



IST-3 Newsletter

June 2005

European Stroke Conference Bologna 25- 28 May 2005

The highlights of the conference for the IST-3 team were the very successful national co-ordinators' meeting and the collaborators' meetings. Twenty countries were represented at the national co-ordinators' meeting, and there was great enthusiasm to get the trial going in as many centres as possible, now that we have secured long-term funding from the Medical Research Council. The national co-ordinators all came up with very constructive suggestions as to how we might move the trial forward, and the trial team will start working on them. The supply of drug is a problem in many centres, and Peter Sandercock and Richard Lindley had a constructive meeting with Boehringer-Ingelheim. We will

keep you posted on progress with this issue. The collaborators' meeting was well attended, and was enlivened by a prize-giving ceremony. The following national co-ordinators received prizes for recruiting lots of new centres: Stefano Ricci (Italy), Eivind Berge (Norway), Veronica Murray (Sweden). Anna Czlonkowska and Adam Kobayashi in Warsaw received a prize as the most active recruiting centre. The most unusual prize – a chocolate haggis - went to Sheffield Hallamshire Hospital, UK to Mark Randall and Catrin Blank for a combination of recruiting under difficult circumstances and recruiting patient no. 350 during the conference!

Trial Programmers to Develop Web-Based Randomisation System

Many of the national co-ordinators expressed interest in the idea of a web-based randomisation system, especially in centres where international telephone calls are difficult, or where English is not the first language. We hope to be developing these towards the end of the year, when our software and hardware systems have been upgraded. We will keep you posted on progress with this.

Other Enhancements to the Randomisation Process

Improved telephone randomisation systems (Freephone numbers and systems in your own country's language), we hope can be developed over the coming months.

Recruitment Update

We now have 40 centres, 8 of which have recruited a patient within the last 30 days. 15 patients have been recruited within the last 30 days, bringing the total to 359. We will award a prize to the centre recruiting the 400th patient. Trial recruitment really is taking off!

With best wishes for a good summer.
The IST-3 trial team.



Recruitment

A big thank you to all who have randomised this month and a special thank you to Professor Czlonkowska and her team at the Institute of Psychiatry and Neurology in Warsaw, Poland who have randomised 5 patients.

Recruiting Centres	Last 30 days	Total
Western General Hospital, UK	0	56
Ulster Hospital, Belfast, UK	0	3
Bishop Auckland General Hospital, UK	0	12
King's College Hospital, London, UK	0	2
Leicester Royal Infirmary, Leicester, UK	0	2
Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge, UK	0	17
Royal Hallamshire Hospital, Sheffield, UK	2	33
Arrowe Park Hospital, Merseyside, UK	0	13
City General Hospital, Stoke-on-trent, UK	1	13
University Hospital, Aintree, UK	0	6
Ospedale Beato Giacomo Villa, Italy	1	16
Ospedale Niguardia, Italy	0	23
Ospedale Regionale di Aosta, Italy	0	3
University Hospital Trondheim, Norway	1	13
Kongsvinger Sykehus, Norway	0	12
Ullevål Sykehus, Norway	2	32
Medisinsk Avdeling, Baerum, Norway	0	2
Danderyds Hospital, Sweden	2	8
Institute of Psychiatry & Neurology, Poland	5	48
Royal Perth Hospital, Australia	1	4
Westmead Hospital, Australia	0	3
John Hunter Hospital, Australia	0	1
Cliniques Universitaires, Belgium	0	37
Total	15	359

New Centres

Welcome to the following centres:

Military Medical Institute, Warsaw, Poland

Ospedale Guglielmo da Salicento Piacenza, Piacenza, Italy

Walsgrave Hospital, Coventry, UK

Sykehuset Namsos, Namsos, Norway

Canberra Hospital, Australia

Ospedale Silvestrini, Perugia, Italy

University Hospital North Norway, Tromsø, Norway

Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital, Herston, Australia