



Welcome to our Spring bulletin

With several studies now actively recruiting and more in preparation, the last few months have been busy for our team. Please read on to hear about our latest activities and some of the current diabetes-related developments in the headlines.

Diabetes UK conference 2015

Many of the Translational Research Group clinical team attended this year's Diabetes UK professional conference, themed 'Diabetes: Time to take control'. With over 3,000 attendees, this is the only event of its kind in the UK run exclusively for healthcare professionals and scientists working in the field of diabetes.

TRG Chief Investigators Professors Rury Holman and Stephen Gough both presented during the 'Hot Topics' sessions. The talks titled respectively 'Intensive glucose lowering and macrovascular risk' and 'Safety of glucose lowering therapies: an update' were well received and generated considerable interest. For details of the full DUK programme go to:

<http://tinyurl.com/DUK-2015-programme>

TRG research presented during this year's Oxford Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) public engagement events

The latest TRG research was presented by TRG member Dr Matthew Wintle at the 'Research into Heart Health' BRC public open evening on 10th March. The talk was part of a wider Oxford BRC programme to raise awareness of research at Oxford. The following link gives an introduction to the aims of the Oxford BRC:

<http://oxfordbrc.nihr.ac.uk/public-events-2/>

Studies recruiting now! – Can you help?

Testosterone in men with type 2 diabetes study (TAK-448)

48 men with type 2 diabetes are needed.

Men with type 2 diabetes often have low levels of testosterone, which may be associated with an increased risk of cardiovascular problems. This 12-week study investigates whether a hormone called kisspeptin, which controls the release of testosterone, can improve testosterone levels.

Remote Mood Monitoring study

20 people with type 2 diabetes who are about to start an injectable therapy such as insulin are needed.

This pilot study is designed to find out whether a simple website or SMS text-messaging could be used to monitor mood changes in people with type 2 diabetes.

LIXI study

30 people with type 1 diabetes are needed.

Closing recruitment shortly!

Lixisenatide is used to treat people with type 2 diabetes. This 16-week study is looking to see if lixisenatide could also be used in people with **type 1 diabetes**, to improve their blood glucose control when given in addition to their usual insulin therapy.

To find out more:

E-mail cru@ocdem.ox.ac.uk or
telephone Sarah White on
01865 857287

TYPE 2 DIABETES

TYPE 1 DIABETES

In the headlines.....

Please read on for latest diabetes-related updates ...

Normal weight individuals who develop type 2 diabetes: The personal fat threshold

In a research article published this month in the Journal of Clinical Science, Professors Roy Taylor (University of Newcastle) and Rury Holman (DTU Director) have hypothesised that each individual may have a personal fat threshold (PFT) which, if exceeded, triggers the development of type 2 diabetes. This PFT is independent of body mass index and subsequent weight loss to take the individual below their level of susceptibility should allow return to normal glucose control.



This theory arose after examination of a sub-set of data from the DTU's 20-year UK Prospective Diabetes Study (UKPDS): <http://www.dtu.ox.ac.uk/UKPDS/>

To view the article please go to:

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1042/CS20140553>

HOMA calculator to be updated

HOMA, full name is HOmeostasis Model Assessment, is a software tool designed by OCDEM researchers that is used to estimate the levels of insulin resistance and beta cell function in people with type 2 diabetes who are not treated with insulin.



This update aims to extend the HOMA functionality so that it can also estimate insulin resistance and beta cell function in people treated with insulin.

Details of the proposed changes can be found by visiting the following link:

<http://tinyurl.com/HOMA-update>

Type 1 diabetes initial working vaccine possible 'within 10 years'

At last month's Diabetes UK conference Scientists announced over £4.4 million of new investment into developing and testing a new vaccine for type 1 diabetes.

The new studies, which are funded by Diabetes UK, with support from Tesco and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF), are aiming to produce the first working vaccines within the next 10 years.

As well as helping to delay or even prevent type 1 diabetes in those at high risk, this will also be an important step towards a cure for the condition. It is likely that the vaccine will also work in harmony with other treatments that reduce damage to insulin producing cells in the pancreas caused by the immune system.

For further information please visit:

<http://tinyurl.com/T1DM-vaccine>

Diabetes prescription fines cancelled

Diabetes UK is celebrating a victory for people with diabetes after the Government agreed to reimburse those who have been unfairly fined for claiming free prescriptions. Since September 2014, thousands of people with diabetes have been fined up to £100 for not having a valid medical exemption certificate.

The need for a medical exemption certificate had been poorly communicated to people with diabetes for years. For further details go to:

<http://tinyurl.com/Prescription-fines>

Remember this year's Diabetes UK week!

Sunday 14 to Saturday 20 June

For event details go to:

<http://tinyurl.com/Diabetes-week>

DIABETES UK
CARE. CONNECT. CAMPAIGN.