

Update from NRS Reproductive Health and Childbirth Specialty Group

March 2023/ Am Màrt 2023

Daffodils at St Machar's Cathedral, Aberdeen



GOOD NEWS STORIES



Wellbeing of Women and Scottish Government fund new Endometriosis clinical trial

EPiC2

New hope for millions of women as researchers investigate what could be the first-ever non-hormonal, non-invasive treatment for endometriosis. [Full article](#)

To mark International Women's Day and Endometriosis Awareness Month, Wellbeing of Women (WoW) and the Scottish Government have awarded researchers in Scotland and England just over £250,000 to fund a clinical trial for a potential new treatment for endometriosis – the first for more than 40 years.

Researchers from the Universities of Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Birmingham will set up and run the clinical trial **EPIC2: A randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled feasibility trial to evaluate dichloroacetate in the management of endometriosis-associated pain.**

Dr Lucy Whitaker (Chief Investigator, University of Edinburgh, UoE), Professor Andrew Horne (UoE), Professor Jane Daniels (University of Nottingham), Dr Lucky Saraswat (University of Aberdeen), Dr Marie-Christine Jones (University of Birmingham) and Cat Graham (UoE).



Dr Lucy Whitaker



Prof Andrew Horne



Dr Lucky Saraswat

EPIC2 will involve 100 women with endometriosis in Edinburgh and London. The team will investigate whether a drug called dichloroacetate is an effective pain management treatment for those with the condition.

EPIC2 builds on the findings of previous work carried out by the team at University of Edinburgh, funded by grants including WoW, Medical Research Council.

Many Congratulations!

STUDY UPDATE

HELP Fertility? Hysteroscopic Excision of Leiomyoma and Polyp in Infertility - two randomised controlled trials. CPMS ID 48137, IRAS 283141.

CI: Mr Mostafa Metwally, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Funder: NIHR HTA.

This trial aims to determine the clinical and cost-effectiveness of hysteroscopic removal of submucosal fibroids and endometrial polyps, in women presenting with infertility and recurrent pregnancy loss. See [website](#).

Recruitment to the HELP fertility? Trial has stopped due to the NIHR's decision to withdraw funding early, as part of the Research Reset programme. In Scotland this trial has recruited in NHS Grampian and NHS Tayside.

This is just a reminder that if any trial is not recruiting to time and target, it comes under Reset program.

It is difficult to get funding and as a community we need to support these funded studies. It is evidence based that patients who participate in a trial have better clinical outcomes.

A day without randomisation is a day wasted!



Your good news stories, queries, feedback, are welcome:
Abha (abha.maheshwari@abdn.ac.uk), NRS Clinical Research Lead, or
Txaro (maria.amezaga@nhs.scot), NRS Champion Support Manager

NIHR Associate PI Scheme

NIHR | National Institute for
Health and Care Research

The NIHR Associate PI Scheme team have provided up to date data on the performance of RH&C National Specialty Group within the Associate PI Scheme, in regard to both study registrations and Associate PI applications (data cut 16/03/2023). Please see data in Infogram at this link:

[Reproductive Health & Childbirth data for the Associate PI Scheme.](#)



If the link is blocked in you HB, please request your IT dept. to unblock the site, or see a PDF version [here](#).

Please note that the data applies largely to England and Wales. For the list of studies registered in the API Scheme which are open to applications and have sites in Scotland, please click [here](#).

It would be very helpful if you could let Abha or Txaro know if you or colleagues in your Health Board are currently taking part in the Scheme, as Associate PI Trainees or if you have successfully completed the Scheme.

The API Scheme central team promotes uptake of the Scheme for both studies and Associate PIs and would appreciate your support. The team wants to ensure that all those registered studies have Associate PI Trainees working on them.

For information about the Scheme visit the [website](#). For guidance documents: [Associate PI Scheme Resources site](#)

If you have any questions, please contact the NIHR Associate PI Scheme central team at associatepischeme@nihr.ac.uk

Wellbeing of Women (WoW) funding opportunities opening soon!



Wellbeing of Women's Research Training Fellowship and WoW-PRUK Research Project Grant rounds are opening on 30th March 2023!

Research Training Fellowships provide a foundation in research training for medical graduates, midwives, nurses and allied health professionals (AHPs). [Read more about Research Training Fellowships.](#)

The **WoW-PRUK Research Project Grant**, co-funded in partnership with Pharmacy Research UK (PRUK), is intended to support independent researchers leading their own work looking at the practice of pharmacy and pharmacists, or exploring the role pharmacists can play in delivering the best possible patient benefit across one or more areas under Wellbeing of Women's remit. [Read more about the WoW-PRUK Research Project Grant.](#)

Our Entry Level Scholarships and Postdoctoral Research Fellowships will open in May.

If you have any queries, please contact the Wellbeing of Women research team
at research@wellbeingofwomen.org.uk or call 020 3697 6350.

Reproductive Health and Childbirth Studies

For an update of Active Studies in Scotland, Non-commercial (Eligible/Extended review) and Commercial, per Health Board, please follow this [link](#).

In the NRS RH&C [webpage](#), Portfolio studies are highlighted in the [Study Portfolio section](#).

RH&C Newsletters can be found [here](#).

For information about studies in the portfolio please contact Abha (abha.maheshwari@abdn.ac.uk) or Txaro (maria.amezaga@nhs.scot)

