The North East London Diabetes Research Network

Diabetes Research and Funding Opportunities for Primary Care

Gill Hood
Workshop Presentation

• Background to the Networks
• NE London DRN
• DARE study
Background to the Networks

- The National Institute for Health Research Clinical Research Network (NIHR CRN)
  - Created as part of R&D strategy from “Best Research for Best Health”
- To support clinical research and to facilitate the conduct of trials and other well-designed studies within the NHS
  - The need to improve/regain our status as a world leader and widen research scope
- Works towards the development of a world class infrastructure to support clinical research in the UK
  - To benefit national health and national wealth
Background to the Networks

Structure of the Networks

UK Clinical Research Network Coordinating Centre

Mental Health

Dementias & Neurodegenerative Diseases (DeNDRoN)

Cancer

Medicines for Children

Stroke

Diabetes

UK Diabetes Research Network Coordinating Centre

NE London

Thames Valley

North West

SE Midlands

Eastern

NE and Cumbria

NW London

SW Peninsula

NHS

Barts and The London NHS Trust

Queen Mary University of London

National Institute for Health Research

Diabetes Research Network

North East London LRN
Background to the Networks

(PCRN)

NIHR Comprehensive Clinical Research Network (CCRN)

Further information is available on the NIHR CRN CC website at www.crncc.nihr.ac.uk/primary-care
The North East London Diabetes Research Network – original boundaries 2006

1. Tower Hamlets
2. City & Hackney
3. Newham
4. Waltham Forest
5. Redbridge
6. Havering
7. Barking & Dagenham
8. 4 hospital trusts
The North East London Diabetes Research Network – new boundaries 2010

1. 7 NE London PCTs
2. 3 South London PCTs
3. 5 Essex PCTs
4. Kent & Medway
5. 12 hospital trusts
The North East London Diabetes Research Network

- Clinical leads – Professor GA Hitman and Professor CJ Griffiths
- Network Manager - Gill Hood
- Research nurses – many with primary care background
- Advocates/ data coordinator/ administrator
- Lay Panel
- Work closely with East of England PCRN and Essex & Herts Comprehensive network
The North East London Diabetes Research Network

• How is diabetes research organised in primary care?
• National portfolio of studies
• Discussions with EoE PCRN and E&H CLRN
• Both networks will identify interested GPs and refer back to the DRN for site initiation
• Recruitment is the surrogate for activity based funding
The North East London Diabetes Research Network
The multifactorial aetiology of Type 2 diabetes driving the research strategy – Prof Graham Hitman

- Genetic predisposition (polygenic)
- Foetal influences (gene and environment)
- Child and adult influences

Gene Discovery strategies  Epigenetics & micronutrients  Prevention
Type 1 diabetes – prevention research strategies

• Type 1 diabetes develops when the insulin-producing cells in the pancreas have been destroyed.
• The cause is autoimmunity and may be triggered by a viral or other infection.
• There are now vaccines in development to prevent this but we must get patients early
• The ADDRESS database

An islet present in the pancreas
Potential Research Opportunities for Primary Care

ASCEND STUDY
A Study of Cardiovascular Events in Diabetes

• Does aspirin (100mg) or fish oils (1gm) reduce the risk of cardiovascular events in those with T1&T2DM without diagnosed arterial disease over 5 yrs?
Potential Research Opportunities for Primary Care

ASCEND STUDY
• Eligibility – T1DM or T2DM >40 yrs
• No diagnosed occlusive arterial disease
• Search database for sample, inform Oxford
• Invitation by letter, includes PI leaflet, consent form, screening questionnaire direct to Oxford
• 2 month placebo run in
• Free phone number for advice
• GP informed if randomised
• Payment via Oxford (£100) plus £262.50 from CLRN
Potential Research Opportunities for Primary Care

DARE STUDY
Diabetes Alliance for Research in England

• A register of consenting adults with diabetes for future studies

• A DNA repository to help with new treatments and the diagnosis of diabetes
Potential Research Opportunities for Primary Care

DARE STUDY

• Eligibility - >T1DM/T2DM >18 years
• Database search, letter of invitation
• Patient ONE visit for data plus blood sample
• Practices can be minimally involved – database search and set up cost £335.48 OR
• Practice staff can undertake the whole project so £335.48 + costs for 100 patients mailed including postage= £114.93 plus £22.35 per patient recruited.
• DRN will provide blood kits, postage jars etc
• Feedback from patients is very positive
Benefits for participating GPs and practice nurses

• Immediate payment for database search for all studies – PIC (Patient Identification Centre)

• Staff access to a range of free study and training days/ enhances knowledge

• Increased knowledge of new therapies in diabetes and the opportunity to become PIs or drive research interests – currently trialling taspoglutide and Vit D

• Local CLRN scheme for GPs – Local Enhanced Service – 3 tiers
Potential Research Opportunities for Primary Care

Step by step funding & support for primary care
To help primary care teams develop their skills and capacity to host research

1. New site
   Study Service Support &
   2 Hour Visit intro to GCP & RG

2. Local Enhanced Service
   New Sites
   CONTRACT 1.
   Approx Funding: £750 &
   Training via NIHR &
   Access to study coordination &
   Research Ready support visit

3. Research Enhanced Service
   High Recruiting Sites/track record
   CONTRACT 2.
   Funding: based on agreed action plan and size patient population &
   Additional Value:
   Structured Mentorship Programme
   • Clinical placements
   • Shared posts

Essex and Hertfordshire Comprehensive Local Research Network
The North East London Diabetes Research Network

Thank you