Welcome to the first edition of the CALORIES newsletter!

We are currently working towards opening the trial to patient recruitment and encourage Sites to push through with local approval paperwork (Trust R&D approval letter and completion of the Clinical Trial Site Agreement (CTSA)). Please ask the CALORIES team if you have any questions or require any help with these documents.

Sites in set-up

We have 22 Sites competing to take part in CALORIES. Sites will need to have local approval paperwork in place and meet the inclusion criteria (described opposite).

Site inclusion criteria

20 Sites are required for CALORIES, and are being recruited following completion of the Clinical Trial Site Agreement (CTSA) (signed and returned to ICNARC), receipt of the Trust R&D approval letter at ICNARC and through meeting the criteria below. This will be done on a first-come first-served basis.

- Participation is dependent on timely submission of CMP data;
- Pre-existing, established protocols for EN and PN reflecting mainstream practice and completion of CALORIES trial paperwork;
- Pre-existing implementation of bundles as promoted by the NHS (NHS Saving Lives: reducing infection, delivering clean and safe care - High Impact Intervention Number 1: Central venous catheter and Number 5: Ventilator) promoted to prevent the development of bloodstream infection and ventilator-associated pneumonia (VAP);
- Agreement to incorporate CALORIES into routine unit practice, including prior agreement from all consultants in the unit to adhere to the patient’s random allocation for nutritional support (PN or EN);
- Agreement to recruit all eligible patients to CALORIES and to maintain a Screening Log of eligible patients screened but not recruited;
- Sign up from the unit Clinical Director, Senior Nurse Manager, Dietician/Clinical nutritionist and Pharmacist;
- Identification of a dedicated CALORIES Research Nurse.

Competing to take part...

1. Bradford Royal Infirmary
2. Blackpool Victoria Hospital
3. Royal Blackburn Hospital
4. Derby City General Hospital
5. University Hospital of North Staffordshire
6. New Cross Hospital
7. Stafford Hospital
8. Addenbrookes Hospital
9. Papworth Hospital
10. St Thomas’ Hospital
11. University College Hospital London
12. Southend University Hospital
13. St. Mary’s Hospital, London & Hammersmith Hospital
14. University Hospital Lewisham
15. Medway Maritime Hospital
16. Bristol Royal Infirmary
17. Queen Alexandra Hospital
18. Poole Hospital
19. Musgrove Park Hospital
20. The Ipswich Hospital
21. Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital
22. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother Hospital & Kent and Canterbury Hospital
Information requested

Please answer the following two questions for your Site:

• Approximately how many patients, admitted to your unit, are eligible for PN and EN per year?
• What percentages of critically ill patients receive PN within five days of admission?

Please send your answers along with your PN and EN protocols to calories@icnarc.org

The CALORIES Team

Hub–Principal Investigators

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CALORIES Trial Management Team at ICNARC CTU:

Kathy Rowan
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Contact us

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Funding

The 20 CALORIES Sites will each receive £22,105 from the research grant, paid over the duration of the trial (24 months). CALORIES Sites are eligible for CLRN NHS Support costs, that we are currently negotiating with the Lead CLRN.

Site Initiation Meeting

The Site Initiation Meeting will take place on the Wednesday 11 May 2011, at BMA House in London, from 10:30 to 15:30. This date is now fully booked. We will be holding a second Initiation Meeting in June. Please contact the CALORIES team to find out more calories@icnarc.org

CALORIES: a multi-centre randomised, controlled trial comparing the clinical and cost-effectiveness of early nutritional support in critically ill patients via the parenteral versus the enteral route

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