

# PREVENTT

Preoperative intravenous iron to treat anaemia in major surgery

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## PREVENTT News

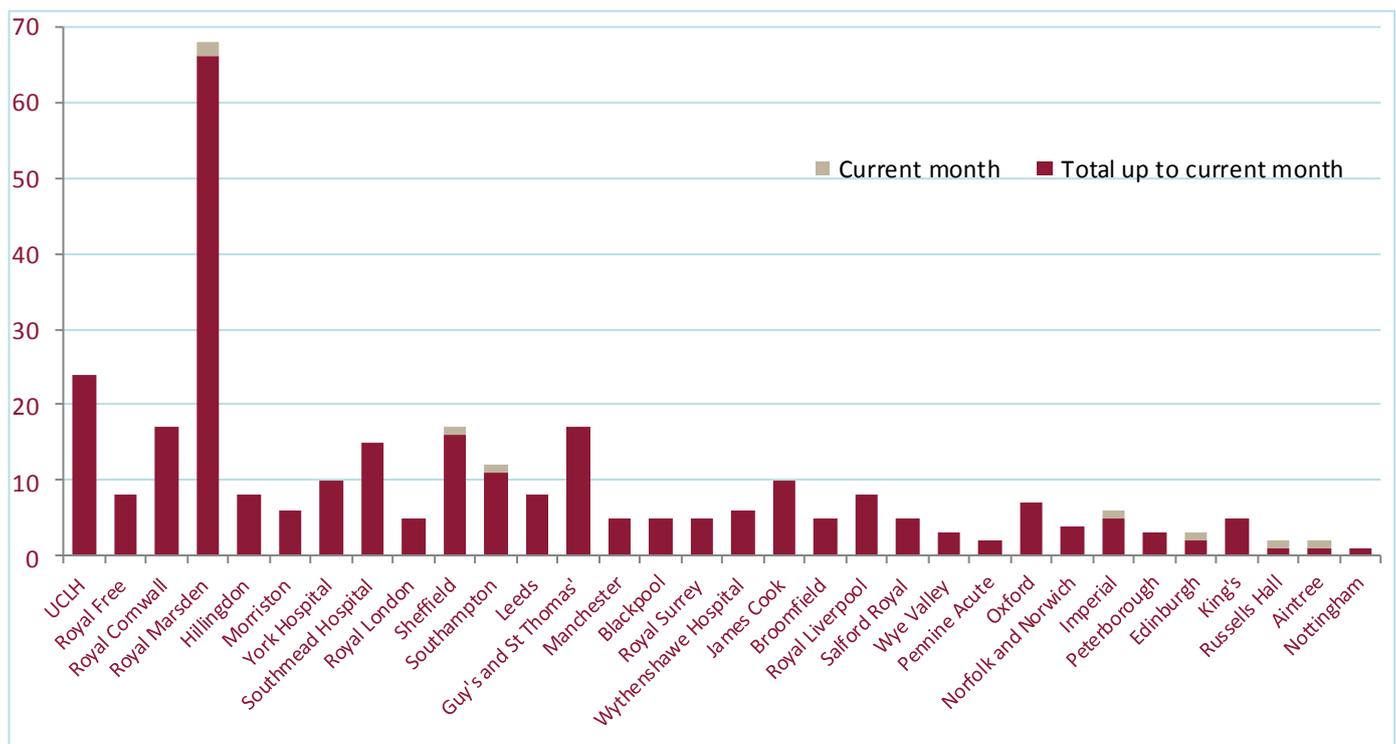
Welcome to the latest edition of the PREVENTT newsletter. The team hope you have all had an enjoyable October.

Amendment 7 received MHRA and REC approval in September. Sites should now be using version 6 of the protocol which included changes to two of the exclusion criteria and approval for a new patient information leaflet. This leaflet can be used when first approaching patients about the trial. If you have any questions about the amendment, please get in touch with Becky Swinson.

The Data Safety and Monitoring Committee (DSMC) met in October to review the trial data. Thank you to all sites who helped to ensure that data queries were resolved prior to the meeting.

## PREVENTT Recruitment– 316 Patients Randomised

Unfortunately, during October we did not quite reach our target with only 8 patients recruited. Thank you to the teams at the 6 sites who randomised a patient. During November, it would be great if we could at least meet our target of 10 patients. If there are issues impacting on recruitment at your site, particularly around surgical pathways, please get in touch with the PREVENTT team. The Chief Investigator and Clinical Research Fellow are happy to come and speak at surgical or anaesthetic audit meetings.



## PREVENTT Nurses Meeting

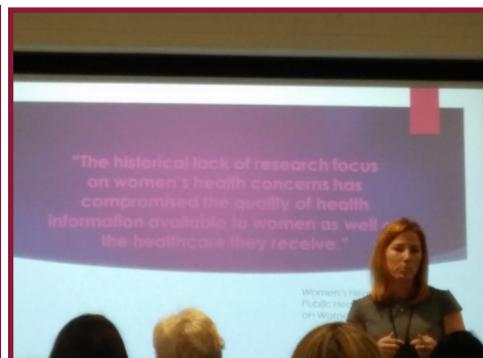
Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting on 29th September. It was a great to meet so many of you again and to catch up with new members of staff at PREVENTT sites. For those of you who were unable to attend the meeting, below are summaries of the key talks. Alongside these talks, Professor Kevin Fong also gave talk focusing on the ways that new strategies in healthcare can be developed.

### **Dr Anna Butcher – Bringing women into the spotlight: Iron deficiency in gynaecological surgery**

The recruitment of patients undergoing gynaecological surgery is one of the key groups for PREVENTT. As the new(ish) PREVENTT Research Fellow, Anna has been working closely with the team at UCLH to recruit these patients.

Anna's talk focused on the importance of ensuring that women are adequately represented in research and in particular why women should be included in PREVENTT. One of the key issues in healthcare today is that often there is not sufficient research undertaken to understand why health problems such as iron deficiency anaemia present differently in men and women. The World Health Organisation has two different definitions of anaemia for men and women.

If you have any questions about Anna's talk, please get in touch ([a.butcher@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:a.butcher@ucl.ac.uk)).



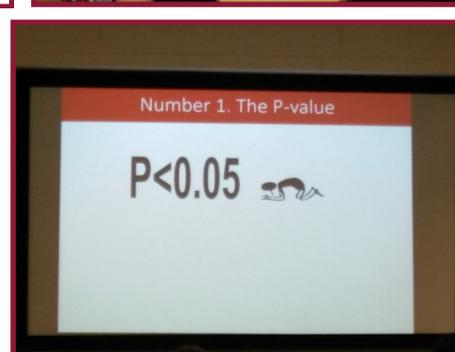
### **Tim Collier – (Really) Simple Statistics for Clinical Trials**

Tim is based at LSHTM and is a member of the PREVENTT project management group. The day finished off with his overview to the four key statistical numbers that will form the basis of the publication at the end of the trial.

- P values
- Treatment effects and
- Confidence intervals

There was also an opportunity for some live data collection as all those attending tossed a 2p coin.

If you would like a copy of Tim's slides, please email Becky Swinson ([Rebecca.swinson@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:Rebecca.swinson@lshtm.ac.uk))



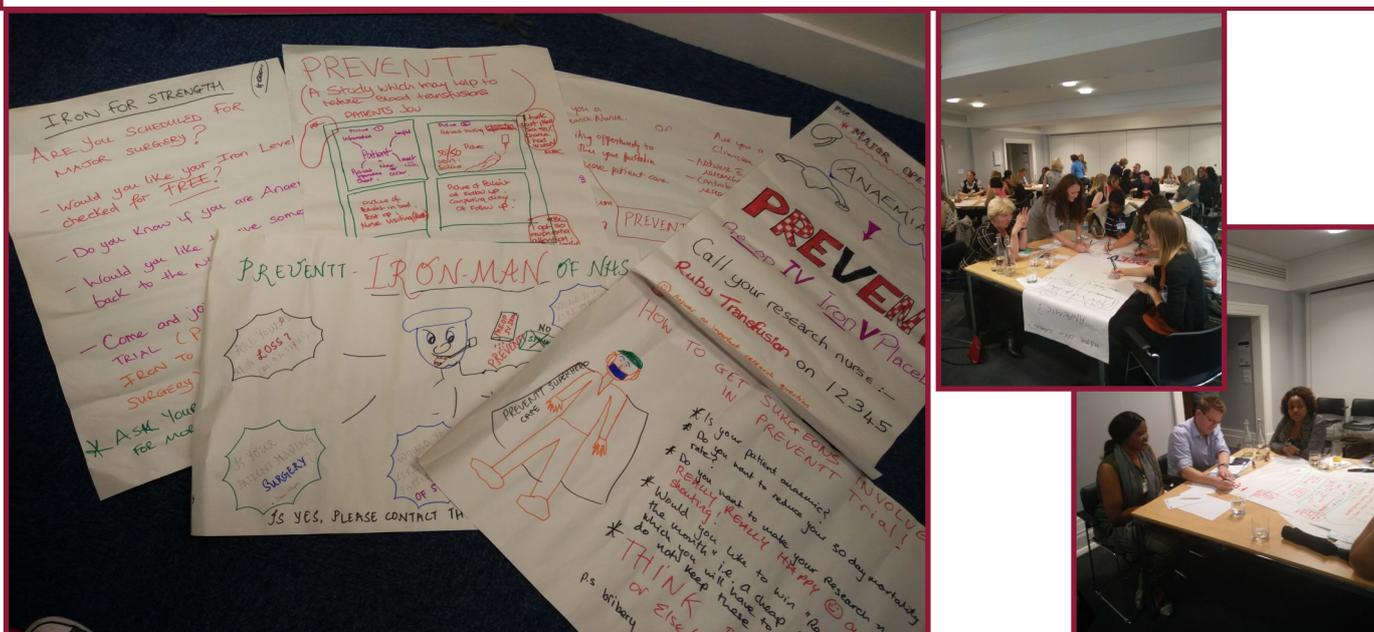
## The PREVENTT Poster Session

This year, alongside the normal range of talks and question and answer sessions, the main highlight was the very competitive PREVENTT poster competition. This session was an opportunity for staff from different sites to discuss the trial and to suggest some ideas for how the trial can be promoted.

Some of the key points that came out of the session are summarised below:

- Make sure patients are aware of the possible benefits to taking part in trials such as PREVENTT including the additional visits and contact from research staff
- Several posters focused on the idea that iron can give you strength– we do not actually know this, that is why we are running the trial to see what the benefits to i.v. iron actually are
- It is important to engage surgeons in the trial at a local level. The PREVENTT team are happy to help provide support for this
- And if all else fails, you can always incentivise your surgeons or other members of the research team with a PREVENTT mug!

Thank you to all those who participated so actively in this session and congratulations to our two winning teams who both received boxes of chocolates for their efforts!



### PREVENTT Raffle Winners

This month, we have two raffle winners to announce! Congratulations to Tim Hughes and the team from King's who won the September raffle and congratulations to Balsam Altemimi and the team from Aintree who were the winners of the October raffle. During October, we will be changing how the raffle works. The sites who can predict the total number of patients recruited at the end of November will all win a prize! So to be in with a chance, send your predictions to Becky.

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