

SMART

Stroke Self-Management Rehabilitation Trial

Newsletter

Issue No. 4, November 2014

Dear Collaborators,

The recruitment of new study participants for the SMART Pilot study has now closed (effective 30th September, 2014). This decision was made to allow time for data from the pilot study to be collated and analysed to inform planned grant applications for a full scale trial as well as the on-going development of the SMART learning tool (see over page for more details). Focus is now on the completion of all follow-up assessments that should be largely completed prior to the upcoming Christmas break. Data checks have been completed for 99% of all recruiting sites and we thank you for your efforts here. All data reviewed has been of a very high standard with high levels of consistency across sites. Please note that complete data sets will be due for submission to the Co-Ordinating Centre in February 2015.

In New Zealand, the team have been busy hosting the bi-annual New Zealand Applied Neurosciences Conference at AUT University in Auckland. This meeting provided a valuable opportunity to informally discuss SMART with visiting international presenters, including Professors Steven Wolf and Amanda Thrift. We are extremely appreciative of your enthusiasm for SMART and your thoughtful contributions to plans for the future.

Wishing you every success in the completion of all participant follow-up assessments!

Best wishes

Kelly Jones

SMART—An Award Winning International Pilot Study

Physical Therapy Association of Georgia (PTAG) 2014 Student Research Award

Congratulations to the SMART study team at Emory University! Supervised by Dr Sarah Blanton and Professor Steven Wolf and led by Lindsay White, Alex Acenbrak, Michelle Phillips, Ali Watt, and Carmen Turcott Wurtz presented an overview of the SMART study and their experiences to PTAG.

Lindsay was awarded the PTAG Student Research Award, based on her work in the SMART study. A related SMART poster has also been accepted for presentation at the Combined Sections Meeting of the American Physical Therapy Association to be held in Indianapolis, Indiana, February 2015. Congratulations to all involved for your tremendous efforts and well deserved successes and recognition!



(Left) Lindsay White receiving the award presented by Dr Joe Donnelly, President of the Physical Therapy Association of Georgia . (Right) Lindsay White and supervisor, Dr Sarah Blanton. Congratulations again to everyone on the Team at Emory University!!



National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Project Grant—Australia

The grant review process has now been completed. While this application was not funded, it will certainly provide a valuable template for planned future grant submissions. Well done to Professor Amanda Thrift of Monash University for leading this application and to everyone involved in the development of the grant and the rebuttals process. This was a true team effort!

SMART Methodology Paper—Revised and resubmitted

The proofs for our SMART Methodology paper have recently been reviewed in preparation for publication in Journal of Stroke and Cerebrovascular Diseases. We look forward to seeing this paper in print!



Introducing SMART Stage II—An Exciting Time Ahead for SMART Collaborators!

Prof. Valery Feigin recently led an AUT Strategic Research Investment Fund proposal seeking funding for a E-research programme aimed at reducing the burden of major non-communicable disorders in the world. This application included a request for funding to support Stage II of the SMART study. This will include an international effort to collect additional feedback on the content on the DVD from rehabilitation experts and end-users . Based on feedback from the SMART study team, a more individually tailored approach will be required to increase uptake of the SMART rehabilitation tool. The development of a new SMART mobile App to support stroke self-care and to increase flexibility in the delivery of relevant topics is now planned. Building on our experiences gained in the development of the Stroke Riskometer™, the development of the SMART learning tool for presentation through web and smartphone based platforms, as an adjunct to routine stroke rehabilitation presents an exciting opportunity to further improve accessibility and outcomes for stroke survivors and their caregivers. Further details about SMART Stage II will be released before the end of the year! We look forward to your continued involvement.

***REMINDER: Please confirm the final number of participants recruited at your site ASAP
(email Kelly Jones at kejones@aut.ac.nz)***