Welcome to the first SCARF Newsletter!

SCARF went live on 24 January 2013 and ten patients have been recruited as of 3 August 2013.

What is SCARF?

Recent studies of adults with impaired immunity and acute respiratory failure have suggested that using continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP), to maintain gas exchange, before it is required, reduces the risk of death by around 60%. Patients in the studies who received CPAP early were less likely to need a general anaesthetic and mechanical ventilation.

The aim of SCARF is to compare early admission to the paediatric intensive care unit (PICU) for CPAP with standard care in acute respiratory failure in infants and children with impaired immunity.

Eligibility criteria

- Age < 18 years
- Severely impaired immunity
- Acute respiratory failure:
  - Hypoxaemia
  - Tachypnoea
  - Radiological evidence of acute pulmonary infiltrates
- or
- Acute on chronic respiratory failure:
  - Hypoxaemia
  - Tachypnoea
  - Radiological evidence of acute pulmonary infiltrates
  - Requirement for increase in supplemental O₂ ≥ 30% of baseline

Eligible

Consent/Randomise (as soon as possible)

Admission to PICU and delivery of CPAP
Usual care on ward (supplemental O₂)

Thank you!

We would like to thank all staff who are actively screening and calling the 24/7 support line about eligible patients.

The trial couldn't succeed without your ongoing support

Important contacts

General enquiries
Email: scarf@icnarc.org
Tel: 020 7269 9277
Fax: 020 7831 6879

24/7 support line
Tel: 07917 895 726