

BLISS



Birmingham Lung Improvement Studies

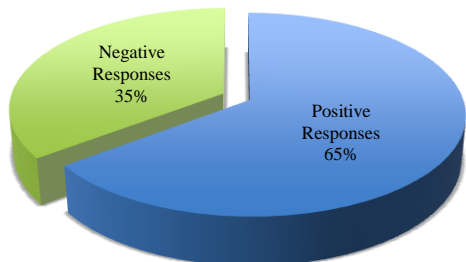
"Improving the Health and Wealth of the Nation Through Research"

TargetCOPD

The COPD case-finding trial runs for a 12 month period in 54 GP surgeries in BBC. Many of the GP sites are now undergoing closure. The trial had over 7,700 screening questionnaires returned and our staff performed over 2,500 spirometries. We have begun the qualitative element of the trial which investigates patients' views on processes of the case-finding trial.

Target to Cohort Responses

Patients that had taken part in the TargetCOPD trial are now being invited to take part in the Cohort study. 1,695 patients from the TargetCOPD trial have been invited to the Cohort study. Of the patients invited, 65% have agreed to join the Cohort Study which has a 3 year follow up period.



The graph shows the response rate we have received so far from patients that have been asked to take part in the Cohort study from Target.

The BLISS Cohort Study

We have now recruited 2,188 patients into the Cohort study from 71 GP practices in the West Midlands.

The patient sample represents all severities of COPD, including patients with established diagnoses as well as those newly identified and reporting lung symptoms from the case-finding trial.

The aims for both studies are:

- Develop & evaluate prognostic indices for use in primary care
- Primary outcome: all cause hospitalisations
- Secondary outcomes include respiratory hospitalisations, exacerbations and mortality

The 3 year follow-up visits will begin next year.

Data Extraction

In addition to our patient assessments we are also extracting certain information from patients' records on your clinical systems. Thank you to those of you who have already returned the Data Sharing Agreements required for this process to take place. We would be grateful to receive all outstanding Agreements as soon as possible, so that we can arrange to come and run the search at your practice.

If you have any questions, please contact Andy Dickens on 0121 4147422 or a.p.dickens@bham.ac.uk

Research Output

We are now starting to analyse the valuable data being collecting through the assessment visits, with findings being presented at various national and international conferences. To date, we have analysed topics including:

- Associations between the CAT, lung health and health care use
- The impact of different spirometric criteria used for diagnosis
- Comparison of COPD patient characteristics according to smoking and employment status.

Opportunities to conduct further analyses will increase now that we are in the last few months of baseline data collection.



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