Congratulations to the team at Great Ormond Street Hospital for recruiting the first patients into both the **step-up RCT** and the **step-down RCT**!

**Tips for learning the alphabet**

Following the clinical decision that a patient requires non-invasive respiratory support, eligible patients should be randomised as close as possible to time that they will start the treatment. This will help ensure that, by the time of randomisation, patients do still indeed require non-invasive respiratory support and that the randomised treatment will be started.

To help with local training and to raise awareness of FIRST-ABC - we have developed an online training course. The online training is primarily focused on the HFNC and CPAP treatment algorithms. The online training can be completed in full in less than 30 minutes or section-by-section (with each section taking around 5 minutes). Instructions on accessing the online training are provided following the site initiation visit.

**Data homework**

Just a reminder to add patients onto the FIRST-ABC database promptly as this is very important for trial monitoring. A special mention to the data stars at St Mary’s Hospital for adding the first patient to the database!

Don’t forget that the Comfort-B score should be assessed for each patient at least once during the first six hours and then at least six hourly, when on HFNC or CPAP!

**Have a question?**

FIRST-ABC Study Team

Email: firstabc@icnarc.org

Telephone: 020 7269 9277

Website: www.icnarc.org

**Site set-up progress**

- 21 sites were represented at the Collaborators’ Meeting
- 14 site initiation visits have been completed
- 9 sites have confirmed capacity and capability
- 6 sites have been activated and are open to recruitment

It is anticipated that a further 4 sites will open to recruitment in September, and 8 in October.

**OUR FIRST YEAR HAS STARTED!**

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