

Hospitals with LREC approval

Airedale General Hospital *
 Arrowe Park Hospital, Wirral *
 Barnet and Chase Farm Hospitals NHS Trust
 Bedford Hospital *
 Blackpool Victoria NHS Trust *
 Bristol Royal Infirmary
 Castle Hill Hospital, Cottingham *
 Cheltenham General Hospital *
 Chesterfield & North Derbyshire Royal Hospital
 Chorley & District General Hospital
 City Hospital, Birmingham
 Crosshouse Hospital, Kilmarnock
 Diana Princess of Wales Hospital, Grimsby
 East Surrey Hospital
 Friarage Hospital, Northallerton
 George Eliot Hospital, Nuneaton
 Glan Clwyd District General Hospital *
 Glenfield Cardiothoracic Unit, Leicester
 Glenfield ICU, Leicester *
 Glenfield Transport Team *
 Gloucestershire Royal Hospital *
 Great Western Hospital, Swindon
 Hartlepool General Hospital *
 Hereford County Hospital
 Hillingdon Hospital
 Hull Royal Infirmary
 Ipswich Hospital
 Kettering General Hospital *
 Leicester General Hospital
 Leicester Royal Infirmary *
 Leighton Hospital, Crewe *
 Luton & Dunstable Hospital *
 Macclesfield District General Hospital
 Manchester Royal Infirmary *
 Milton Keynes General Hospital
 New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton
 Ninewells Hospital and Medical School *
 North Devon District Hospital, Barnstaple

Northern General, Sheffield *
North Manchester General Hospital
 North Staffordshire NHS Trust *
 Nottingham City Hospital *
 Pilgrim Hospital, Boston *
 Prince Philip Hospital, Llanelli *
 Princess Elizabeth Hospital, Guernsey
 Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead *
 Queen Elizabeth Hospital, King's Lynn
 Rotherham District General Hospital *
 Royal Bolton Hospital *
 Royal Hallamshire Hospital, Sheffield *
 Royal Liverpool University Hospitals *
 Royal London Hospital *
 Royal Preston Hospital *
 Royal Shrewsbury Hospitals NHS Trust
 St Mary's Hospital, Isle of Wight *
 Salisbury District Hospital
 Sandwell General Hospital
 Scunthorpe General Hospital *
 Southend Hospital *
 Southern Derbyshire NHS Trust
 Southern General Hospital, Glasgow
 Southmead Hospital, Bristol
 Southport & Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust
 South Tees Acute NHS Trust
 Stepping Hill Hospital, Stockport
 University Hospital Aintree, Liverpool
 University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff *
 Walsgrave Hospital, Coventry
 Warrington Hospital
 Warwick Hospital *
 West Suffolk Hospital, Bury St Edmunds
 Whipps Cross Hospital, London
 Worcester Royal Infirmary *
 Wrexham Maelor Hospital
 Wycombe General Hospital *

* indicates a hospital that has recruited to the trial

Contacting the CESAR team:

Ann Truesdale tel: 020 7927 2376 fax: 020 7637 2853
 email: ann.truesdale@lshtm.ac.uk

Ravin Tiruvoipati email: Ravindranath.tiruvoipati@uhl-tr.nhs.uk pager: 07693 246 462

CAT tel: 0116 287 1471 and ask for CESAR trial clinical advisory team

The CESAR Trial is funded by NHS R&D HTA programme and costs of treatment are provided by the National Specialist Commissioning Advisory Group
www.cesar-trial.org



CESAR



Newsletter

CESAR
 Medical Statistics Unit
 London School of Hygiene
 and Tropical Medicine
 Keppel Street, London
 WC1E 7HT

Tel. 020 7927 2376/2075
 Fax: 020 7637 2853
www.cesar-trial.org
 ISRCTN47279827

Conventional Ventilation or ECMO for Severe Adult Respiratory Failure

No. 4, August 2003

The importance of CESAR

CESAR is of world wide importance in the opinion of the NHS R&D National Co-ordinating Centre for Health Technology Assessment who fund the trial. Is your unit taking part? Participating hospitals are widely distributed throughout England, Scotland and Wales. It is not too late to get involved and sign up for the trial. A revised protocol (February 2003) has been approved by Trent Multicentre Research Ethics Committee and sent to on-line hospitals and is available on request.

Maintaining the trial profile

Keeping CESAR in mind on a busy unit is not easy, especially when eligible patients are infrequent (see the box below for patient eligibility). As soon as centres have Local Research Ethics Committee approval we alert the randomisation service, and send out the CESAR Trial folder to the centre with CESAR mugs, posters and phone stickers. Other profile raising ideas are in the pipeline. If your centre is on-line, check where the folder is kept! See back page of newsletter for a list of on-line centres.

DMC

The independent Data Monitoring Committee chaired by Professor Sir Richard Doll met recently to review the data. The primary outcome, death or severe disability, is determined at 6 months after trial entry. The committee congratulated the clinicians and organisers for very satisfactory progress. We should like to thank all those centres who contributed to the excellent return of data.

Patient Inclusion Criteria

- Adult patients (18-65 years)
- Severe, but potentially reversible, respiratory failure
- Murray score ³ 3.0, or uncompensated hypercapnoea with a pH <7.20

Patient Exclusion Criteria

- Duration of high pressure and/or high FiO₂ ventilation >7 days
- Intra-cranial bleeding
- Any other contra-indication to limited heparinisation
- Patients who are moribund and have any contra-indication to continuation of active treatment



CESAR recruitment and enquiries

To date we have had 272 enquiries from 91 hospitals about potentially eligible patients. Out of these 65 patients have been recruited. We need to recruit 180 patients to determine the clinical and cost-effectiveness of adult ECMO. We are encouraging all units to get the paper work done for LREC so that you have the choice about referring patients. If you have any queries regarding LREC applications please contact Ann Truesdale at the Data Co-ordinating Centre (details on back page).

Although not all enquiries will result in recruitment it is important that you contact the Clinical Advisory Team (CAT) if you think a patient is eligible. Please consider any patient who has been on high frequency ventilation for a couple of days and is not improving. The CAT will calculate the Murray Score.

Congratulations to Bedford Hospital, Gloucestershire Royal Hospital, Luton & Dunstable Hospital and Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead who all have impressive enquiry records, many of which have led to recruitment.

We know that participating in a trial involves a little more extra work but it really is worthwhile. Every patient recruited is important – even if it is only one patient a year from your unit. We have tried to keep data collection as simple as possible and if a patient in your unit is allocated to transfer for ECMO there is no inpatient data to collect while the patient is in Glenfield.



SARS

Thankfully, the SARS epidemic is currently under control. During the outbreak we posted a statement on SARS on our website. We say that our experience of treating other forms of atypical pneumonia suggest that ECMO may be a useful adjunct in the management of this new condition.



The ECMO unit

ECMO is provided at Glenfield Hospital Leicester, the only Extracorporeal Life Support Organization recognised adult ECMO centre in the UK. Capacity at the ECMO unit is being increased. Richard Firmin, Director of the ECMO Unit, says that "...very pleased that additional funding is being provided by the National Specialist Commissioning Advisory Group. This is good news enabling us to accept more patients for the trial".



Hilliary Killer

Hilliary Killer, ECMO Co-ordinator, has taken responsibility for ensuring the expansion programme and staffing arrangements are in place for the increased capacity to take effect this summer. She is assisted by Gail Faulkner, deputy ECMO Co-ordinator. Hilliary and Gail are responsible for providing a 24 hour professional on call ECMO service (for babies and children as well as adults) and managing a team of 14.



Samantha Harris

Samantha Harris is the ECMO Research Nurse at Glenfield and as well as being involved in patient care is actively involved in research projects involving ECMO.



Janice Garner

ECMO conferences and study days continue in popularity. The next event is the ECMO specialist training course which is a 7 day training programme running from October 27th - November 2nd 2003. Contact Janice Garner for further details (tel. 116 250 2423 or janice.garner@uhl-tr.nhs.uk). Diane Baker is the ECMO departmental secretary and works with Janice to ensure the smooth running of the ECMO office on a day to day basis.



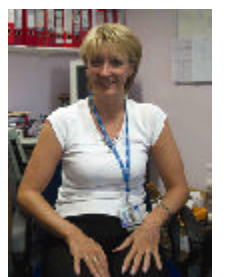
Richard Firmin



Gail Faulkner



Ravindranath Tiruvoipati



Diane Baker

Forthcoming conferences

- BACCN 2003 - Evidence, Evaluation and Effectiveness, SECC, Glasgow, 8-10 September 2003
- European Society of Intensive Care Medicine 16th Annual Congress, Amsterdam, 5-8 October 2003
- Intensive Care Society State of the Art Meeting, Hilton Metropole, London, 24-25 November 2003