

TIGHT K E-BULLETIN



May 2023
Issue 13



79

PARTICIPANTS RECRUITED IN APRIL

1145
PARTICIPANTS
IN TOTAL

Although the April showers really put a dampener on last month, Tight K as always weathered the storm with style, and we achieved our **HIGHEST RECRUITING MONTH** to date - thank you for all your hard work!

This month we are featuring the **Associate PI Scheme** which is a fantastic opportunity for budding researchers to learn about the challenges and practicalities of working on a trial. PIs and research teams also benefit from the scheme by gaining additional support to deliver the study and their involvement can enhance recruitment. Scroll down to the next page to find out more about the initiative and to hear about the experiences of one of our Tight K Associate PIs.

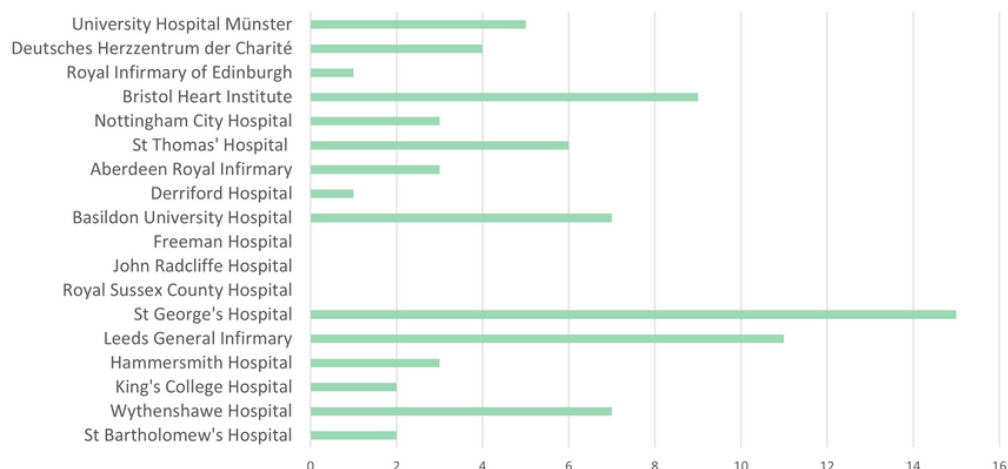
★ MILESTONES ★

Basildon University Hospital
recruits their **125th participant**

St Bartholomew's Hospital
recruits their **125th participant**

Deutsches Herzzentrum der
Charité, Berlin recruits their **1st
participant**

University Hospital Munster
recruits their **1st participant**



Distribution of participants recruited in April 2023



Top 3 recruiters in April

1. ST GEORGE'S HOSPITAL
2. LEEDS GENERAL INFIRMARY
3. BRISTOL HEART INSTITUTE



THE ASSOCIATE

PI SCHEME

What is the Associate PI scheme?

An NIHR 6-month in-work training initiative aimed at clinical staff who wish to gain skills and experience in research, and to provide them with formal recognition of the contribution they have made to the study.

Who can take part in the scheme?

It is open to healthcare professionals who do not have research as a core part of their role - in Tight K, we have had ANPs, SPRs and consultants participate in the scheme.

Does it involve a lot of additional work for the PI and the research team?

No, the Associate PI should help to increase capacity by supporting the research team to deliver the trial procedures. In addition, Associate PIs will be supported throughout the 6-month period by the Tight K trial team.

Where can I find out more about the scheme?

On the Associate PI website or contact the Tight K Team for more information. *The scheme is only open to sites in England and Wales.*



"My main contribution as Associate PI on Tight K has been in supporting the research team to **identify eligible patients** for the trial. I routinely **reviewed urgent inpatient cases** and **screened elective patients** in the clinic. **Reviewing patients for eligibility during my out-of-hours on-call** further helped to increase the number of patients screened for the study. This was particularly useful given the high rate of variability in operating lists. I was pleased to see that our monthly recruitment rate increased significantly and we topped the leader board in January 2023 as the highest recruiting site that month - great team effort!"

Miss L Kimani, SPR in Cardiothoracic Surgery at Wythenshawe Hospital