



# Research Bulletin from the Diabetes Trials Unit Translational Research Group

Issue 2 – April 2011

Welcome to the spring edition of our research bulletin. The Diabetes Trials Unit Translational Research Group (TRG) has been busy over the past months, and we're delighted to report on our recent progress. Keep reading for an insight into our current research activities and collaborations.

## RESEARCH NEWS IN BRIEF

- **Our first trial is now recruiting** – And several more are following close behind.
- **New medical expertise** – Two clinical endocrinologists, from Austria and Singapore, have joined the group to work on our research.
- **Increased funding** – Despite the difficult financial climate, the group has successfully attracted funding from both the pharmaceutical industry and charitable organisations.
- **Explaining our work to the public** – Our team was at the Biomedical Research Centre Open Day on 17<sup>th</sup> March, which generated lots of interest in diabetes research. Head to <http://bit.ly/gdz6vp> for further details.
- **Your input is making a difference** – Documents from 4 of our trials have already benefitted from feedback from the Thames Valley Diabetes Local Research Network Patient and Public Involvement Reference Panel. Thank you!

## FIRST STUDY NOW RECRUITING

- **Oral Glucose Tolerance Test device trial**  
The Group's first trial has received all its necessary approvals and is now open for recruitment. This trial is evaluating a new device that could be used to screen people for diabetes in their own homes. With 30 participants to find – both with and without type 2 diabetes - and our first tests taking place in April, we are looking forward to a busy couple of months.

## UPCOMING STUDIES

The TRG has a number of research trials in development at the moment, with several of them expected to start recruitment soon.

- **Aspirin Trial.** This will look to see whether doubling the dose of aspirin, or taking it twice-daily rather than once-daily, could have a positive effect in people with diabetes. Specifically, it will assess if the clotting activity in the blood of patients with type 2 diabetes can be lowered, which could play a role in reducing heart disease in this group. We will be looking to recruit a total of 24 patients with type 2 diabetes to this study
- **DPP-4 inhibition in Type 1 diabetes.** This will investigate whether the addition of sitagliptin, an oral tablet already used in **type 2** diabetes could improve blood sugar control in patients with **type 1** diabetes when added to their existing insulin treatment. We are seeking a total of 30 patients with type 1 diabetes to take part in this study.
- **HOMA Calibration Study.** This will help provide doctors with a way to inform future treatment decisions. It is aiming to standardise a mathematical model that provides estimates of insulin production and loss of insulin sensitivity. Such information may help doctors to make better informed decisions about selecting the best treatments for individual patients with diabetes. This study requires 50 healthy volunteers that do not have diabetes.

## JOIN OUR RESEARCH REGISTER

OCDEM is a very active research centre and we are always looking for volunteers, with or without diabetes, and General Practices to help us recruit for our studies. If you, or someone you know, would like further details on any of our upcoming studies, or is interested in joining our research register, please head to our TRG website at [www.dtu.ox.ac.uk/trg](http://www.dtu.ox.ac.uk/trg).

## FIND OUT MORE

For further information about our Group and what we do please visit our website, [www.dtu.ox.ac.uk](http://www.dtu.ox.ac.uk), or E-mail us at [trg@dtu.ox.ac.uk](mailto:trg@dtu.ox.ac.uk).