



Practical Introduction to

RUNNING RANDOMISED CLINICAL TRIALS

22 to 24 June 2009

Course Aims, Objectives & Content – This 3 day course will improve your knowledge and skills in the design, practical conduct, management and analysis of randomised clinical trials (RCTs). Combining talks and workshop activities, you will be guided through the principles, methodology and practical implementation of RCTs.

Total cost of course (non-residential)

£375

**Primary Care Sciences
Keele University**

For registration information and further details visit:

<http://www.keele.ac.uk/research/pchs/pcmrc/trials/>

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Course content -

- Day 1** Key principles and critical appraisal of randomised clinical trials
- Day 2** Managing randomised clinical trials: Key issues from protocol to implementation
- Day 3** Data issues in the implementation and analysis of randomised clinical trials.

Course objectives –

- To develop an awareness of clinical trial design and methodology
- To evaluate key components of clinical trials, including issues of trial recruitment, randomisation, blinding and data quality
- To appreciate the value of embedding qualitative data within clinical trials
- To appreciate the role of research governance as it applies to clinical trials
- To provide practical experience of protocol development and of the requirements of running a successful clinical trial
- To enhance skills of critical appraisal of published clinical trials
- To gain basic skills of trial data management and analysis

Who should attend the course?

- Individuals who are new to clinical trials, those embarking on clinical trial research and those with some experience of designing and running trials.
- Individuals from the full range of clinical researchers, including allied healthcare professionals, and non clinical researchers, including trial managers and R&D managers.
- Individuals interested in clinical trials in the primary care setting, at the primary / secondary care interface and in secondary care.

Why attend the course?

The RCT is widely regarded as the principal approach to obtain reliable evaluation of treatment effectiveness of healthcare interventions. To ensure that the inferences drawn from RCTs are accurate, the design, implementation and analysis of trials must be high quality. The course will address the key factors in achieving this.

The Trials Unit has strong collaborations with clinical partners and proven capacity and expertise in running pragmatic RCTs of complex interventions in a range of settings. Our trials programme has attracted funding over the last decade from, for example the National Lottery Charities Board, the Arthritis Research Campaign (**arc**), NIHR and the MRC. All course participants will receive a certificate of completion which will be appropriate to include in the documentation for Appraisals and PDP.