Welcome to the Winter 2023 PERUKI Newsletter. We hope this finds you well. In this edition we reflect on a hugely enjoyable Autumn Conference in Belfast, provide updates on recently completed, ongoing and forthcoming PERUKI studies.

Thank you all for your contributions to making PERUKI a success. For every meeting, study designed, patients recruited a heartfelt thank you from the PERUKI Exec. We hope you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

PERUKI Autumn Conference in Belfast (13th Sept 2023)

Dr. Etimbuk Umana, EM Consultant at the Mater Hospital in Dublin, presenting FIDO interim results at the PERUKI Autumn conference in Belfast.

The PERUKI Autumn Conference at the Crumlin Gaol Conference center (13/09/2023) was a hugely successful event, with important updates on PERUKI studies complemented by some excellent keynote talks from Dr. Robero Velasco, Prof Dan Perry & Dr. Ian Sinha. We look forward to planning out next conference in 2024.

UK Neonatal Triage Survey

Newborns represent a vulnerable group in the emergency department (ED). They often have nonspecific presentations for serious illness and can deteriorate rapidly. Despite these nuances, the triage tool used to assign clinical priority in older children and adults are applied to newborns. Alder Hey Children's Hospital are looking at how neonates are triaged in ED’s across the UK. It is intended to be completed by clinical leads & senior triage nurses within the ED. This is the survey please complete by 31st December 2023.

TWIST Survey

Treatment With or Without Immobilisation Study in Toddler’s fracture (TWIST).

There are currently no national guidelines for the management of toddler’s fracture, which reflects the lack of information around how to treat these injuries. We propose to conduct a randomised controlled trial to see if immobilisation is necessary, or if children can be observed to heal with no immobilisation. Looking for sites to data collect for period Sept 2019-Feb 2020, with deadline for 31st Dec 2023.

Medical Records Survey

There has been significant growth in the transition of medical care records & patient management from paper-based systems to electronic systems in recent years. We are working towards the better use of electronic medical record data. To help plan this work, we need to better understand how medical records are being used, accessed, and shared. We would also like to seek YOUR input to prioritise future projects. We are keen to make the development (and eventual operation) of a global paediatric emergency care data project focused on improving clinical care for children. Our aim is for it to be relevant and useful for front-line clinicians, researchers, healthcare leaders, and policy makers. Your contribution will help us scope and design a technically feasible and clinically useful data project that is intended to improve patient care. Click here for survey.

Get in touch

If you have any questions, queries or study proposals please get in touch:

- E-mail us at perukimail@gmail.com
- Twitter @perukitweep
- Website http://www.peruki.org/
Ongoing Studies

CRAFFT
RCT of displaced distal forearm fractures comparing castings vs surgical correction. 681 patients recruited, aiming for another 69. For further info or questions email: crafft@ndoms.ox.ac.uk

CRESCEANT
Cefalexin for UTIs - Right treatment Length in Young children. RCT of Cefalexin duration in febrile UTI’s. Six of the ten PERUKI sites have undertaken their Site Initiation Visits (SIV’s). First site opening planned for this month (following final database testing and approvals). For info email: CURLY@trials.bham.ac.uk.

FIDO
FIDO aims to evaluate the management of febrile infants presenting to the ED across UK & Ireland. Recruitment is now closed as of August 2023, with over 1000 febrile infants recruited across 35 PERUKI sites. We are currently in the data quality check phase & collection of FIDO samples from sites. You can view updated information on the FIDO website: https://www.fidostudy.co.uk/

PICBone
Imaging in Paediatric Osteomyelitis: a multi-centre cohort study to understand the role of MRI & U/S in the diagnosis of acute haematogenous osteomyelitis in children. This includes the elements of the history and clinical examination which are sufficient to discharge the child without any investigations. This is the information we wish to required to develop the clinical decision algorithm. A good study to be involved in if first time engaging with PERUKI

Retrospective Study (opened 16th June 2023):
940 patients recruited.

Prospective Study (opened 31st July 2023):
103 patients recruited.

To get involved email: picbone@ndorms.ox.ac.uk

BRONCHSTART Referenced in JCVI Minutes
The BronchSTART study was highlighted as a factor in the The Joint Committee on Vaccination & Immunisation (JCVI) announcement to commence widespread vaccination against RSV next winter. Studies wishing to recruit this winter (only patients who have NPAs collected) should contact Damian Roland.

PETE study
Parent Education To Engage Study is now live and open. Leaflet given to parents to watch common illness videos in children and see if it helps them. If you want to get in touch for study documents please contact sarah.fissler@alderhey.nhs.uk

Forthcoming Studies

BACH B
BachB is a RCT of respiratory support in bronchiolitis (humidified oxygen, high-flow, CPAP in different severities). BACHB will be opening imminently - please contact the study team if you’ve not set a data for a SIV yet. Contact study team: Richard Cleaver, Clinical Trial Manager; r.cleaver@imperial.ac.uk

UTI EASY
The EASY trial is an NIHR funded multi-centre, open label, RCT comparing parenteral & oral antibiotics for the management of suspected UTI in “low risk” infants. The trial will include at least 18 paediatric ED’s from across the UK, from within PERUKI. The primary outcome is the need for additional parenteral antibiotics within 7 days of randomisation. The trial will open in May of 2024. Sites will be required to recruit 1 to 2 patients per month and will receive NIHR accrual and approximately £160/recruited patient. Interested sites can complete an expression of interest by emailing: easystudy@nictu.hscni.net.

PERUKI Priority Setting Partnership
We are delighted to announce that PERUKI will be running a Priority Setting Partnership (PSP) to establish the Top 10 research priorities in Paediatric Emergency Medicine. We will be looking for Steering Group Members to help with the process as well as asking everyone to submit their research questions for consideration. So please keep your eye out for updates in the near future for how to get involved.