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About

Alex Furmston is a Trial Co-ordinator at the **Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit (BCTU) (/research/activity/mds/trials/bctu/index.aspx)** .

Qualifications

- BSc in Biological Sciences, University of Birmingham, 1996

Biography

Alex qualified with a BSc in Biological Sciences from the University of Birmingham in 1996.

Alex joined **BCTU (/research/activity/mds/trials/bctu/index.aspx)** in 2002 as a Data Manager for the Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML) trials portfolio. In 2005, Alex was appointed as Trial Coordinator for a randomised trial of occupational therapy in Parkinson's Disease (the PDOT Trial).

She was then appointed as Trial Coordinator for the PulseOx Study which was a diagnostic test accuracy study using pulse oximetry for congenital heart defects in newborn babies. The study screened over 20,000 babies and was published in the Lancet in 2011.

Alex is now the Trial Coordinator for the StAmP Trial which is a double-blind, placebo-controlled, multi-centre trial of pravastatin to ameliorate early onset pre-eclampsia.

Teaching

- BCTU Research Methods Course

Research

Research Themes:

Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML), Parkinson's Disease and Women's Health

Publications

Ball AK, Howman A, Wheatley K, Burdon MA, Matthews T, Jacks AS, Lawden M, Sivaguru A, Furmston A, Howell S, Sharrack B, Davies MB, Sinclair AJ, Clarke CE. A randomised controlled trial of treatment for idiopathic intracranial hypertension. Journal of Neurology 2011;258(5):874-881.

Clarke CE, Furmston A, Morgan E, Patel S, Sackley C, Walker MF, Bryan S, Wheatley K. Pilot randomised controlled trial of occupational therapy to optimise independence in Parkinson's disease: the PD OT trial. Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery & Psychiatry 2009;80:976-978.

Ewer AE, Middleton LJ, Furmston AT, Bhoyer A, Daniels JP, Thangaratinam S, Deeks JJ, Khan KS, on behalf of the PulseOx Study Group. Pulse oximetry screening for congenital heart defects in newborn infants (PulseOx): a test accuracy study. Lancet 2011;378(9793):785-794.

Meek C, Morgan E, Walker MF, Furmston A, Aragon A, Birleson A, Kelly V, Clarke CE, Sackley CM. Occupational therapy to optimise independence in Parkinson's disease: the designing and recording of a randomised controlled trial. British Journal of Occupational Therapy 2010;73(4):178-185.

Stowe R, Ives N, Clarke CE, Handley K, Furmston A, Deane K, van Hilten JJ, Wheatley K, Gray R. Meta-analysis of the comparative efficacy and safety of adjuvant treatment to levodopa in later Parkinson's disease. Movement Disorders 2011,26(4):587-598.

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