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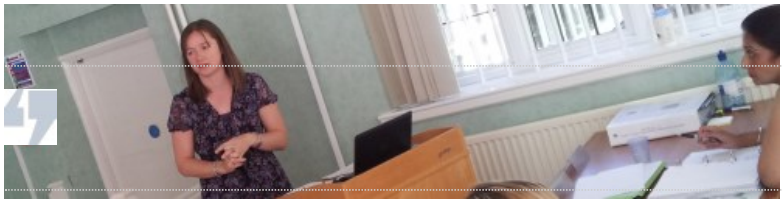
Research Methods Course



Course Attendee "Really detailed and useful overview of research methods, the folder and examples, website and reading list will be really useful, thanks. Thank heavens for BCTU!"

There is a need to train existing and potential clinical researchers in the design, management, analysis and interpretation of randomised clinical trials. The Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit organises and runs a course in research methods for clinical trials, which is designed to help researchers apply the most effective practical methods to answer key problems in clinical and other health care research.

The course is currently run three times a year over 3 days and is CPD approved (accredited with 18 CPD points).

Course Dates:

10 - 12 November 2014

23 - 25 March 2015

13 - 15 July 2015

9 - 11 November 2015

A copy of the programme and application form for attendance can be accessed in the Related Links box above.

Open all sections

Who should attend

The course is designed to appeal to a broad audience ranging from those who have little experience in clinical trials to those who wish to widen their knowledge of the conduct of such trials. Attendance would be appropriate for:

- Clinical researchers who are planning or running a clinical trial
- Medical staff involved in clinical trials who are interested in expanding their knowledge
- Trial coordinators, trial administrators, data managers, research nurses and others who wish to expand their knowledge of clinical trial methodology.

Course fees

Course fees are currently £450 for the 3 day course, which covers registration, course materials, refreshments, lunches and the conference dinner. Accommodation costs are not included.

Reduced fees of £350 are available to University of Birmingham staff, but please note that the number of discounted places is limited per course, and is on a first come first served basis.

Location

The course takes place at Hornton Grange, which is just off the main University campus and is within easy walking distance from the University station (10-15 minutes). There is a frequent train service from Birmingham New Street.

There is free parking at Hornton Grange.

There is also accommodation available at Hornton Grange and Lucas House (opposite) at a reasonable price and details can be provided on request.

Curriculum

The course consists of a series of talks and workshops that will concentrate on the practicalities of developing and running a randomised clinical trial. Subjects covered include:

- Choosing the question: systematic reviews and meta-analysis
- Trial design: large simple trials and other designs
- Funding and research costs
- Ethical and regulatory considerations
- Protocol development
- Practical procedures for running a trial
- Research governance
- Pharmacovigilance
- Computerised trial management
- Critical appraisal of published work
- Statistical analysis for non-statisticians
- Quality of life studies
- Health economics

- Data monitoring

Please note that the course focuses on phase III randomised trials, but many of the principles and considerations covered in the course apply equally to both phase I and II trials.

Faculty

Natalie Ives (Course Organiser), Assistant Director and Statistician, Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit, University of Birmingham

Michelle Burgess (Course Administrator), Office Manager, Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit

Elizabeth Brettell, Trial Co-ordinator, Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit

Victoria Brookes, Trial Co-ordinator, Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit

Melanie Calvert, Reader, Primary Care Clinical Sciences, University of Birmingham

Rita Champaneria, Systematic Reviewer, Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit

Versha Cheed, Statistician, Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit

Jane Daniels, Deputy Director, Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit

Jon Deeks, Director, Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit

Karen Doyle, Senior Nurse, Cancer Research UK Clinical Trials Unit, University of Birmingham

Laura Gennard, Trial Co-ordinator, Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit

Margaret Grant, Unit Co-ordinator, Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit

Kelly Handley, Statistician, Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit

Nick Hilken, IT Team Co-ordinator, Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit

Andrew Howman, Statistician, CRUK Clinical Trials Unit, University of Birmingham

Amanda Knight, Unit Manager, Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit

Laura Magill, Trial Co-ordinator, Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit

Lee Middleton, Statistician, Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit

Smitaa Patel, Statistician, Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit

Cristina Penaloza, Lecturer, Health Economics Unit, University of Birmingham

Caroline Rick, Trial Co-ordinator, Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit

Claire Smith, Systematic Reviewer, Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit

Chaka Sidile, Senior Analyst Programmer, Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit

Andrew Sutton, Lecturer, Health Economics Unit, University of Birmingham

Alex Vince, Trial Co-ordinator, Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit

Hayley Wells, Unit Manager, CRUK Clinical Trials Unit, University of Birmingham

Adrian Wilcockson, Senior Analyst Programmer, Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit

Contact details

Please contact Michelle Burgess for booking enquiries and place availability.

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Feedback

Here is some feedback from previous attendees of the course:

"Interactive sessions were very good and non-intimidating. Really good idea to have a statistician or member of faculty per group to aide discussion."

"Training course was very professionally run, from communication prior to the course, folders provided, professionalism of trainers and facilities provided."

“Really enjoyed the course and would highly recommend it.”

“Really detailed and useful overview of research methods, the folder and examples, websites and reading lists will be really helpful, thanks. Thank heavens for BCTU!”

“Very well organised - very friendly and approachable faculty.”

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