Staff Profile: Professor Steffen Petersen

Professor Steffen Petersen gave his inaugural lecture on 18 March at Charterhouse Square. Steffen is Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine with an interest in cardiovascular imaging. At the CRC, Steffen has run several clinical trials. Recent studies have included the HAPPY London study (Heart Attack Prevention Programme for you) with Dr Mohammed Khanji which used personalised e-health coaching to help reduce risk of cardiovascular events in 400 participants. This study is due to complete follow up in May 2015. Another recent study investigated the acute lung deflation effects of Fluticasone furoate/Vilanterol inhalation powder on cardiac biventricular function and arterial stiffness in adults with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) with Dr Ian Stone.

As well as being involved in clinical trials, Steffen is also involved in population-based imaging and is working on the UK Biobank project which aims to use Cardiac Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) in 100,000 participants. Steffen is interested in the cost-effectiveness of Cardiac MRI in coronary artery disease and how it can influence patient outcomes. He is also involved in reporting standards in cardiac MRI and runs workshops at Barts Health Trust.
At the new Barts Heart Centre Steffen has set up the Barts Cardiovascular Registry which aims to provide a research opportunity to every patient at the centre and has recently agreed to act as Director of Research. Steffen’s interests outside of work include football, skiing and playing the cello.

Barts Health Research Presentation evenings

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 16 April from 1800 – 19.30 hours at St Bartholomew’s, Morris Lecture Theatre. The event is open to all but registration is requested. To register please email: patientsinresearch@bartshealth.nhs.uk
Further details on www.bartshealth.nhs.uk/research/takepart

‘Implementation and evaluation of a research-based guide for NHS boards to develop their quality improvement (QI) strategies (iQUASER)’. Speaker: Dr Linda Pomeroy.
‘Barriers to cervical cancer screening in abused women’.
Speaker: Louise Cadman.

International Clinical Trials Day: May 20

Plans so far: The CRC will be hosting an International Clinical Trials Day meeting on Wednesday May 20. The meeting will take place in the Willoughby Lecture Theatre, John Vane building from 2.30pm – 4.00pm followed by afternoon tea/coffee in the Shield. Speakers include: Dr Paula Corcoran from City University who will share some of the emerging themes from her interviews with clinical trials patients and Professor Richard Ashcroft, Professor of Bioethics at QMUL. We are also planning some activities within the centre. The finalised programme will be in next month’s newsletter.

Study update: Ebbinghaus

This Phase III trial has recently commenced recruitment at the CRC. It was designed as a follow up to the Fourier trial which assessed the impact of additional LDL cholesterol reduction on cardiovascular events when Evolocumab was used in combination with statin therapy in patients with clinically evident cardiovascular disease. The Ebbinghaus trial (which is open to participants of the Fourier study, also being conducted at the CRC) evaluates change over time in neuro-cognitive testing in study participants. The study sponsored by Amgen is taking place in 190 study locations and is estimated to be completed in July 2017. The study is being led at the CRC by Dr David Collier, assisted by Jo Hadley and the rest of the team.