

Intercalation Research Project

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| Project Title: | Paediatric Asthma Admissions- a 15 year observational study |
| Lead Supervisor: Name: Department: Email Address: Telephone: | Prof Warren Lenney and Dr Fran Gilchrist Academic Department Child Health Warren.lenney@uhns.nhs.uk / francis.gilchrist@uhns.nhs.uk 01782 675296/01782 675290 |
| Co-supervisor: Name: Department: Email Address: Telephone: | Jane Peach Department of Child Health UHNS Jane.peach@uhns.nhs.uk |

Aims

Please outline the aims of your proposal (250 words):

Asthma is one of the commonest medical reasons for a child to be admitted to hospital as an emergency because of an asthma exacerbation.

Over the last 15 years Jane Peach (asthma nurse specialist) has captured all the information from the UHNS children's department relating to such admissions and has used some of the data to inform the national paediatric asthma audit undertaken through the BTS/BPRS. That audit is only one month (November) each year so there are vast amounts of data which have not yet been analysed. We have some of the most comprehensive asthma data, collected over many years compared to other hospitals in the country and there is an excellent opportunity to capture, analyse and publish that data. This will enable us to gain better understanding of the issues we see in acute severe asthma in children and enable improved future management and better asthma control.

Research Plan & Methodology

Explain how you intend to carry out the study. This includes the sampling strategy you intend to use, the data collection process and an analysis plan (750 words):

There is much suggestion that over the last 20 years we in the UK have been in an asthma epidemic with increasing admission numbers in childhood and worsening asthma control. Good quality evidence that this is truly occurring is lacking and the incumbent will be able to answer some important questions at present being raised at a national level.

All the information collected by Jane over many years will be offered to the incumbent who will be supported to develop a comprehensive database of considerable size and importance. From the database information the following questions will be answered

- 1) Have the number of admissions altered over time?
- 2) Has the length of stay changed?
- 3) Do we offer a comprehensive written discharge plan
- 4) What is our readmission rate over the 6 months subsequent to hospital discharge?
- 5) Is our follow up plan in line with national recommendations?
- 6) Are patients satisfied with the care they receive?

Supervision Plan

Highlight the supervisory support available to the student (250 words):

Data input will be supervised by a member of the Keele University Statistics Department. Basic training will be offered in research methodology and GCP training will be arranged. From previous discussions with Dr Roger Beech, he has agreed to help and ensure the candidate has the appropriate contacts needed to develop and progress the project through his colleagues in the RDS.

There will be weekly meetings with Prof Lenney/ Dr Fran Gilchrist offering advice in relation to the project. The student will be encouraged to attend all the asthma clinics undertaken in the paediatric department including the severe brittle asthma clinic. There will be clear and detailed advice regarding write up of the study in preparation for an M Phil degree .

Signatures & Declarations

Please ensure that all signatures are collected – otherwise your application may be delayed:

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| Principal Investigator: | Dr Fran Gilchrist/ Prof Warren Lenney |
| Signature: | |
| Clinical Director : | Dr Caroline Groves |
| Signature: | |

Deadline 31st September 2014

Please submit the electronic version of your intercalation project to Keira.Watts@uhns.nhs.uk. If you have any enquiries, feel free to contact the Academic Development Team by phone or e-mail: