



# CESAR

# Clinical Trial

The CESAR randomised controlled trial is comparing conventional ventilation methods with ECMO for the treatment of adults with severe acute respiratory failure.

## INCLUSION CRITERIA

- Adult patients aged 18 to 65 years
- Severe, but potentially reversible, respiratory failure
- Murray score  $\geq 3.0$  or uncompensated hypercapnoea with a pH  $< 7.2$

## EXCLUSION CRITERIA

- Duration of high pressure and/or high  $\text{FiO}_2$  ventilation  $> 7$  days
- Intra-cranial bleeding
- Any other contra-indication to limited heparinisation
- Any contra-indication to continuation of active treatment

ECMO (extracorporeal membrane oxygenation) provides gas exchange while the lungs are rested and allowed to recover, thereby reducing the effects of ventilator lung injury.

The ECMO treatment for adults requires transfer to Glenfield Hospital, Leicester and is not available outside the trial during the recruitment period.

Conventional ventilatory treatment requires care in a unit which treats  $\geq 350$  patients per year, and can provide pressure controlled ventilation and veno-venous haemofiltration.

■ *If you think that a patient may be eligible for entry into the trial, please telephone the Clinical Advisory Team at Glenfield Hospital on 0116 287 1471 or your local CESAR contact who has full details in the CESAR trial folder. Your CESAR contacts in this Unit are:*

All transfer costs to, and clinical costs in Glenfield Hospital will be met by the National Specialist Commissioning Advisory Group.

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For further information about the trial contact: The CESAR Data Co-ordinating Centre, Medical Statistics Unit, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, Keppel Street, London WC1E 7HT  
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