It is great to see how many FiSh patients you have all recruited - a total of 44 patients.

When you look at the times of randomisation, patients are being randomised at all hours of the day, with the peak times in the early evening (16.00 - 21.00).

It is fantastic to see that patients are being randomised into FiSh across the day and night. Well done to all!

Keep going, keep recruiting and keep up the amazing progress!

Deck the sites with FiSh awareness

It’s that time of year when decorations adorn everything! It’s also a good time to check that your FiSh posters (including the new ‘This winter, think FiSh’ poster), pocket cards and other promotional tools are all visible.

Let us know what you need to promote awareness and keep FiSh in sight over the festive season. Also keep a look out in the new year for some great new FiSh pens to share at your site!

A message from the head data elf

As Christmastime approaches, our data elves are busy running the latest data validation queries in order for them to be delivered to you all in the coming week. Please remember to check for and respond to any new DCRs on the eCRF web portal - we will send you a little reminder when they are ready.

One other thing - don’t forget that the first study bolus should be delivered within 15 minutes from when you open the randomisation envelope. For situations where it has taken a bit longer, just add a brief explanation as to why this happened in a comment on the eCRF web portal.

Festive FiSh opening hours

The ICNARC offices will be closed on 26-27 December and 2 January. However, the 24/7 FiSh support line is available at all times should you have any questions or concerns.

Next site teleconference

Our next site teleconference will be held on Thursday 12 January, 12.00 - 13.00.

See you in 2017!

FiSh n’ tips

Don’t forget to provide the consent questionnaire to both parents/guardians. We want to make sure that we have both parents’ views on the study.

Make sure to fill in as much of the CRF as possible at the time to avoid having to carry out extra work and chase for information retrospectively.

Consider holding short training sessions and simulations to ensure that all staff are trained and aware of the study.

A huge thank you to everyone involved in FiSh. We could not do it without your hard work and support!

Catch us

FiSh Study Team
Email: fish@icnarc.org
Telephone: 020 7269 9277
24/7 support line: 020 7269 9290
What do you enjoy most about working on FiSh?

The teaching side of the study – it’s a good way of maintaining relationships between multi-disciplinary teams. We have also enjoyed the interactions with families of recruited patients – their enthusiasm for the study, and research as a whole, is encouraging. The study itself is also very interesting and it’s exciting to be part of shaping future practice.

What is the best piece of advice you have for the other research teams?

Ongoing training keeps FiSh fresh in peoples’ minds and motivated. It is important to keep the wider team up-to-date with recruitment numbers and deliver refresher training whenever possible. Chocolate rewards also help!

How do you as a team ensure awareness is maintained at your site?

We are very lucky here that research nurses work 50:50 between research and clinical work – we almost always have someone advocating for FiSh and providing ongoing training in the ED. We also have an enthusiastic PI and children’s emergency team, as well as various visual prompts around the ED.

Were there any challenges that you had to overcome?

We have found that some CRFs have not been completed correctly – we are trying to overcome this by re-training individuals and having an example CRF in the ED as a point of reference.

Christmas crackers

Bristol Royal Hospital for Children are currently our top recruiters, leading the way with 16 patients recruited!

Research nurses Pauline Jackson and Anna Laskey kindly took some time out to answer a few FiSh questions…

Christmas crackers

Why did the fish blush?

Because the seaweed!