



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



FICTION Principal Investigator receives Honorary Fellowship



The School of Dentistry, University of Dundee is celebrating the success of academics who have been awarded Honorary Fellowships from the Board of The Faculty of General Dental Practice (FGDP) at a recent ceremony at the Royal College of Surgeons of England in London.

Professors Helen Worthington (University of Manchester) and Jan Clarkson (University of Dundee), who are both Co-ordinating Editors for the Cochrane Collaboration Oral Health Review Group, were nominated for the awards by Cochrane colleague, Trevor Johnson.

A faculty of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, the FGDP is the UK's only professional membership body and provides guidance and education specifically for general dental practitioners and dental care professionals as part of its aim to continually improve practice.

Pictured: Professor Jan Clarkson, Trevor Johnson and Professor Helen Worthington

Fellowship is the highest award offered by the FGDP and is considered a pinnacle of achievement for those within the profession. It recognises excellence in primary dental care and the commitment to professional development of its recipients.

Professor Clarkson, Co-Director DHSRU; Director, Effective Dental Practice Programme, gave the speech to her fellow diplomates at the event.

Commenting on their awards, Helen and Jan said: "We are both honoured to receive the award. We recognise the potential to improve the quality of dental research in practice, where most of dentistry is delivered, and to increase its impact."

Both academics look forward to working more closely with the Faculty, representing all members of the dental team, in taking forward research in general practice and the translation of evidence for patient benefit.

The Cochrane reviews

The Cochrane reviews provide the international evidence base for oral health, and are considered the world 'gold standard'. Based in the School of Dentistry, The Cochrane Oral Health Group is one of the 24 review groups in the UK. The Group's 'Water fluoridation for the prevention of dental caries' review, recently topped the list of the most accessed Cochrane reviews in 2015.

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POSTER SUCCESS!!

A report by FiCTION Senior Clinical Researcher Mark Robertson



Primary Care-Based Clinical Research – Who’s In?

Robertson M, Braid H, Floate R, McLaren-Neil F, Ord F, Pickering V, Innes N, Clarkson J.

Background
 The National Institute for Health Research Health Technology Assessment’s FiCTION, INTERVAL and IQuaD trials are investigating 3 high priority areas within dentistry. They are on-going multi-centre, primary care-based trials with, between them, over 150 dental practices based across the UK. In the United Kingdom the vast majority of dental treatment is delivered within primary care and therefore it is crucial that research is conducted in this setting, enabling evidence obtained to be as relevant and applicable as possible.
 Achieving targets to time for recruiting sites and patient participants can pose a great challenge to clinical trials. The STEPS study found only 33% of randomised controlled trials (RCTs) recruited to time and target¹ and that research into methods to boost recruitment in trials is the highest research priority for Clinical Trials Units’ directors². Despite these challenges FiCTION, INTERVAL and IQuaD have recruited a total of more than 5,000 patient participants from a range of dental practices across the UK.
 FiCTION (HTA 07/44/03) is a three-arm, parallel group, patient-randomised, randomised controlled trial (RCT) which aims to assess the clinical and cost-effectiveness of three different ways of managing dental caries in primary teeth: conventionally, biologically and with prevention alone. At recruitment participants were aged from 3 to 7 years.³
 INTERVAL (HTA 06/35/99) is a multi-site, parallel group RCT examining three forms of dental recall strategy (six months, risk-based and twenty-four months) in terms of their clinical and cost-effectiveness by assessing their impact on maintaining oral health in dentate adults.⁴
 IQuaD (HTA 09/01/45) is a multi-site RCT comparing standard oral hygiene instruction (OHI), personalised OHI and periodontal instrumentation for the prevention and management of periodontal disease in dentate adults attending dental primary care.⁵

The aim is to investigate the key characteristics between and across the participating practices and clinicians (FiCTION, INTERVAL and IQuaD):
 1. Geographic spread of practices across the recruiting area
 2. Socio-economic (for practice by post code)
 3. Dentists’ research qualifications and year of registration

Methods
 To demonstrate the relative geographical spread of practices between each trial, maps showing their location across the UK by post code marked with red pins have been produced. (Figures 1a, 1b and 1c).
 It is desirable to include dental practices from a range of socio-economically varied areas in all three trials. To demonstrate the actual distribution, each practice postcode across the three trials was coded with either the Scotland Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD), England Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), Wales Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) or Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure (IMD) accordingly. Standardisation between the regions was possible through use of deciles (Figure 2).
 The General Dental Council (GDC) website was used to ascertain the year of registration of participating clinicians and any additional qualifications including higher research degrees. (Table 1).

Results

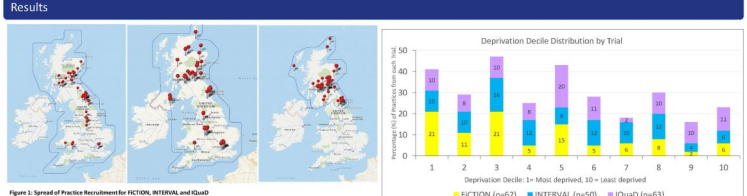


Table 1: Among these clinicians participating in the trial, a breakdown of the number possessing higher research degrees is illustrated below along with year of registration. One clinician with an MSc is active in both FiCTION and INTERVAL. Excluding higher research degrees, 21 additional qualifications exist between the trials including the BScD, MScD, MEd, PhD, DipOral and DiDentCare.

Total	Year of registration (range)	Participating clinicians with higher research degrees				Total
		PhD	MPhil	MSc	BSc	
FiCTION n=62	1995 (1974 – 2011)	3	1	3	1	8 (10%)
INTERVAL n=50	1998 (1978 – 2011)	1	1	1	1	4 (8%)
IQuaD n=63	1994 (1979 – 2012)	-	-	-	1	1 (2%)

Discussion and Conclusion
 Recruitment to time and target is challenging but achievable as these three trials demonstrate. Our findings show:
 • That there is a good geographic spread of participating dental practices across the UK.
 • That each study has recruited dental practices in all categories of deprivation (measured by post code).
 • The FiCTION trial has the most participating practices in the most deprived areas. This is possibly because the research question requires children eligible for participation to have caries (one primary molar with decay into the dentition) and the disease is linked to socio-economic status. Deprivation deciles 1 – 3 contain 53% of FiCTION practices, 36% of INTERVAL practices and 28% of IQuaD practices. Eligibility criteria for INTERVAL and IQuaD were as broad as possible to allow as many dentate adults from a range of backgrounds to participate as possible.
 • Participating dentists from across the UK are similar in terms of their date of registration.
 • Although few participating dentists have higher research degrees indicative of prior research experience, clinicians participating in FiCTION were more likely (10% as opposed to 2%) to have further research qualifications.

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 2. Smith C et al. J Clin Pharm Ther. 2014;39(1):1-10.
 3. FiCTION protocol: <http://www.nhs.uk/healthcare-research/clinical-trials/07/44/03>
 4. INTERVAL Protocol: <http://www.nhs.uk/healthcare-research/clinical-trials/06/35/99>
 5. IQuaD Protocol: <http://www.nhs.uk/healthcare-research/clinical-trials/09/01/45>

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I was privileged to be allowed the opportunity to lead a team here at Dundee Dental Hospital in putting together a poster presentation for the Crieff Research Symposium which was held between the 25th and the 26th of February 2016.

Our poster was titled, “Primary Care-Based Clinical Research – Who’s In?” and through practice profiling and an inter-trial comparison (FiCTION, INTERVAL and IQuaD), we aimed to investigate common characteristics between participating, research-engaged practices. We did this by examining a range of criteria as follows;

- The year of qualification of participating clinicians*
- Practice location and associated deprivation categorisation
 - Participating clinicians’ research experience and qualifications

The results demonstrated some interesting findings and can be seen in the final poster, as above. Furthermore, we were delighted to learn that our poster won 1st prize at the symposium in the category of Medicine and Dentistry.

If anyone would like a PDF copy of the final poster sent to them then please send me an email (m.r.robertson@dundee.ac.uk) and I will gladly forward it.

I extend my thanks once again to Hazel Braid, Ruth Floate, Fiona McLaren-Neil, Fiona Ord, Victoria Pickering, Professor Nicola Innes and Professor Jan Clarkson for all of their hard work, contributions (and patience!) in the production of the final product.



KINGSMEADOWS FOLLOW UP SUCCESS!!

A report by Rik Turton and Victoria Pickering



Not too long ago all 17 participants (who had signed up for FiCTION) of the Kingsmeadows Dental Practice appeared on the Follow up Report, with periods of more than 240 days since they were last seen. It got so bad that Dentist Rik Turton, and Practice Manager Deri Turton really didn't want to check e-mails as there would no doubt be one there from the Clinical Lead Secretary for Scotland!! However the team pulled together and Rik successfully managed to get all the paperwork up to date so that when the next report came out the figures were down to zero.

Speaking about this success Rik and Deri had this to say: "At first it seemed like a huge task but once we figured a way to get the paperwork organised it was easier to work through and get it all completed. It felt excellent to have everything up to date, and safe to open e-mails once again!!"

Victoria, the Clinical Lead Secretary said "this was a great achievement. I felt like I was always on their case! But when the next report showed that there were no Kingsmeadows participants who had not been seen for a while, I was quite proud. All our hard work had paid off".

FICTION SHOW AND TELL



As final visits continue to take place all over the country things are getting exciting.

One participant in Shiremoor was so pleased with her medal and certificate that she took them in to "show and tell" at school.

She liked taking part and loved filling out the forms.

Thanks go to Catherine Collins for suggesting a Certificate of Completion to be presented along with a medal for participants reaching the important milestone of their final visit.

FICTION Wales has a new Clinical Lead Secretary



We are delighted to welcome Michelle Corsi who has joined the team as the Clinical Lead Secretary in Wales.

Michelle will be working with Professor Barbara Chadwick, the Clinical Lead for FiCTION in Wales. Prior to this Michelle was working for a Global company in the Credit Insurance industry as a Client Relationship Manager, firstly in Cardiff and for the last 10yrs in Sydney, Australia. In 2015 Michelle returned to Wales and in February 2016, Michelle joined the Senior Management Support Team for the Dental School at Cardiff University. Part of Michelle's role is to be the main point of contact for the FiCTION sites in Wales and to ensure the smooth running of the project in the region.

Michelle can be contacted at: corsim@cardiff.ac.uk +44 (0)29 20 743208



PRACTICES CURRENTLY INVOLVED IN THE FICTION TRIAL

Scotland

- Anita Belbin Dental Surgery
- Barnhill Dental Practice
- Bridge Street Dental Care
- Forth Valley Smile Design
- Kingsmeadows Dental Practice
- Lomond Dental Care
- Montrose Dental Care
- Parkhead PDS
- Possilpark Dental Practice
- Springfield PDS
- BG Easton
- Broxden Dental Care
- Jedburgh Family Dental Clinic
- Kingsway Dental Practice
- Montgomery Street Dental Care
- Mount Florida Dental
- Pollock Dental Care
- Springburn PDS

North East

- Amble Dental Practice
- Brundholme Dental Practice
- Burnett Dental Group
- Dean Road Dental Practice
- Eston Dental Practice
- Framwellgate Dental Surgery
- Horizon Dental Clinic
- Louise Hunter & Associates
- Mr A I Robson & Associates
- Queensway Dental Clinic
- Roseberry Dental Practice
- Shiremoor Dental Practice
- Shotley Bridge Dental Care
- Stanley Dental Practice
- Sunderland Road Dental Practice
- The Square Dental Practice
- The Whitley Bay Dental Clinic
- Whickham Dental Practice

Yorkshire

- Devonshire
- Hafren House
- High Green
- JEM
- Leeds CDS
- Orgreave
- Pearl Dental
- Perfect Smile

Manchester

- Ash Dental
- DCO Dental
- Windsor Dental

Cardiff

- Colchester Dental Surgery
- Hillcrest Dental Practice
- Llantarnam Dental Practice
- Port Talbot Resource Centre

London

- B Davidoff Dental Surgery
- E2 Dental Practice
- Eastside Dental Practice
- Family Dental Care
- Family Dental Practice
- Salmon Lane Dental Care
- Stoke Newington Dental Practice
- Triangle Dental Practice
- Wanstead Village Dental & Health Centre
- Westbury Dental Practice

