



FiCTION Spring is here!

FiCTION (Filling Children's Teeth: Indicated Or Not)

Trial Office, Dental Health Services Research Unit/Dundee Dental School

The FiCTION trial has now entered its Main Study Phase after completing a Pilot Rehearsal Trial and Feasibility Study last year. The main study has a duration of 66 months and is due for completion December 2016.

Summary of Progress

- *FiCTION Pilot Rehearsal Trial and Feasibility Study concluded October 2011*
- *Start Date for Main Trial 1 January 2012*
- *Ethical approval obtained 25 July 2012*
- *51 dental practices recruited*
- *NIHR HTA: Six month report submitted April 2013*
- *Patient recruitment commenced September 2012*

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Interested in finding out more about FiCTION?

The FiCTION trial management team welcomes enquiries. Please contact us by e-mail FiCTION@dundee.ac.uk

FiCTION Dental Practice in Dundee first to reach patient recruitment target



Photo provided by Kingsway Dental Practice, Dundee (Back left; Purvi, Back right; Susan, front; Maureen)

Kingsway Dental Practice based in Dundee, is the first FiCTION practice to reach its target of recruiting 30 children to the trial.

The lead dentist at Kingsway is Dr Purvi Patel who graduated from the University of Dundee in 1995.

On asking Dr Patel about her experience so far with the trial she said:

'We initially thought that the paperwork for the study was a little daunting but when we got started we found that it really wasn't that bad.'

As the study has 'competitive recruitment' Kingsway dental practice are continuing with their successful drive to bring more children on board the FiCTION study.

The practice is now well on its way to recruiting beyond the target that they have been set.

FiCTIONeer and his journey down the Amazon River



David and John Dunlop: Vine Trust Volunteers

Fictioneer, David Dunlop a GDP in Kilbirnie (left), Ayrshire, and his dental nurse son, John (right), have recently returned from a trip to the Peruvian Amazon. They were working for the Amazon Hope Medical and Dental Programme run by the Vine Trust, a registered Scottish charity. The Vine Trust provides medical and dental care to 100,000 patients each year visiting 250 remote communities using a specially re-commissioned ex-Royal Navy diving tender Amazon Hope 1 which can negotiate the smaller tributaries of the

river otherwise impossible to access. UK medical and dental volunteers can offer their services for a two week trip to supplement the Peruvian full time staff funded by the charity.

'Many of the issues of the Fiction Trial are equally relevant to these communities where the same challenges to dental health are very much in evidence. Many patients presented with dental pain which had been causing significant discomfort for months prior to the arrival of the Amazon Hope 1. These communities only have medical or dental help for one day 4 times each year. Considering volunteering?'

Check out www.vinetrust.org/projects/medical

Photo supplied by Kilbirnie Dental Practice

Spotlight on Shiremoor Dental Practice



Shiremoor Dental Practice is based in Newcastle. Four of the 7 members of their dental team have been FICTION trained; Melbourne (Dentist) and Catherine (Practice Manager), attended the first training day in Durham in September 2012 and more recently Samantha (Hygienist/Therapist) and Claire (Dental Nurse/Receptionist) attended the December 2012 event in Newcastle.

Here's what they said about the training:

'We all found the training days very informative and the FiCTION training team gave us a really good introduction into the study and also the tools to implement the study in our practice. One of the main barriers we came across was that

in the trial they would receive different treatment from those not in the trial. This was easily overcome by explaining the trial and what it involved. We took the time to answer any concerns or questions they had and this reassured parents and the majority of parents and

children were very happy to take part if they were eligible.' *Photo provided by Shiremoor Dental Practice, Newcastle*

Recent and Upcoming Events

FiCTION Training Days

Training for the Main Study took place in all 5 FiCTION Trial locations between July and October last year. Further events have been offered to all dental practice staff covering clinical training, consent training and training in trial paperwork and processes. Our final training day for FiCTION dental practice staff took place

on Wednesday 24th April 2013 in Newcastle.

Fiction dental practice evening meetings

These are an ideal opportunity for you to meet the FiCTION team and is a great chance for you to express any concerns or problems you are having with the trial. We have found at previous meetings, that interacting face to face,

rather than via email or phone, has been of great benefit to all involved. These meetings are a great opportunity to meet with other GDPs who are at the beginning of their FiCTION journey and engage with members of the FiCTION team generally. Refreshments are served at our evening meetings.

(contact your Clinical Lead's Secretary for details of event in your area)

Dissemination

FiCTION research

Two presentations from the FiCTION trial were given at the International Association of Dental Research (IADR) annual conference in Seattle (March 2013)

'Usefulness of the FiCTION Pilot Rehearsal Trial and Feasibility Study'

G.V.A. DOUGLAS, A. MAGUIRE, J.E. CLARKSON, N.P.T INNES AND C. SPEED ON BEHALF OF THE FiCTION TRIAL COLLABORATION

'Filling Children's Teeth: Indicated or Not? The FiCTION Trial Protocol'

A. MAGUIRE, G.V.A. DOUGLAS, J.E. CLARKSON, N.P.T INNES AND C. SPEED ON BEHALF OF THE FiCTION TRIAL COLLABORATION

Abstracts: <http://iadr.confex.com/iadr/13iags/webprogram/#srch=words%7Cdouglas%7Cmethod%7Cand%7Cfilenamerestrict%7Call%7Cpge%7C2>

An update on the FiCTION trial will be given as part of Dr Nicola Innes' talk at the **BDA Conference on Saturday 27th April, at 3pm in Theatre 2 at the ExCel**. If you are going to be there, do come along and say hello after the talk.

FiCTION – on the web

The FiCTION Website is aimed at all trial participants <http://www.fictiontrial.info>

The website has details of a FiCTION competition later this year! You will also find some colouring pages!

FiCTION Publicity Material

Fluffy bugs, colouring pencils and pens are making their way to all FiCTION dental practices.

Trial Protocol

The trial protocol (ISRCTN 77044005) can be found on the Health Technology Assessment Board website at the following address:

<http://www.hta.ac.uk/1783>

FiCTION Screening Training CD

There is a screening CD which is now available for additional dentists who are not FiCTION dentists but would like to be able to screen children for participation in the trial. Please contact your Clinical Lead's Secretary for more information.



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What is FICTION?

The FICTION study (Filling Children's Teeth: Indicated or Not) is a multi-centre Randomised Controlled Trial (RCT) funded by the NIHR HTA, which aims to provide evidence on the clinical and cost-effectiveness of three treatment approaches to managing decay in the primary dentition.

The FICTION trial is addressing the Health Technology Assessment Programme's commissioning brief and the research question "What is the clinical and cost effectiveness of filling caries in primary teeth, compared to no treatment?" It will also compare an intermediate treatment strategy based on the biological (sealing-in) management of caries with no treatment and with fillings.

The study is a primary care-based multi-centre, three-arm, parallel group, patient-randomised controlled trial. Practitioners will recruit 1461 children, (3-7 years) with at least one primary molar tooth with decay into dentine. They will be randomised and treated according to one of 3 treatment approaches:

- conventional caries management with best practice prevention
- biological management of caries with best practice prevention
- best practice prevention alone
- followed up for at least three years

The joint Chief Investigators are based at the Universities of Dundee, Leeds and Newcastle – Professor Jan Clarkson (Dundee), Dr Nicola Innes (Dundee), Professor Gail Douglas (Leeds) and Dr Anne Maguire (Newcastle). The full trial team includes collaborators from the Universities of Cardiff, Dundee, Glasgow, Leeds, London, Newcastle and Sheffield. This multi-disciplinary research team has been established to work alongside a UK-wide team of specialist paediatric and Primary Care dentists and members of their teams. This is to ensure that whilst the trial design and conduct is of the highest standard, it remains practical and pragmatic.