DiPEP Digest

Welcome to the first edition of the DiPEP quarterly newsletter!
There are currently 5 sites actively recruiting, with more due to start in May.

Recruiting Progress - Ahead of Schedule!

We are please to report that we have 5 sites set up and ready for recruitment, and we have recruited from 4 of them. Sheffield have managed to recruit 10 participants into the Suspected PE arm in just 12 weeks. Bradford and Leeds recently got their first participant, and well done to Bolton who have recruited 3 Suspected PE participants already. This total of 16 puts us well ahead of our target of 10 by the end of May. Congratulations to all staff at our recruiting sites so far!

Remember to keep an eye out for Diagnosed DVT participants— we only require 20 of these from all our sites combined.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Suspected PE</th>
<th>Diagnosed DVT</th>
<th>Non-Recruited</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sheffield</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolton</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradford</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leeds</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FAQs from Training

Q. Can I take consent from someone who doesn’t speak English?
A. We don’t provide facilities to do this— if your Trust uses interpreters, this may be an option. Please check your local R&D approvals.

Q. How long can blood be kept at room temperature?
A. Up to 3 hours, plus a further 1 hour in the fridge, before spinning.

Q. What if a woman has a positive leg doppler with some chest symptoms?
A. Collect as suspected PE. If no chest symptoms, collect as diagnosed DVT.

Q. What if a woman is on anti-coagulants for some other reason?
A. Collect data normally provided the woman meets the inclusion criteria, and record meds info.

Q. Can we recruit women with Suspected PE if we are unable to collect a blood sample?
A. Women should only be recruited to the Sus PE group if they meet the eligibility criteria and you are able to take a blood sample in accordance with the guidance. If this is not possible, consider whether the woman can have data collected anonymously for the non recruited group, this data is still important to the study.

Top Tips for Blood Samples

- Volumes will depend on which Vacutainer system you use – Becton Dickinson ones are 4.5ml, Greiner ones are 3ml.
- When using the orange serum tube, make sure it is fully clotted before spinning down.
- Blue tubes need to be double spun – and make sure they are filled to the line.
- Order of pull is important- if you are having difficulty bleeding someone, blue tubes are priority.
- You can still pool a person’s blood even if one of their samples is haemolysed.
- Maintain 9:1 blood to citrate ratio.
- When labelling samples, make sure label is stuck to the bottle itself.
- Keep samples upright when frozen.
- Use an elastic band on the sample boxes in case you drop one!
- Remember to check your consumables, and update us if you need more.

For more information contact the Study Manager, Kim Horspool (k.horspool@sheffield.ac.uk / +44 (0)114 222 4348)

Or visit the DiPEP website: http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/scharr/sections/dts/ctru/dipep