

## News

### Approval gained for long term ASTRAL follow-up

The ASTRAL trials team now have ethical approval to follow up all patients in ASTRAL for longer. Patients will now be followed-up annually for 10 years from the date the last patient was randomised i.e. to 26th Oct 2017. (The protocol previously stated that patients would be followed up for 5 years from randomisation). As part of patient's standard care they would be recalled annually for clinic visits. This will permit not only reliable evidence on the long-term effects of revascularisation on renal function and long term blood pressure control to be obtained, but will also allow investigation of its impact on major clinical end-points, such as need for dialysis and renal transplantation (which can have large cost-implications), vascular events and mortality.

Better research into the natural history of ARVD – e.g. relationship between baseline parameters (such as level of proteinuria and level of renal function and rate of progression) – will be possible with long-term follow-up and the ASTRAL trial provides a unique opportunity to follow-up a cohort of patients with ARVD over a long period of time, including to investigate if there are subgroups of patients who may benefit from revascularisation.

### ASTRAL Results Published

The ASTRAL results have now been published in the New England Journal of Medicine on the 12th November 2009. Please follow the link below to view the publication:

**[Revascularisation versus Medical Therapy for Renal-Artery Stenosis - N Engl J Med 2009 \(http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa0905368\)](http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa0905368)**