Hints and tips

We spoke to James Cullinane, Research Nurse at Medway Maritime Hospital about his top hints and tips:

- Be flexible – staying late and covering weekends if a patient is eligible has allowed us to boost recruitment
- Explain the trial in simple, easy-to-understand terms at the point of consent
- Seek advice from the bedside nurse with regards to the patient’s mood and whether they think they are ready to listen/consent - if you approach a patient at the wrong time they can say no straight away without listening to what you have to say!
- Keep a close eye on who is eligible on the unit – making sure to approach them before discharge
- Getting relatives on side is a bonus – sometimes they can promote the trial much better than us to the patient, e.g. if a patient’s daughter is with the patient when I am speaking to them and they think the trial is a good idea, some relatives are good at encouraging the patient to take part

“I think it’s all in how you sell the trial to patients. We try to make the information easy to understand and emphasise that there’s not too much effort involved to take part. I think sometimes we are just lucky because most patients we approach think it’s good to take part so that they help people in the future. We’re really not sure we do anything different to other sites.”

Thanks for sharing, James!

Level 3 care definition

POPPI patients must receive some Level 3 care during their first 48 hours in the unit - indicated by receipt of:

- advanced respiratory monitoring/support due to an acute illness; or
- monitoring/support for ≥2 organ system dysfunctions (excluding gastrointestinal support) due to an acute illness.

Note that:

- Level 3 care is not restricted to ventilated patients; and
- solely basic respiratory and basic cardiovascular monitoring/support (together) is Level 2 care.

Data Manager’s Corner

Message from Nick Hudson, POPPI Data Manager:

“Don’t forget to routinely check your DVR queries. For some queries, we may need to know a bit more information before they can be resolved. In these situations, the query will re-appear in your DVR list with a note explaining what further action is required - so please keep an eye out!”

Top tip

To resolve the “Date of consent after Date of critical care discharge” query, you need to confirm both the ‘Date of consent’ field and the ‘Date of discharge’ field.

Contact us

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