

## Research Briefing – GY&W Norfolk CCG Q4 2014/15

### CCG Research Funding:

- 2015/16 allocations for Research Capability Funding (RCF) were released on 25<sup>th</sup> March. Great Yarmouth & Waveney CCG has been awarded £20k on the basis of recruitment into portfolio research studies over the previous reporting year (recruitment threshold of 500 participants)
- The Norfolk & Suffolk Primary and Community Care Research Office Bursary Scheme is being re-launched in 2015/16. Historically bursaries have been awarded to support those working in primary and community care to develop their research ideas to the point of submitting a research proposal for funding, with mentorship provided by the Research Design Lead. The new scheme will offer a 2 tier system with tier 1 aiming to develop participants' research skills by attending a relevant research-related course; and tier 2 providing an opportunity to apply for a time limited 1 day a week secondment with mentorship to develop research ideas and submit for funding. Further details will be available in due course.

### Research Study update in Primary Care:

- In the last four months, the EoE CCGs have been the highest recruiters in England for the **FAST Four-fold**, a study looking at clinical effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of temporarily increasing the dose of inhaled steroid to prevent asthma exacerbations. Bridge Road (Dr Bouch) in Oulton Broad are the second highest recruiter for this study, having recruited 16 patients this year.
- EoE is also the best recruiter for **TWICS** study, a randomised controlled trial of the effectiveness of a low dose oral theophylline as an adjunct to inhaled corticosteroid in preventing exacerbations in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Practices from GY&W recruited 18 patients in 2014/15.
- **CANDID** (Cancer) studies, looking to produce decision rules for use in the referral, or otherwise, of patients with suspected colorectal or lung cancer, has been successfully recruiting in the region, including GY&W area. Beccles Medical Centre is in 3<sup>rd</sup> place nation-wide, with 112 recruited patients. Victoria Road Practice is also maintaining steady recruitment within the set target.
- Two workshops have taken place to provide additional recruiting support for practices involved with the **CANDID** study. Workshops were attended by 50% of all participating practices, with GY&W practices being represented at both sessions. Recruitment tips and advice were exchanged between all participants with updates provided by the study team.
- GY&W are leading nationally in recruiting to **Barack D** study, looking at benefits of the addition of an aldosterone receptor antagonist in patients with moderate Chronic Kidney Disease. Beccles Medical Centre is the top recruiting site, with 22 patients screened for inclusion. Beccles MC also the highest recruiting practice in Eastern region for **HEAT** (Helicobacter eradication to prevent ulcer bleeding in aspirin users) study this year, having recruited 97 patients. Beccles are the second practice in the UK to recruit to the **Archie** study, a randomised controlled trial looking 'at risk' children with influenza/influenza-like illness.



### Research Findings:

- The **iQuit in Practice** study team have published their research findings in the *Addiction*, 109, 1184-11. 2014. **iQuit** was a multicenter UK-wide trial randomised controlled trial of tailored web- and text-based facilitation of smoking cessation in primary care. Practices across Suffolk and Norfolk were involved. The study demonstrated the feasibility and acceptability of intervention compared with routine cessation support alone. **iQuit** system was not found to be more effective than routine care in the short term, however, longer term abstinence is possible using this type of tailored self-service within routine care, to be tested in a larger randomised trial. The full report can be accessed via <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/add.2014.109.issue-7/issuetoc>
- The report for **LoTS** trial, a multicentre randomised control trial looking at evaluation of a patient and carer-centred system for stroke patients after hospital discharge, was published in the *NIHR Journal*, Volume 2; 6; Dec 2014. This robust trial shown no benefit on effectiveness or cost-effectiveness of the new system of care when compared with usual practice delivered by Stroke Care Co-ordinators. The full report is free to download from [http://www.journalslibrary.nihr.ac.uk/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0005/131783/FullReport-pgfar02060.pdf](http://www.journalslibrary.nihr.ac.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/131783/FullReport-pgfar02060.pdf)

### GP capability/capacity:

- The Research team delivered a full day of Good Clinical Practice (GCP) training, hosted by Rosedale Surgery in March 2015, with 9 participants attended, mainly represented by GY&W practices. GCP training enables more practices to achieve a minimum training requirement for their personnel and to increase practices capability to take on research studies.
- GY&W practices were well represented in two out of the three recent GP Research Forums. Research forums give the opportunity to GPs, practice managers and researchers to discuss research issues and learn about new upcoming studies.

### Research Regulation changes:

- The Health Research Authority (HRA) have opened calls for the first cohort of studies (Cohort 1)<sup>1</sup> to be submitted through the [HRA Approval Process](#). HRA Approval will provide a single assurance that a study complies with required legislation and guidance, and that a favourable opinion from a research ethics committee is in place, replacing the need for Sponsors to gain NHS Permission from each NHS organisation hosting the study. Instead NHS organisations will need to confirm their capability and capacity to participate, and that arrangements are in place to do so. HRA approval will be phased in over the course of 2015 with Cohort 1 eligible studies opening on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2015.
- A new “[UK Policy Framework for Research in Health and Social Care](#)” was issued for comment by the Health Research Authority (HRA). This is expected to replace the current DH Research Governance Framework for Health and Social Care. A teleconference was held by the NHS R&D Forum working groups to draft a response, which the Research Office has contributed to.

### Personnel Changes:

- New Administrator, Lisa Osborne, has joined the Research Office in March to support the Head of R&D and the Research Development team

<sup>1</sup> Cohort 1 eligible studies are non-student projects that only involve staff as participants

