

SUMMER
2015



Newsletter

What's been happening in HALT-IT?

Milestones

We look at the trial achievements and the teams that have reached milestones.

Top Recruiters

Top recruiters in the UK and overseas. Are you on the list?

Most Improved Sites

We thank the sites with the most improved recruitment in a 6-week period.

Collaborators Get Creative!

Those sites going that extra mile to promote awareness of the trial and have some fun in the process!

New Countries

The new countries who are preparing to join the HALT-IT global family

The HALT-IT trial collaborators have randomised **3000** patients!!

This month celebrates the recruitment of 3,000 patients in the UK, Georgia and Nigeria. In many other countries around the world collaborators are working hard to obtain the necessary approvals, with Australia, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Romania and others getting ready to start recruitment soon. This is particularly important as this year the trial will be expanding internationally. Thanks to all for being part of this global effort to improve the care of GI bleeding patients. If you have colleagues that would be interested in the trial, remember to invite them to join and spread the word! The trial website, Facebook and the CTU Twitter are now live (see reverse for details).

The HALT-IT trial is making excellent progress – well ahead on recruitment – with applications to join the trial streaming in from all around the world. The huge enthusiasm for the trial almost certainly reflects the feeling voiced by many collaborators that GI bleeding has been the poor relation of medical research for far too long. Collaboration is the way forward. Working together we can provide the reliable answers needed to improve patient care. Onwards!

POINTS TO CONSIDER

Waiver of Prior Consent: Consider using the waiver of prior consent if the patient is too distressed or sick to provide consent and no suitable patient representative is available. Remember it takes time to obtain informed consent and that treatment for GI bleeding is time critical.

Maintenance Dose: What steps are you taking to ensure that completion of the maintenance dose is appropriately documented in the medical records?

Trial Team: The more the merrier! Are the wider departments, specialities and junior doctors involved?

Recruitment: Being visible in recruitment areas helps raise awareness for the trial so that eligible patients are not missed. How do you go about this?

Share your comments and tips with us on the HALT-IT Facebook page (link on back page)

Most Improved

Increase in randomisation compared to previous month

- Leicester Royal Infirmary - 10 patients
- Derriford Hospital, Plymouth - 6 patients
- Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham - 5 patients
- Southampton General Hospital - 4 patients
- University Hospital of North Tees - 4 patients
- Glasgow Royal Infirmary - 4 patients



King's College Hospital - 4 patients



Royal Stoke University Hospital - 10 patients



Royal London Hospital - 6 patients



Great Western Hospital - 3 patients



Olabisi Onabanjo University Teaching Hospital - 3 patients

What you've said about the ALT-IT trial

"The HALT-IT trial has a great potential of making a positive impact on the treatment outcome in patients who have gastrointestinal bleeding. We derive great joy in coordinating the trial in Nigeria and we are encouraged by our progress in getting more trial centres on board. The HALT-IT network is expanding gradually in Nigeria with 47 patients recruited into the study in five hospitals. The many hospitals, at different stages of registration, will fulfil our goal of getting 30 hospitals recruiting patients by the middle of 2016. We are, indeed, happy to be part of the HALT-IT trial global team."

National Coordinating Centre, Nigeria



St George's Hospital, UK [L-R] Heather Jarman (Nurse Consultant) and Sarah Rounding (Research Nurse)

"HALT-IT has been a great success at St George's Hospital and has been a great example of collaborative working between Gastroenterology and Emergency Departments. It is a pragmatic trial well suited to our busy acute service with patients recruited from all corners of the hospital as far afield as Orthopaedics and Cardiothoracics"

Richard Pollok, Consultant Gastroenterologist

"HALT-IT was the very first clinical trial we randomised patients into in the Emergency Department at St. George's Hospital. Due to our successful recruitment rates we have now expanded our research team and involved ourselves in many other clinical trials from local to international. We all feel that the LSHTM CTU has set an excellent example for our future research here at SGH ED, so thank you to you all too!"

Sarah Rounding, Research Nurse



[L-R] Bukola Fawole, Jide Okunade, Sade Adetayo, Adefemi Afolabi



The team at UCH Ibadan, Nigeria [L-R]: doctors Afuwape, Olatunde, Irabor, Alonge, Akere, Ola and Afolabi

We started the HALT-IT trial at Great Western Hospital in October 2014 and it is running really well. We have recruited 47 patients in 10 months! This is down to the hard work and dedication of the emergency department team. The research nurses Jennie Derham and Lucy Williams hold training sessions on research trials happening in the emergency department for all members of staff to boost awareness and recruitment across a 24/7 service. As research nurses we understand that without the help of the whole emergency team we wouldn't be able to identify all eligible patients and we recognise this by awarding certificates for doctors and nurses who recruit patients and have a league table for how many patients each doctor has recruited (this is very encouraging for the competitive ones!).

Great Western Hospital, UK



[L-R] Staff nurse Lourdes Rodriguez Ramirez and research nurse Jennie Derham



100th

Blackpool Victoria Hospital celebrated reaching **100** patients in Dec '14



50th

Darlington Memorial Hospital recruited their **50th** patient in May '15



60th

Centre of Emergency Surgery and Traumatology in Georgia randomised their 60th patient in May '15

ALT-IT's Monumental Milestones

The HALT-IT trial collaborators are reaching huge milestones, which is testament to their hard work and effort. Let's also celebrate the new sites who are recruiting their first patient.

Other sites reaching milestones:

- Lagos University Teaching Hospital, Nigeria, randomised their **first** patient in January
- Royal Berkshire, UK, randomised their **100th** patient in January
- University Hospital of Wales, UK, randomised their **first** patient in February
- Northwick Park Hospital, UK, randomised their **first** patient in April
- Chesterfield Royal Hospital, UK, randomised their **first** patient in April
- Forth Valley Royal Hospital, UK, randomised their **first** patient in May
- Victoria Hospital Fife, UK, randomised their **first** patient in June
- Queen Alexandra Hospital, UK, randomised their **50th** patient in July



150th

Queens Medical Centre in Nottingham randomised their **150th** patient in March '15



1st

The 1st patient was randomised at University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital, Nigeria, in February.

If you're celebrating a milestone and would like to feature in the next newsletter or website news, send a photo of your team celebrations to the Coordinating Centre via the HALT-IT trial email haltit@lshtm.ac.uk

Top recruiters in the UK and around the world

- ◆ Queen's Medical Centre Nottingham, UK - 158 patients
- ◆ Blackpool Victoria Hospital, UK - 150 patients
- ◆ High Technology Medical Center, University Clinic, Georgia - 144 patients
- ◆ Royal Berkshire Hospital, UK - 120 patients
- ◆ John Radcliffe Hospital, UK - 107 patients
- ◆ Queen Elizabeth Hospital - Birmingham, UK - 103 patients
- ◆ Royal Stoke University Hospital, UK - 102 patients
- ◆ Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, UK - 77 patients
- ◆ Glasgow Royal Infirmary, UK - 76 patients
- ◆ Leicester Royal Infirmary, UK - 73 patients

Figures correct as of July 2015

UK collaborators and their

HALT-IT teams

"We love the HALT-IT study in Edinburgh! The research question is a clinically relevant and important one and has the potential to really impact on the future care we give to our patients. The study has also strengthened our local links with acute medicine, gastroenterology and critical care and is now firmly established within our Emergency Department. Many thanks to the Coordinating Centre team for making it all run so smoothly – here's to the next 72 patients!"

EMERGE Edinburgh (Matthew Reed)



"Over the past few weeks recruitment has rocketed with multiple recruits on a number of days and my team are now often referred to as the HALT-IT nurses!"

Holly Maguire, Royal Stoke UH



"Since starting recruitment for HALT-IT as a new research nurse my knowledge of using TXA to treat bleeding and the current guidelines around treating / investigating GI bleeds has improved tenfold which is a huge positive side effect of assisting research recruitment. Thank you HALT-IT!"

Claire Dowty, ED Research Nurse, Royal London Hospital



"We have a great deal of support in ED from the whole team and we promote the trial by attending doctors' handovers daily as well as being visible on the shop floor with posters up in all areas in ED promoting the trial and building on already great relationships with the staff."

Sonya Finucane, DREAM Research Nurse, QMC Nottingham



"As a team we focus on recruitment targets and informing medical and nursing staff about the HALT-IT trial and encouraging them to do their online GCP or face to face training. A Research Café is also being conducted once in three months to promote awareness to all staff."

Ann Isaiah, Leicester Royal Infirmary



Collaborator Contributions

When collaborators go that extra mile to support and promote the trial, we take notice. Here are some of the efforts of the amazing HALT-IT collaborators.



(L to R): Research Nurses Holly Maguire, Kay Finney and Jeanette Grocott

Great Western Hospital got creative with training



Charge nurse Andy Memory is amazed by the HALT-IT training from research nurse Jennie Derham at Great Western Hospital. To see more amazing photos from the team visit the collaborators page on the trial website.

International Clinical Trials Day 2015

Royal Stoke and York Hospitals promoted their trial research with HALT-IT at International Clinical Trials Day (ICTD) on 20 May. ICTD aims to raise awareness of the importance of research to healthcare and highlights how partnerships between patients and healthcare practitioners are vital to high-quality, relevant research.



The research team at York Hospital promote HALT-IT on ICTD

HALT-IT featured on British television



A British television programme titled *24 hours in A&E* featured the HALT-IT trial poster on display in the A&E Department at St George's Hospital, London.



We love your HALT-IT cupcakes!!

The teams at Leicester Royal Infirmary and St George's have been busy baking to promote awareness of the HALT-IT trial. It's great to see such creativity. Who said work can't also be fun?!

If you would like to be featured in the collaborator contributions, send your comments and photos to haltit@lshtm.ac.uk

New countries joining the HALT-IT team



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