

PREVENTT

Preoperative intravenous iron to treat anaemia in major surgery

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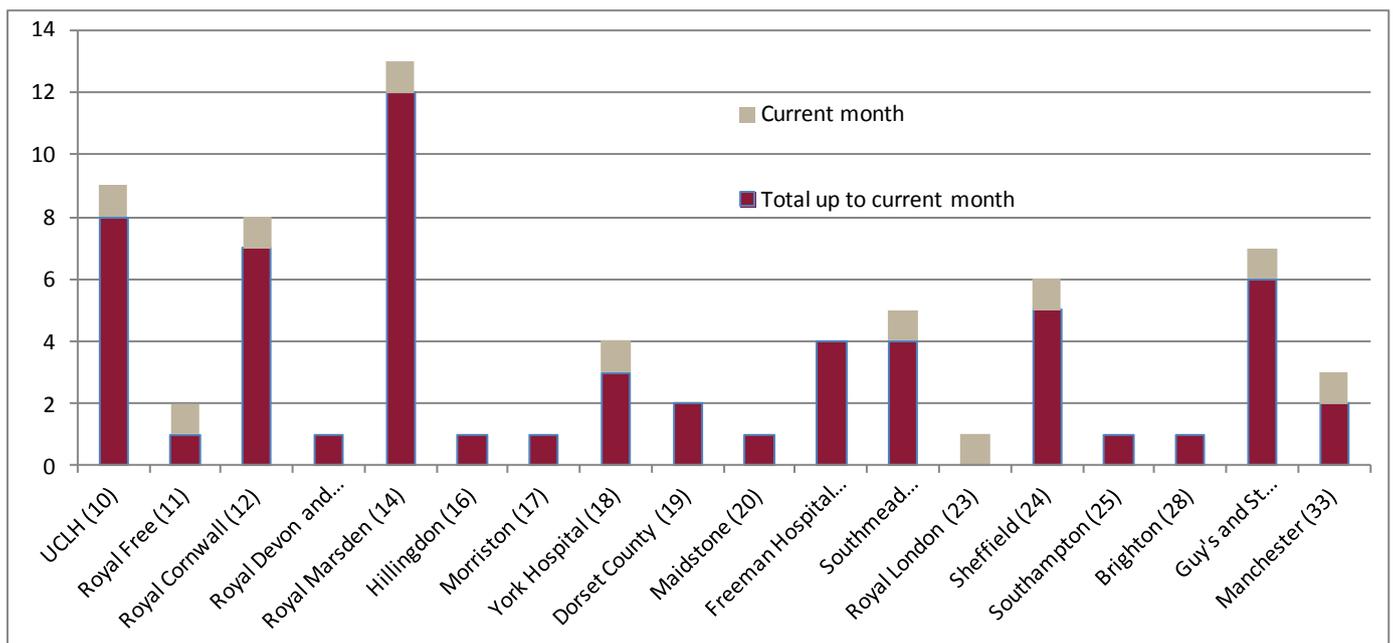
PREVENTT News

During October, the PREVENTT team have continued set up at a number of PREVENTT sites and at the end of the month, the 26th site initiation took place at James Cook in Middlesbrough. Welcome to Patrick Chiam, Kerry Colling and the rest of the team. Further site visits continue to be arranged and we are now nearly at our target of 30 centres.

On 4th November at 2pm there will be a teleconference for nurses where the focus for the discussion will be screening patients. If you are unable to attend, the minutes of these will be available . Please get in touch with Becky if there are any specific items that you would like to discuss during the call.

PREVENTT Recruitment– 70 Patients Randomised

Thank you to all sites who have recruited patients during October. There have been 10 patients randomised at 10 different sites. Congratulations to the team at the Royal London who recruited their first patient. Leading up to Christmas 2014, we are asking all sites to aim to recruit at least 1 patient into the trial. If we can achieve this, we will have 25 patients recruited which would be fantastic. Please get in touch with the PREVENTT CTU if there are specific issues impacting on recruitment at your centre.



PREVENTT Lucky Number

The first winner of the PREVENTT lucky number was the team at Royal Cornwall who randomised patient 68!

Congratulations and enjoy your chocolates. The lucky number for November is **81** so keep randomising to have a chance of winning.

Investigator Meeting

There are plans to hold a half day investigator meeting for PREVENTT sites in the new year. The meeting will be held at a venue in central London. Two staff working on PREVENTT per site will be invited to attend and standard class travel will be refunded. Dates have been sent to all PREVENTT PIs and research nurses. Please respond with your availability by Monday 10th November so that a date can be finalised.

PREVENTT at the BBTS Ben Clevenger, Research Fellow

Day one of the British Blood Transfusion Society annual meeting was dedicated to patient blood management and iron therapy, organised by the PREVENTT CI, Toby Richards. A wide range of nursing, medical and scientific staff were in the audience, including many PREVENTT investigators. Toby opened the conference with a session dedicated to 'all things iron'; presenting the latest research and clinical practice in iron therapy. This was followed by talks from Dr Ravi Rao Baikady, Dr Tariq Iqbal and Prof Guenter Weiss looking at the use of intravenous iron at the Royal Marsden, the role of deregulation of iron metabolism as a key pathway in cancer and the latest research in functional iron deficiency. Prof John Porter (UCL) and Prof Iain MacDougall (King's) held a pro vs con debate "is iron a good thing?". After a lively debate, the audience voted naming Prof MacDougall the winner with his contention that 'the benefits of iron supplementation outweigh the risk.'

The afternoon looked at the 'Cutting Edge of Transfusion Management', discussing components of patient blood management encompassing single unit transfusion policy, re-assessing restrictive transfusion thresholds in cardiac surgery and the use of point of care testing. The next session focussed upon iron supplementation in a variety of clinical situations, from endurance athletes to cardiac surgery, Prof David Roberts of Oxford presented the INTERVAL study of the effects of donating blood at different time intervals in over 50,000 donors.

Prof Ian Roberts from the LSHTM CTU gave an absorbing talk, discussing the development of the anti-fibrinolytic drug tranexamic acid and his research into its use in trauma in the CRASH-II trial.

Dr Simon Towler from Australia introduced the Western Australian Patient Blood Management Programme and its success in driving down unnecessary transfusions and cost.

These two talks rounded off an educational, thought provoking and enjoyable day, followed by drinks and the chance to meet with some of the investigators from the different PREVENTT sites in the evening.

Feedback from PREVENTT Nurses

The conference was very well organised and constructed with an exciting programme. I learnt a lot about other research currently happening, the important role of tranexamic acid in trauma patients and the developments of patient blood management programmes in Australia!! It was an exciting day and I talked not only with other nurses but also the CI of the PREVENTT study, consultants and haematologists from here, Australia and Nigeria.

Pauline Sibley, Research Nurse Royal Devon and Exeter

"The highlight for me was a very interesting debate between two Consultants about the pros and cons of using iron therapy, and whether it was a suitable treatment for all anaemic patients. The audience were asked to vote at the end, 96% of the audience voted in favour of iron therapy! A very interesting and informative day."

Sarah James, Research Nurse Royal Free Hospital



Toby Richards (CI) and Ben Clevenger (PREVENTT Research Fellow) at the BBTS

Contact Information

Website: <http://preventt.lshtm.ac.uk/>

Tel: +44 (0)20 7927 2071

Fax: +44 (0)20 7927 2189

Email: preventt@lshtm.ac.uk/rebecca.swinson@lshtm.ac.uk