Keith Willett - National Director

Keith Willett, Professor of Orthopaedic Trauma Surgery, is now also National Director for Acute Episodes of Care, NHS Commissioning Board. This is a challenging post that covers clinical leadership for the commissioning of all acute care in the NHS in England. In addition he is the Research Lead for the NHS on the National Institute of Health Research (NIHR) Advisory Board. He combines this with research at the Kadoorie Centre and clinical work on the Trauma Unit.

Sallie Lamb - Trials Units

Sallie Lamb, Professor of Rehabilitation and Chair of the NIHR Health Technology Assessment Commissioning Board has been part of two successful bids to set up research units in Oxford. The Oxford Clinical Trials Research Unit (OCTRU) will provide leadership and coordinate work across five existing trials groups. The aim is to develop clinical trials methodology and produce high quality trials.

The Surgical Intervention Trials Unit (SITU) will provide a centre for surgical trialists in the UK. The aim is to draw upon existing expertise in Oxford to develop the design and management of surgical trials.

Julie Wright - Nurse Consultant

We are delighted to announce that Julie Wright has been appointed as a Nurse Consultant for Trauma care. This is the first Trauma Nurse Consultant post in the UK. This post will build on existing services to ensure integration of evidence into practice and the maintenance of high standards of nursing care. In her presentation for the post Julie described the core factors that facilitate compassionate caring. These were: the strength of the evidence, clinical skill, expertise, the culture of care, and emotional labour. Julie’s post will enhance the work of the Trauma Unit which is now a Major Trauma Centre and takes patients from across the region.
Major Trauma Outcomes

MaTOMS is a Feasibility study into collecting major trauma outcomes. Measuring outcomes of care is an important aspect of monitoring patient care that may help to identify where services are most needed. However practically obtaining outcome data that is worthwhile and acceptable to people who use the service is often not easy. A review of outcomes measures for major trauma and a national workshop of key stakeholders has identified a range of outcome measures that might be suitable for patients who have major trauma.

This Study aims to gather outcome data from adults and children, on discharge, at 6 months and at 1 year. In addition process data will identify the challenges and degree of acceptability of gathering outcome data from this group of patients. It is anticipated that follow up could be difficult as patients may come from anywhere across the country.

A qualitative sub-study will interview a group of patients at 6 months to explore their experience of major trauma and outcomes that are important to them. The study will start in February 2013.

Contact: Susanna Symonds

AIM: Update

AIM Trial patient recruitment ahead of target!

Across 20 sites collaborating in the AIM Trial, we are above target at 378 patients recruited (target to end January 357)!

The John Radcliffe Hospital has been recruiting to the Ankle Injury Management study for 31 months, with 25 patients to date. This is a recruitment rate of 0.81 which is right on target! Fantastic achievement, well done to all the trauma teams!

This is the final year of recruitment for the trial, which ends on the 31st December 2013; 11 months to go! While our gratitude goes to all who have contributed thus far, we ask that this fantastic effort is maintained through the coming months to ensure the overall target of 525 patients is achieved. Thank you!

Having more surgeons trained in the delivery of the Close Contact Casting (the intervention), allows for more cover should an appropriate patient present. If you are a trauma surgeon who would like to deliver the study intervention in theatre, please contact David Keene in the AIM Trial office, details below.

The study is holding an event day ‘NIHR Musculoskeletal Trials Day’ on 8th March 2013 in Birmingham. This is a joint meeting with the Warwick trials group. If you would like to know more, please contact the trial office.

AIM Trial Office: Tel: 01865 740328 or aim.trial@ndorms.ox.ac.uk

Lesley Morgan, AIM Trial Manager
Update of Studies

Closed Studies

DRAFFT (Distal Radius Acute Fracture Fixation Trial): This study closed to recruitment in June 2012 and has a 1 year follow up period.

ICUROS (International Costs and Utilities Related to Osteoporotic Fractures Study). This study closed to recruitment in Oct 2012 and has an 18 month follow up period.

Open Studies

FRACTT (Functional Recovery After Pertrochanteric Fracture Treated with Parathyroid Hormone (PTH)): The purpose of the study is to find out if 6 weeks of daily injections of PTH will improve recovery after a broken hip, compared to standard osteoporosis treatment.

OVIVA A randomized open label study of intravenous versus oral antibiotic therapy for serious bone and joint infections requiring prolonged antibiotic treatment.

SAFER-Supports for Ankle Fractures in Early Rehabilitation. The effects of different ankle supports after surgery for ankle fracture in adults.

PRO-Hip Patient reported outcomes following traumatic hip fracture. The study aims to identify important outcomes of relevance to traumatic hip fracture and its treatment through patient interview and focus groups.

WaLLTR-Wales Lower Limb Trauma Recovery Scale. This study is part of a larger observational assessment of surgical and functional outcomes in patients who have sustained major lower limb fractures.

Fracture Free Study The aim of the study is to determine the proportion of participants who have re-fractured by 24 months.

WOLLF-Wound management of Open Lower Limb Fractures. A randomised controlled trial investigating the value of the negative-pressure wound therapy in patients with an open fracture of the lower limb.

Studies In Set Up

FAB-Fractures And Bisphosphonates. A double blind randomised controlled trial on the effect of alendronic acid on healing and clinical outcomes of wrist fractures

For staff, further information about these and other studies is on the intranet: http://orh.oxnet.nhs.uk (Trauma Unit—Research)

Forthcoming Meetings

Injuries and Emergencies Speciality Group (IESG) is part of the Thames Valley Comprehensive Local Research Network (TVCLRN). This a multidisciplinary meeting for the discussion of new research ideas, current research, and network development. Chairman: Mr Andrew MacAndrew.

Next meeting:
Friday 12th April @ 13.30 (lunch & 12.30) at the Kadoorie Centre, Oxford.

Following Meeting:
Friday 12th July @ 13.30 Wexham Park Hospital

Trauma Orthopaedic Research Collaboration (TORC): This is a national meeting attended by a mixture of Trauma, Ortho-geriatric and Bone & Metabolic Health specialists and multidisciplinary staff. It is essential for discussing potential innovative ideas which could develop into a research study. Chairman: Tim Chesser

Next Meeting:
Friday 10th May 2013 @ 11.00 at the Kadoorie Centre, Oxford

Trauma User Group (TUG): This is a joint meeting between clinical and research staff, and service users such as past patients, relatives and others who have an interest in helping to shape existing and future research studies. New members are always welcome. Light refreshments will be served.

Next Meeting:
Tuesday 8th October 2013 from 6-8pm at the Kadoorie Centre, Level 3, John Radcliffe Hospital.

If you are interested in becoming a member or for more information please contact Vivienne Fairclough or Susanna Symonds


BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders 13 (1), 230.
