



Contact the ABA-FEED Team

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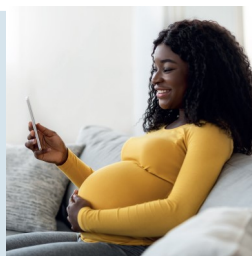
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**ABA-FEED is sponsored
by the
University of Birmingham**

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ABA-FEED

ISSUE 3

MAY 2022

Welcome to our third edition of the ABA-FEED Trial Newsletter. We hope you all had a wonderful Easter holiday. Recruitment has slowed down in April we need more than ever to push the recruitment this month to reach the recruitment figures agreed with the Funder for the pilot phase.

As per 17th of May, 14 sites are now open and recruiting participants. We are pleased to announce that Borders' SIV will be taking place on the 19th of May and will be open to recruitment shortly.

East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust
North Bristol NHS Trust
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust
Mid-Cheshire NHS Trust (Leighton Hospital),
East Cheshire NHS Trust (Macclesfield Hospital)
Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board
Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust

NHS Dumfries and Galloway Health Board
University Hospitals Plymouth
Powys teaching Health Board
Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust
Swansea Bay University Health Board
Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust
NHS Lanarkshire Health Board

Trial design

Randomised controlled trial with a 6 month internal pilot. Recruiting around 2,730 women. Training 135 existing peer supporters to become "Infant Feeding helpers" to deliver the intervention. Following up participants until 24 weeks after the birth of their babies.

Trial aim

To assess the effectiveness of the ABA-feed infant feeding intervention compared to usual care in first-time mothers. **Does the intervention improve rates of breastfeeding at 8 weeks?**

Message from the Chief Investigator

It is really great to see that we have recruited over 400 participants – thanks to everyone who has played a part towards this. We have lost infant feeding helpers in many sites due to our delays in starting and are keen to increase the numbers of IFHs at these sites. Raquel will be taking maternity leave soon, we wish her well and thank her for all her hard work on ABA-feed.

Best wishes, Kate.

BCTU operations, BCTU June closed days

UoB and BCTU offices will be closed for the Spring bank holiday on 2nd of June and for the Platinum Jubilee on 3rd of June. BCTU will open as

Please follow us for trial updates on Twitter:

https://twitter.com/ABAFEED_TRIAL



This study is being funded
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ABA-FEED RECRUITMENT May 2022



Please don't hesitate
to contact us if you
need anything.

ABA-FEED TRIAL INBOX

aba-feed@trials.bham.ac.uk

Participant Website

www.aba-feed.org

Website

<https://www.birmingham.ac.uk>

[/aba-feed](#)

Twitter

[@ABAFEED_TRIAL](#)

We are running a 6 months internal pilot trial from January 2022 to June 2022. Our target is to recruit around 819 participants for the internal pilot phase. As of 17th of May 2022, we have 415 participants randomised in ABA-feed. The table below shows the recruitment rates up to the 17th of May 2022 for the intervention delivery sites.

| ABA-FEED Recruitment 17/05/2022 | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|
| GREEN LIGHT | SITES | Target | JAN | FEB | MAR | APRIL | MAY | Total recruit ment | Actual PS |
| 10/01/2022 | Blackburn | 7 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 16 | 4 |
| 25/01/2022 | Bristol | 17 | 1 | 12 | 12 | 14 | 8 | 47 | 9 |
| 10/01/2022 | Cheshire East | 17 | 5 | 25 | 25 | 6 | 13 | 74 | 10 |
| 03/02/2022 | Cwm Taf Mor | 8 | 0 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 9 | 25 | 5 |
| 13/04/2022 | Dudley | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 9 | 11 | 5 |
| 31/01/2022 | North Somers | 7 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 10 | 4 |
| 09/02/2022 | Plymouth | 10 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 5 | 4 | 24 | 6 |
| 11/01/2022 | Powys | 3 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 18 | 2 |
| 08/02/2022 | Sefton | 14 | 0 | 2 | 10 | 9 | 2 | 23 | 8 |
| 31/01/2022 | South Glouce | 10 | 0 | 9 | 6 | 10 | 3 | 28 | 6 |
| 08/03/2022 | Dumfries and | 10 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 7 | 1 | 13 | 6 |
| 05/04/2022 | Lanarkshire | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| 11/01/2022 | Swansea Bay | 10 | 3 | 15 | 8 | 11 | 4 | 41 | 6 |
| 12/01/2022 | Wolverhampt | 19 | 4 | 21 | 34 | 14 | 10 | 83 | 11 |
| | TOTAL | 142 | 21 | 97 | 138 | 93 | 67 | 415 | 83 |

Message to SITES and IFHs

We have noticed that there are some incomplete IFH logs on REDCAP. We would appreciate it if sites make sure that the logs are completed by the IFHs. Please contact the trial unit if you have any issues completing these logs.

A kindly reminder to inform that the participant's name (unless between NHS to NHS email accounts) should not be shared by email due to data protection (GDPR). Please only add the participant trial number in your external communications.

NEWS on ABA-FEED

Raquel Fernandez del Rio former ABA-FEED Trial Manager will be going on maternity leave on Wednesday 25th May 2022, so we hope you'll join us in wishing her a well earned-break and best of luck. Her position will be covered by a new TM soon. Aisha Khan, our Data Manager will be assisting the trial as normal. Please ensure any queries regarding the trial are directed to the trial inbox to ensure they can be picked up in a timely manner.

aba-feed@trials.bham.ac.uk



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Interested?

Please visit
aba-feed.org
to find out more,
or scan QR code ►





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NEWS on ABA-FEED

- Abby, one of our volunteer IFH in Wolverhampton says:

"A significant strength of the ABA feed study is the opportunity for the mother and infant feeding helper (IFH) to meet before the baby even arrives – it is this opportunity to build rapport and trust that allows the supportive relationship to exist, and the mother to feel comfortable asking for help when needed.

I have found my role as an IFH to be so rewarding, there is such value in being able to offer really regular support to a mother in the weeks following the arrival of her baby. Hearing about the feeding journey and being part of making those feeding goals become reality has been so wonderful. Taking advantage of current technology by providing information and support via text message has been an extremely effective way to keep in contact with one another without the time pressures of meeting face to face. "



[photo of Abby (IFH in Wolverhampton) consent given for use this photo]

- New mother Becky, found the whole experience of being supported by Abby, really positive:

"I've found the support I've received from Abby beyond helpful. I would have found it much more challenging to persevere with breastfeeding without the information and support she provided. Eliza is four weeks old and feel confident and comfortable breastfeeding with the reassurance that I have help when I need it. I can't thank Abby and all of the team enough; the support has been invaluable and I'm very grateful."



[Photo of Becky, consent given for use this photo]

Do you have a story you'd like to share with the ABA-FEED community on NEWS? Send us your story and picture and we will publish it in the June Newsletter.



**Thank you for taking the time to
read the ABA-FEED Newsletter!!**

A message to All

From all of the ABA-FEED team, we **THANK YOU** so much for all of your support and commitment of the trial so far. **Please keep safe and well.**



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