



Joint SBNS / BNTRC Academic Newsletter March 2019

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Welcome

Welcome to the fourth joint academic newsletter from the **Society of British Neurological Surgeons (SBNS)** Academic Committee and the **British Neurosurgical Trainee Research Collaborative (BNTRC)**.

This newsletter includes updates on;

- Recent research news
- Currently recruiting trials in neurosurgery
- Future trials under development
- BNTRC projects
- Dates for up-coming research events

Please get in touch if you have any questions about information in this newsletter or would like to contribute to future news via Carole Turner, SBNS Research Manager (clt29@medschl.cam.ac.uk) or Rory Piper, BNTRC Chair (rorypiper@doctors.org.uk).

News and events

UK neurosurgical research is very active and is now second globally in terms of delivering randomised controlled trials. Our portfolio consists of 6 multicentre trials currently recruiting with a number of further studies in set up. 3 major trials have successfully completed recruitment over the last 12 months (BASICS, NERVES and DEX-CSDH) with a total in excess of 2500 patients!! We would like to thank everyone for your ongoing support.

SBNS Research Day (Cambridge, 1st November 2019)

Following on from the successful SBNS Research Day in 2017, we are planning on holding a 2nd meeting this year, in Robinson College, Cambridge. We plan to cover all areas of research both in the UK and worldwide, neurosurgical registries and to include input from many others such as journal editors and funding bodies. Registration will open shortly.

BNRG (Edinburgh, 7th-8th November 2019)

As previously advised, the format of the BNRG will be changing this year and it will be promoted as the academic meeting of the SBNS. In addition to presented abstracts we plan to include a sandpit session to discuss future proposals, study design and maybe a dragons den for trainees looking for funding. The format of the meeting is under review however please keep the dates free and keep in mind if you have a project you wish to discuss. We will continue to have a number of invited keynote speakers.

As in previous meetings there will a research table at the joint EANN/SBNS meeting in Manchester (19th – 22nd March). If you wish to promote your trial, please feel free to bring any literature or newsletter to display or contact Carole Turner clt29@medschl.cam.ac.uk for further information.

Currently recruiting trials

RESCUE-ASDH: *Rescue for Acute Subdural Haematoma trial*

The target of 440 has been exceeded (n = 450) however approvals are in place to continue to recruit until 30th April 2019 so please keep going until the deadline! This will be the largest surgical trial of traumatic brain injured patients. The team would like to thank everyone who has contributed.



GLOBAL NEUROTRAUMA:

The study is progressing well. Protocols, training courses and videos are all in process. The Global Neurotrauma Outcomes Study (GNOS) is well underway. Over 400 patients have been recruited from 75 centres in 40 countries worldwide. This is a snapshot data collection from a 30-day period to identify management and outcomes of patients undergoing emergency surgery for traumatic TBI worldwide. Recruitment is open until October 2019. For further details of how to take part please click here <https://globalneurotrauma.com/>



ROAM: *Radiation vs Observation following surgical resection of Atypical Meningioma: a randomized controlled trial*

The ROAM trial is progressing well with 71 patients recruited to date. 51 sites are now open. Please visit the website for further updates www.roam-trial.org.uk



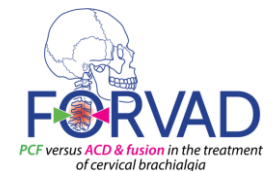
PRaM-GBM Study: *Predicting sites of treatment failure and tumour recurrence in the invasive margin of glioblastomas*

Recruitment is progressing well and new sites are continuing to come on board, 68 patients have been recruited to date, from 6 centres. If you wish further information or to register interest please contact Stephen Price sjp58@cam.ac.uk or trial coordinator Katrina Gatley katrina.gatley@addenbrookes.nhs.uk



FORVAD: *Cervical Foraminotomy vs Anterior Cervical Discectomy in Cervical Radiculopathy*

FORVAD is now open to recruitment and the first patient was recruited in Leeds on 10th January 2019. For further details and to express interest to join please contact either Simon Thomson simon.thomson1@nhs.net or trial coordinator Fiona Brudenell Straw f.k.brudenellstraw@leeds.ac.uk



SCIL: *Interleukin-1 receptor antagonist in the treatment of aneurysmal subarachnoid haemorrhage*

A randomised double blind placebo controlled phase III trial with a target cohort of 1000 patients. The study opened in October 2018 and is off to a great start with 10 patients recruited in the first 3 months. Salford and Cardiff are open and hopefully this will be followed by a further 18 sites across the UK. For further details and to express interest to join please contact either Andrew King Andrew.King@manchester.ac.uk or trial coordinator Helen Bradley Helen.Bradley@christie.nhs.uk

Further ongoing trials:

HIFU

High intensity ultrasound for the treatment of sacral tumours

CI: Stana Bojanic, Oxford

RECEDE

Regeneration in cervical degenerative myelopathy

CI: Mark Kotter, Cambridge

CEREBRAL MUTISM STUDY

UK Contact: Conor Mallucci

Trials closed to recruitment

DEX-CSDH: *Dexamethasone in Chronic Subdural Haematoma trial*

Recruitment has now closed – the target of 750 was met on 24th November 2018. The last outcome questionnaire will be due in May 2019. 23 centres from around the UK contributed to the trial and the team would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who participated.

TOPSAT2: *Treatment of poor grade subarachnoid haemorrhage trial.*

Unfortunately after discussions with the NIHR, recruitment to TOPSAT2 has been halted as it was not possible to maintain a satisfactory recruitment rate. However, going forward the proposal is to run an observational study collecting data on treatment and outcome of poor grade SAH patients. Formal expressions of interest are being collated by Phil White in Newcastle phil.white@newcastle.ac.uk

Currently completed trials

BASICS: *British Antibiotic and Silver Impregnated Catheters for ventriculoperitoneal Shunt trial*

Following completion of the trial and data cleaning, the primary results were announced at the Autumn SBNS meeting in September 2018. The initial paper is in now underway.

NERVES: *Nerve root block vs surgery for sciatica secondary to a prolapsed lumbar disc.*

Following completion, the team are in the process of data cleaning and hope to announce the results this summer.

Future trials under development

VISION: *Venous stenting versus shunting in IIH for optic nerve disc swelling.*

EME call for intra-operative imaging

Pharmacological management of post-traumatic seizures

Please get in touch if you have any other neurosurgical related trials planned that you would like to share on this newsletter.

BNTRC update and projects

Neurosurgical trainees in the UK have had a busy and successful 2018. The portfolio of projects includes:

Ongoing projects:**UCES** (Understanding Cauda Equina Study)

UCES is well underway and has now recruited over 300 patients. Thank you to all of our collaborators for working hard to recruit patients ...and keep up the good work! We are aiming for 1000. The protocol for UCES has recently been published in BMJ Open: *Woodfield J, Hoeritzauer I, Jamjoom AAB, Pronin S, Srikantharajah N, Poon M, Roy H, Demetriades AK, Sell P, Eames N, Statham PFX; British Neurosurgical Trainee Research Collaborative (BNTRC). Understanding cauda equina syndrome: protocol for a UK multicentre prospective observational cohort study.*

BMJ Open. 2018 Dec 14;8(12):e025230.

**Completed projects:****ENTICE**

The ENTICE project, led by NANSIG, investigating cauda equina syndrome has now been completed and has been submitted for publication. The results from ENTICE have also featured in the recently released GIRFT Spine report.

naSAH

Our systematic review and meta-analysis investigating non-aneurysmal subarachnoid haemorrhage has now been completed and has been submitted for publication.

MEMBRAIN

We have now finished our analysis of the results from the MEMBRAIN project, a study of cerebral metastases, and we plan to submit for publication very soon.

New projects:

Following our recent call for projects, the BNTRC are excited to announce the launch of two new studies. We will shortly be calling for trainee collaborators to be involved.

Chiari 1

We are currently planning a new prospective, multicentre study investigating the outcomes of conservative and surgical management of Chiari 1 malformation. The project will also assess variance in practice across the UK. The trainee leads for the project are Rory Piper (Oxford) and Fardad Afshari (Birmingham). The next stage will be to formalise our protocol and then to seek both trainee and consultant collaborators from across the UK. If you are interested, then please email Rory: bntrc.committee@gmail.com

Normal pressure hydrocephalus

Our second new project is going to be a study of normal pressure hydrocephalus and will be collaboratively led by NHNN London, Liverpool and Cambridge. The trainee lead for the NPH study is Claudia Craven (NHNN). Following completion and publication of many successful trials, we aim to open up a fresh call for new projects with priority to projects exploring ‘areas of unmet interest’ such as paediatrics, NPH, peripheral nerve.

Dates for your Diary

SBNS Spring meeting, Manchester

This is a joint meeting with the EANS 19-22 Mar 2019



SBNS/EANS Congress of European Neurosurgery

Dublin
24-28 Sept 2019



EANS2019

SBNS Research Day

Cambridge, 1 November 2019

BNRG

Edinburgh, 7-8 November 2019

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