

**HIPS/16/7 - Putting research methodology into practice: producing useful evidence about trial recruitment strategies for trial designers and recruiters.(Non committee)**

This study will find out what sort of evidence researchers need to design effective trial recruitment strategies and how that evidence should be presented to them. This will make it easier for researchers to design evidence-based recruitment strategies and highlight what sort of evidence future research should provide.

Randomised trials are central to evidence-based health but how we design and run them is far from evidence-based. Many design and process decisions are made without evidence to support them, either because evidence does not exist, or because it is not available in a useful form. The problem is nowhere better illustrated than trial recruitment, where evidence of benefit exists for just a handful of techniques. How this evidence is presented takes no account of what users actually need when designing their recruitment strategies. Consequently recruitment is considered the number one problem in trial methods research.