jcoleman@sgul.ac.uk or Emma O'Connor eoconnor@sgul.ac.uk
