

# PREVENTT

Preoperative intravenous iron to treat anaemia in major surgery

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## PREVENTT News

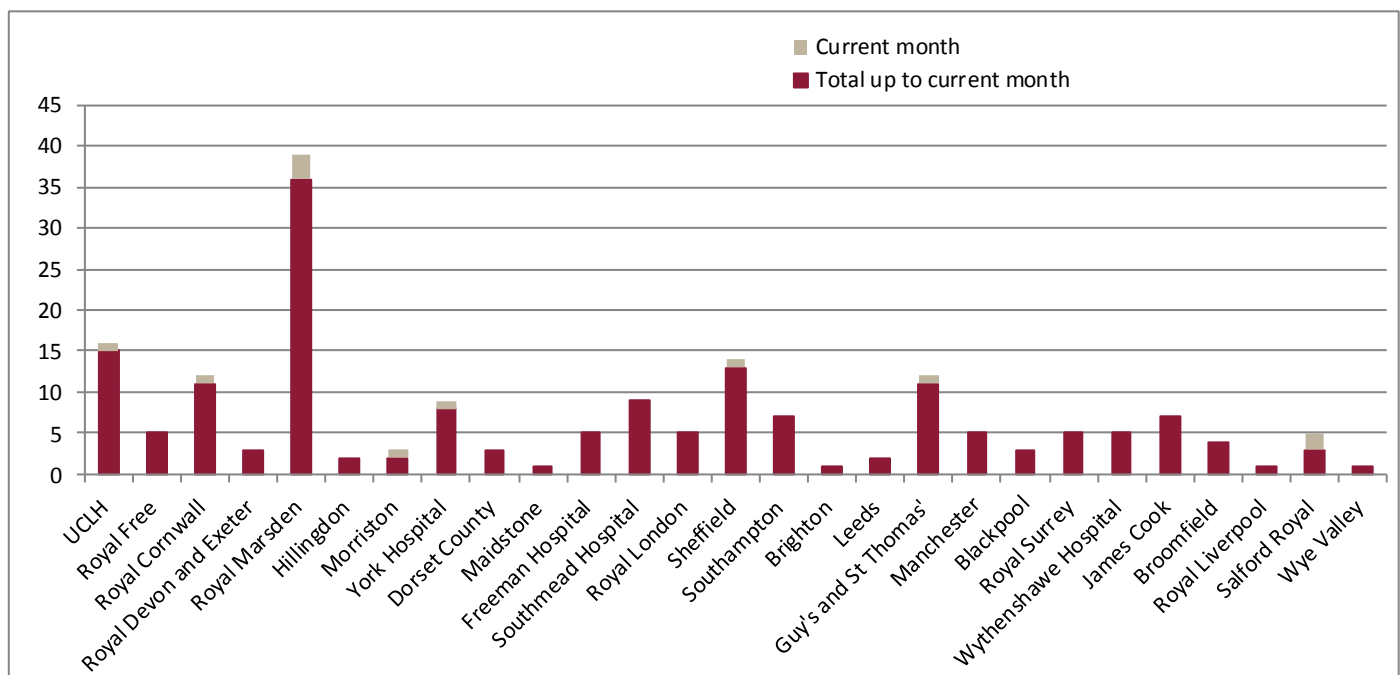
Over September, set up has continued at our new sites with the 34th PREVENTT site initiation completed in Oxford on 29th September. The aim is to have all our new sites open as possible. An amendment to include further additional sites was also submitted and set up has now started at Peterborough, Norfolk and Norwich and Russell Halls, Dudley. Our goal to open 40 sites to recruitment is nearly complete. Thank you to all those currently working to set up the trial locally, this involves a lot of work and it is always helpful for us when sites look carefully at how the trial will work successfully at this early stage.

The Data Safety Monitoring Committee (DSMC) met during September. It is always helpful to have their input into the trial. Thank you to all those of you who worked to resolve outstanding queries in the database before the meeting.

All sites should also have received your new PREVENTT posters along with a surprise package from the PREVENTT team as a token of our thanks for all the work that goes in to the trial. Enjoy this treat from us at the 2 year milestone for PREVENTT!

## PREVENTT Recruitment – 184 Patients Randomised!

Following on from the summer holidays, recruitment for the trial has improved. Congratulations to the teams at the Royal Marsden and Salford who have both recruited more than one patient this month. A special mention also to the team at Northern General who have averaged on patient a month during 2015 which is another fantastic achievement. If half the PREVENTT recruit at least one patient during October, 200 patients will have been recruited in to the trial. Please keep all the top recruitment tips in mind whilst screening as we aim to reach this trial milestone!



## PREVENTT– Two Years On

The PREVENTT trial is going well and has now been open to recruitment for 2 years- over that time we have completed 32 site visits, 5 amendments to the trial protocol and recruited nearly 200 patients.

However, one question we are often asked is- “ Is PREVENTT still relevant? Should we not just give IV iron?”

Here are our main reasons why recruitment into PREVENTT is still important:

- There is no evidence that IV iron has efficacy to prevent blood transfusion preoperatively and there is no evidence that correcting preoperative anaemia has any patient benefit
- IV iron is expensive and would cost the NHS around £14 million in this setting alone, therefore we need to know if the drug actually benefits patients and the NHS
- Most data available at the moment is based on small observational studies (of 30-70 patients) where there is the potential for bias in any results
- IV iron could be harmful as it has been associated with infection and cancer growth
- A blood transfusion may actually be as good or better than IV iron

So therefore, we, the patients and the NHS need the trial. We are nearly halfway there and with the help of all the PREVENTT sites, we can answer this question and ensure the best patient care in the future.

## Nurses Meeting

A meeting for all nurses involved in the PREVENTT trial will be held on Thursday 10th December 2015 in central London. It will be an afternoon meeting offering an opportunity to meet with those working at other sites, share good practise and hear from external speakers. Up to two nurses from each site can attend and standard class travel will be refunded.

Please keep the date free and an invitation will be sent round to all nurses in the coming weeks.

## Lucky Number

Congratulations to Dave Brealey, Debbie Smyth and the team at UCLH who won the box of chocolates for September! This month we are aiming high and the lucky number is **200!** A surprise prize will be on the way to the site which recruits this patient.

## Teleconferences

Thank you to everyone who dialled in for these calls on the 14th and 17th September. It was helpful to have your input in to the trial and your feedback on how recruitment is progressing at your sites. If you were unable to join either of these calls and would like copies of the minutes, please get in touch with Becky (rebecca.swinson@lshtm.ac.uk). Due to the success of these meetings, we will be holding a teleconference for principle investigators during October. A doodle poll has been sent round to all PIs and co-investigators so that a suitable date can be arranged.

## 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](mailto:preventt@lshtm.ac.uk)/[rebecca.swinson@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:rebecca.swinson@lshtm.ac.uk)