



NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 11

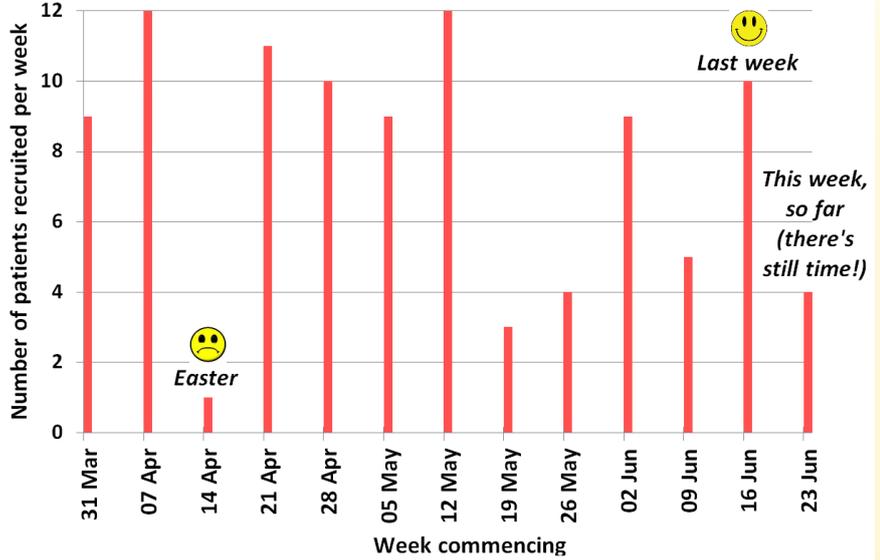
June 2014

THE SEASON FOR ACUTE COUGH IS OVER.... REALLY?

Would you believe it, summer is upon us and OSAC trial recruitment is still in full flow. In fact, last week was one of the most productive weeks so far, with 10 patients entering the trial. The chart on the right shows the number of patients recruited per week, over the last three months.

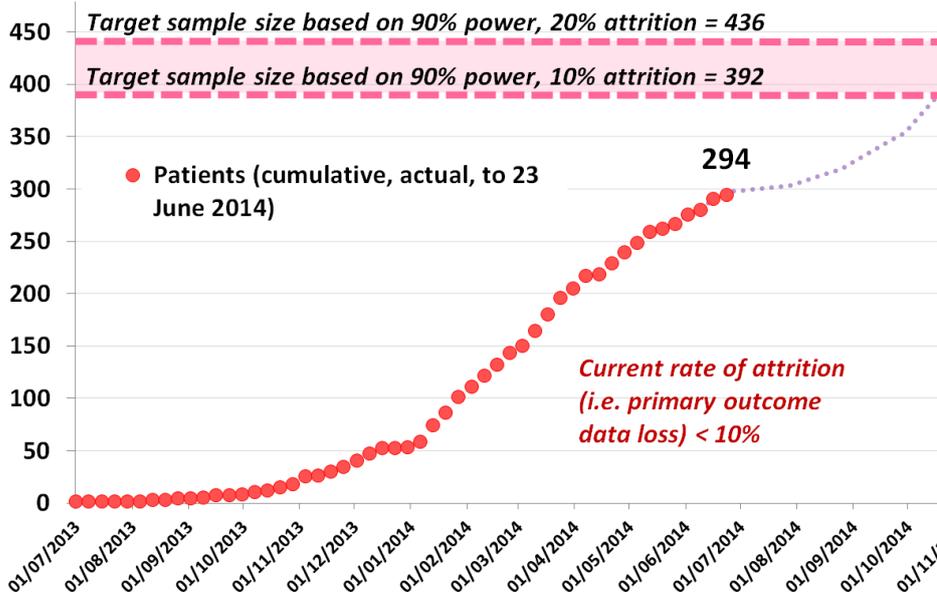
The 3C (Cough Complications Cohort) Study found that eligible patients continued to present throughout the summer months: at about half the winter rate, but consistently nevertheless. We're confident that patients are still out there.

Thank you for staying with us. We hope you have a great summer. We also hope you come across many unseasonal OSAC patients, as every single patient is of great value to the trial.



WILL YOU RECRUIT PATIENT 300?

With 294 patients in the trial so far, we have number 300 in our sight... Well, that is not strictly true, but it's certain to happen very soon. This will be a fantastic milestone for the study and the site that recruits #300 will receive a special seasonal thank you from the trial team. **Will it be you?**



OSAC CHAMPIONS

OK, so no World Cup glory for England this time... boo hoo! OSAC recruiters, however, are made of tougher, more sporting stuff. Here are the contenders for the OSAC Golden Boot:

- Portland Practice, Cheltenham: 26
- Rowden Surgery, Chippenham: 23
- Wellspring Surgery, Bristol: 16
- Wokingham MC, Berkshire: 15
- Brockway MC, Nailsea: 13
- Three Swans Surgery, Salisbury: 12
- Oldfield Surgery, Bath: 12
- Homewell Practice, Havant: 10
- Brunel Medical Centre, Torquay: 10
- Frome Medical Practice, Frome: 9

And jointly aiming to get out of the group stage, with 8 patients apiece, are: Sherbourne Medical Centre, Leamington Spa; Sedbergh Medical Practice; Oakenhurst Medical Practice, Blackburn, and Bradgate Surgery, Bristol.



The goal: 436 We are here: 294





PATIENT PACKS: USE THEM... OR WE ALL LOSE!

OSAC is carrying on recruitment until the end of October as this is when the trial medicines reach their expiry date. We need your help to make the best possible use of the trial medicines, which cost (take a deep breath) an eye-watering £64,563.08 of the research grant. Not forgetting the eight pence. Ouch!

We therefore encourage you to please use up those medicines you have at your site. If all sites could do this, the recruitment target would be met. But if it won't be possible for you please let us know, so that we can reallocate the packs to other sites which will be able to use them.



SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO

We have submitted an amendment to the MHRA, as we now know that the safety of the prednisolone used in the OSAC trial is not affected by variations in normal ambient (room) temperatures. However, the current temperature monitoring and reporting procedures remain a regulatory requirement until the amendment has gone through. Watch this space!

THE LOG BIT

- Please complete your temperature monitoring log weekly, and fax to your local centre if it goes out of range, which is 0°C to 25°C. If you are concerned about it getting warmer, don't worry too much but do let your local trial centre know as per normal. If you decide to move your packs, please complete a new IMP storage risk assessment (ask your local trial team).
- Please check the notes of any patients recruited within the last four weeks for SAEs;
- Update your drug accountability log each time you receive packs or issue a pack to a patient.
- Last but not least, send us your super-doooper screening logs.

RUBBISH JOKE CORNER

I phoned my work this morning and said, "Sorry boss, I can't come in today, I have a wee cough."
He said, "You have a wee cough?"
I said, "Really? Cheers boss, see you next week!"

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OSAC AGONY COLUMN

All good media should have an agony column written by a proper agony aunt, and this newsletter is no exception. The research grant has been a little tight, and anyway you just can't get the staff nowadays.... so here's a low budget alternative.

Do you sometimes feel that you've fallen out of love with your job? Here's how to make you fall in love with it again, in three simple steps:

Step 1:

Add up all the time that OSAC patient recruitment (including online data entry) has taken. To date (26/06), 296 patients have been consented. Let's make a conservative assumption that each patient took 55 minutes all told.

Step 2:

Imagine that one person did all of this, working from 9 until 5 with an hour's break for lunch (they would need it) each day. It would take that person almost eight working weeks of solid OSAC recruitment to achieve. Phew!

Step 3:

Now, imagine that person is you. Feeling better already? Gee, I'm good. Perhaps I should consider starting a new career?

BECAUSE I'M HAPPY CLAP ALONG IF YOU FEEL LIKE HAPPINESS IS THE TRUTH

CONTACT US...