



# DATA SHARING

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# INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPANT DATA (IPD)

Patient Number	Treatment	Survival Time (Days)	Status	Age	Sex	Stage
1	E	44	Dead	67	m	IV
2	E	54	Dead	64	m	III
3	E	67	Alive	55	f	III
4	C	43	Dead	79	f	IV
5	C	70	Alive	62	m	IV
6	E	88	Dead	60	f	IV
7	C	99	Alive	57	m	III
8	C	45	Dead	66	m	III
9	E	90	Alive	59	f	III
10	C	23	Dead	53	m	IV

# BENEFITS OF SHARING DATA

- encourages scientific enquiry and debate
- promotes innovation and potential new data uses
- leads to new collaborations between data users and data creators
- maximises transparency and accountability
- enables scrutiny of research findings
- encourages the improvement and validation of research methods
- reduces the cost of duplicating data collection
- increases the impact and visibility of research
- promotes the research that created the data and its outcomes
- can provide a direct credit to the researcher as a research output in its own right
- provides important resources for education and training

# BENEFITS OF DATA SHARING – CASE STUDY

- IPD collected from randomised controlled trials of anti-epileptic drugs (AEDs) as monotherapy
- Data obtained for 6418 patients from 20 trials comparing 8 AEDs
- Updated to 12745 patients from 36 trials comparing 10 AEDs

# I. IMPROVE VALIDITY AND RELIABILITY OF META-ANALYSIS

- Overcome poor reporting and selective reporting biases
- Standardise outcome definition across studies
- More appropriate analysis
- Incorporate additional follow-up data
- Re-instate excluded patients

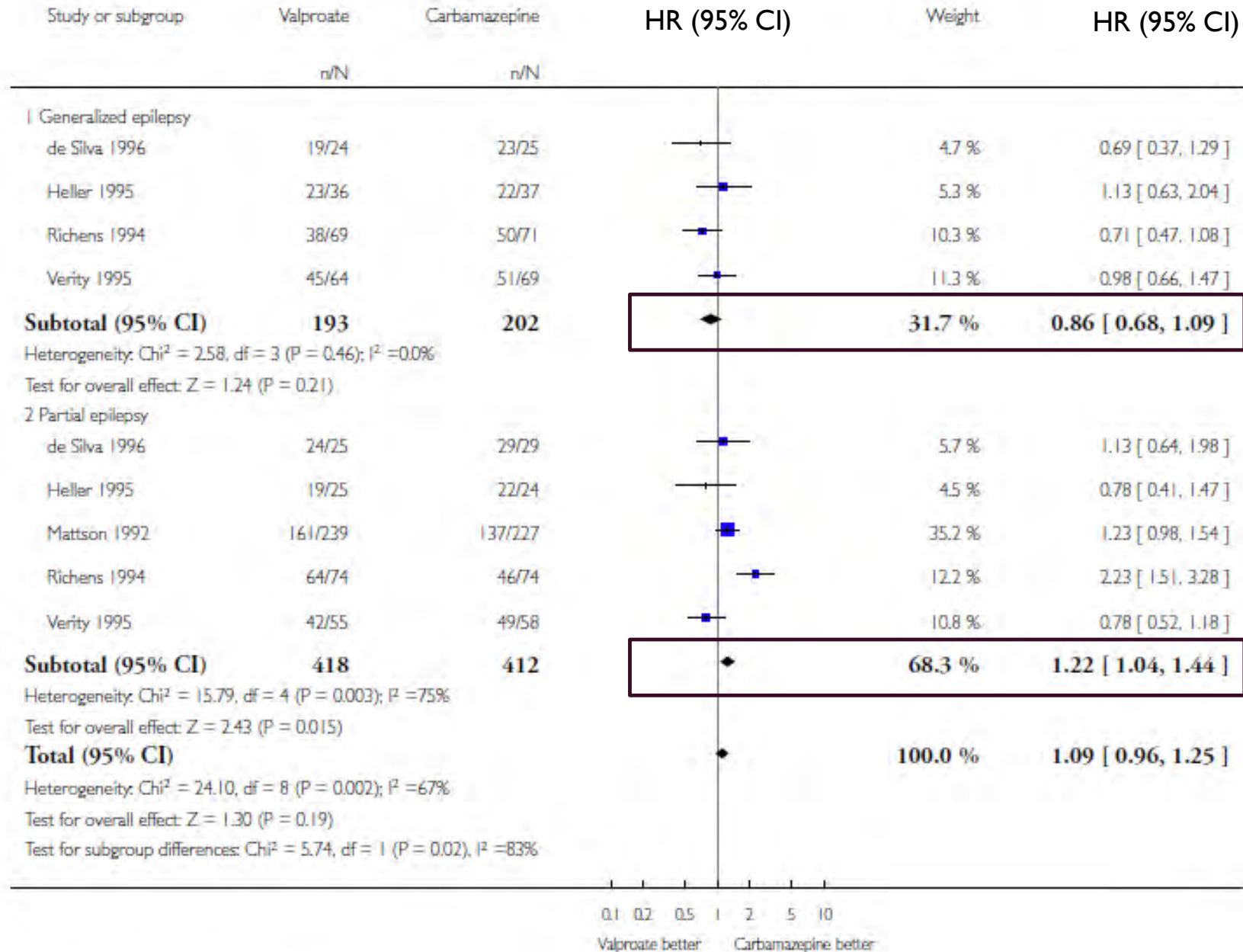
# I. IMPROVE VALIDITY AND RELIABILITY OF META-ANALYSIS

- Nolan SJ, Marson AG, Weston J, Tudur Smith C. Carbamazepine versus phenobarbitone monotherapy for epilepsy: an individual participant data review. *The Cochrane database of systematic reviews*. 2015 Jul 23;7:CD001904. [1]
- Nolan SJ, Marson AG, Weston J, Tudur Smith C. Carbamazepine versus phenytoin monotherapy for epilepsy: an individual participant data review. *The Cochrane database of systematic reviews*. 2015 Aug 14;8:CD001911. [3]
- Nolan SJ, Marson AG, Weston J, Tudur Smith C. Phenytoin versus valproate monotherapy for partial onset seizures and generalised onset tonic-clonic seizures: an individual participant data review. *The Cochrane database of systematic reviews*. 2016;4:CD001769.
- Nolan, SJ, Muller, M, Tudur Smith, C and Marson, AG (2013). Oxcarbazepine versus phenytoin monotherapy for epilepsy. *The Cochrane database of systematic reviews* 5: CD003615. [4]
- Nolan, SJ, Tudur Smith, C, Pulman, J and Marson, AG (2013). Phenobarbitone versus phenytoin monotherapy for partial onset seizures and generalised onset tonic-clonic seizures. *The Cochrane database of systematic reviews* 1: CD002217. [10]
- Tudur Smith, C, Marson, AG and Williamson, PR (2003). Carbamazepine versus phenobarbitone monotherapy for epilepsy. *The Cochrane database of systematic reviews* (1): CD001904. [71]
- Tudur Smith, C, Marson, AG, Clough, HE and Williamson, PR (2002). Carbamazepine versus phenytoin monotherapy for epilepsy. *The Cochrane database of systematic reviews* (2): CD001911. [64]
- Taylor, S, Tudur Smith, C, Williamson, PR and Marson, AG (2001). Phenobarbitone versus phenytoin monotherapy for partial onset seizures and generalized onset tonic-clonic seizures. *The Cochrane database of systematic reviews* (4): CD002217. [67]
- Tudur Smith, C, Marson, AG and Williamson, PR (2001). Phenytoin versus valproate monotherapy for partial onset seizures and generalized onset tonic-clonic seizures. *The Cochrane database of systematic reviews* (4): CD001769. [65]

## 2. TREATMENT EFFECT MODIFICATION

- Explore participant level covariates' influence on treatment effect
- Increased power to identify patients that may benefit most

Outcome: 3 Time to first seizure post randomization





### 3. ADDRESS NEW CLINICAL QUESTIONS

BMJ

RESEARCH

BMJ 2010;341:c6477

Risk of recurrence after a first seizure and implications for driving: further analysis of the Multicentre study of early Epilepsy and Single Seizures

Bonnett LJ, Tudur-Smith C, Williamson PR, Marson AG

### Treatment outcome after failure of a first antiepileptic drug

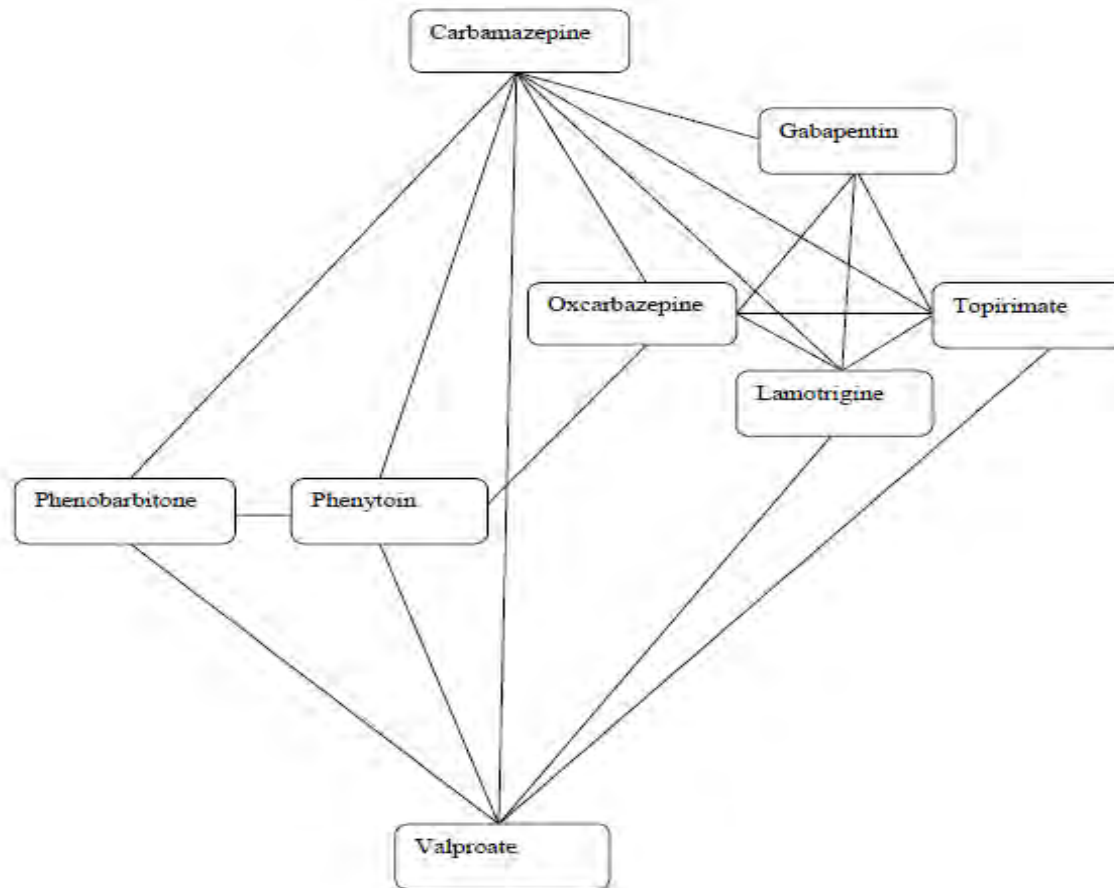
Neurology® 2014;83:552-560

Seizure recurrence after antiepileptic drug withdrawal and the implications for driving: further results from the MRC Antiepileptic Drug Withdrawal Study and a systematic review

Bonnett LJ, Shukralla A, Tudur-Smith C, et al. *J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry* (2010).

### 3.ADDRESS NEW CLINICAL QUESTIONS

28 possible pair-wise comparisons



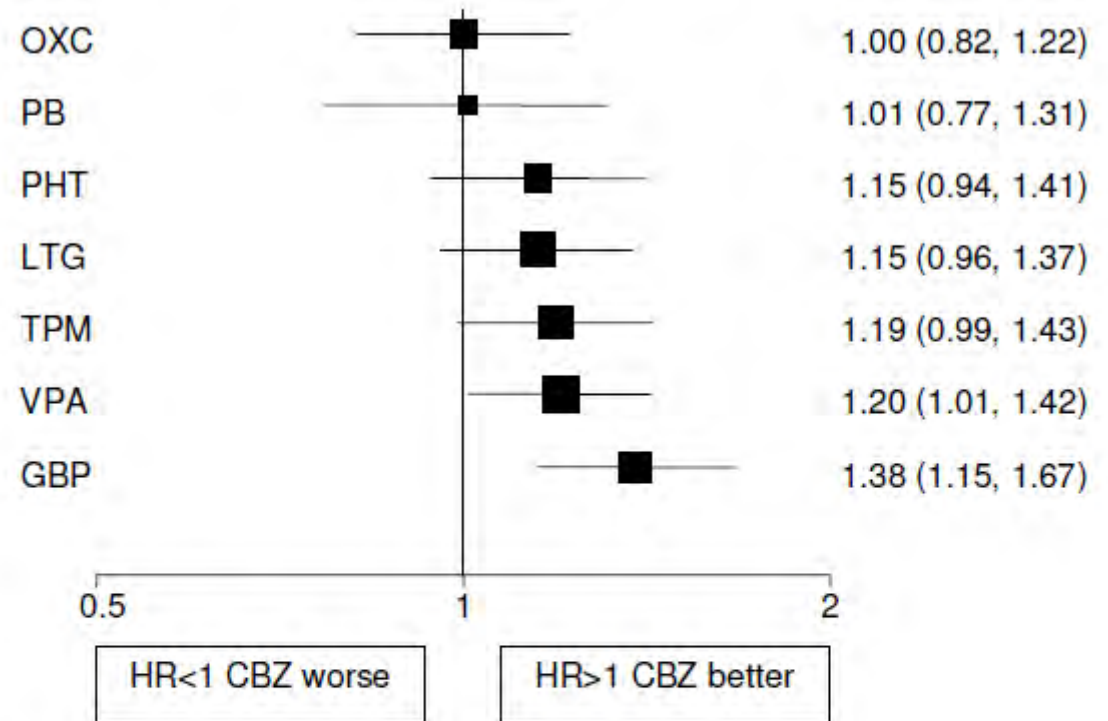
20 trials  
6418 patients  
8 AEDS

## Multiple treatment comparisons in epilepsy monotherapy trials

Catrin Tudur Smith\*<sup>1</sup>, Anthony G Marson<sup>2</sup>, David W Chadwick<sup>2</sup> and Paula R Williamson<sup>1</sup>

*Trials* 2007, **8**:34

Hazard Ratio (95% confidence interval)



**Figure 2**

**Time to 12 month remission for partial onset seizures (Hazard Ratio for each AED compared to standard CBZ). CBZ: Carbamazepine, VPA: Sodium Valproate, PHT: Phenytoin, PB: Phenobarbitone, LTG: Lamotrigine, OXC: Oxcarbazepine, GBP: Gabapentine, TPM: Topiramate**

## 4. INFORM DESIGN OF NEW TRIAL

The SANAD study of effectiveness of carbamazepine, gabapentin, lamotrigine, oxcarbazepine, or topiramate for treatment of partial epilepsy: an unblinded randomised controlled trial

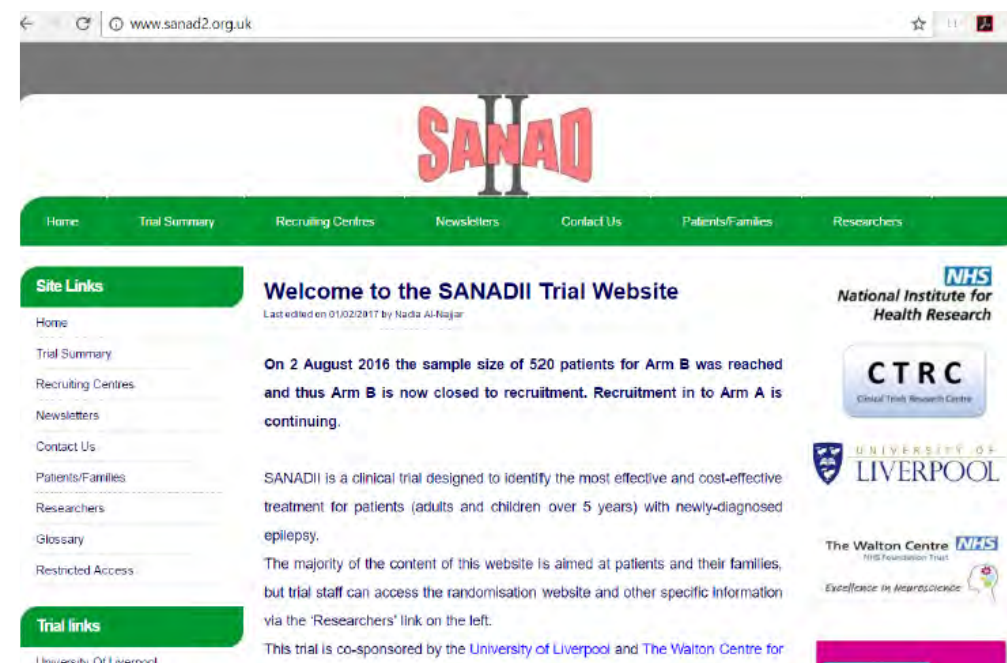
*Anthony G Marson, Asya M Al-Kharusi, Muna Alwaidh, Richard Appleton, Gus A Baker, David W Chadwick, Celia Cramp, Oliver C Cokerell, Paul N Cooper, Julie Doughty, Barbara Eaton, Carrol Gamble, Peter J Goulding, Stephen J L Howell, Adrian Hughes, Margaret Jackson, Ann Jacoby, Mark Kellett, Geoffrey R Lawson, John Paul Leach, Paola Nicolaidis, Richard Roberts, Phil Shackley, Jing Shen, David F Smith, Philip E M Smith, Catrin Tudur Smith, Alessandra Vanoli, Paula R Williamson, on behalf of the SANAD Study group.*

Lancet 2007;369:1000-1015

The SANAD study of effectiveness of valproate, lamotrigine, or topiramate for generalised and unclassifiable epilepsy: an unblinded randomised controlled trial

*Anthony G Marson, Asya M Al-Kharusi, Muna Alwaidh, Richard Appleton, Gus A Baker, David W Chadwick, Celia Cramp, Oliver C Cokerell, Paul N Cooper, Julie Doughty, Barbara Eaton, Carrol Gamble, Peter J Goulding, Stephen J L Howell, Adrian Hughes, Margaret Jackson, Ann Jacoby, Mark Kellett, Geoffrey R Lawson, John Paul Leach, Paola Nicolaidis, Richard Roberts, Phil Shackley, Jing Shen, David F Smith, Philip E M Smith, Catrin Tudur Smith, Alessandra Vanoli, Paula R Williamson, on behalf of the SANAD Study group.*

Lancet 2007;369:1016-1026



The screenshot shows the website for the SANAD II trial. The URL is www.sanad2.org.uk. The main heading is 'SANAD II'. A navigation menu includes Home, Trial Summary, Recruiting Centres, Newsletters, Contact Us, Patients/Families, and Researchers. A 'Site Links' sidebar lists Home, Trial Summary, Recruiting Centres, Newsletters, Contact Us, Patients/Families, Researchers, Glossary, and Restricted Access. The main content area features a 'Welcome to the SANAD II Trial Website' message, dated 01/02/2017 by Nada Al-Najar. A key announcement states: 'On 2 August 2016 the sample size of 520 patients for Arm B was reached and thus Arm B is now closed to recruitment. Recruitment in to Arm A is continuing.' Below this, it explains that SANAD II is a clinical trial designed to identify the most effective and cost-effective treatment for patients (adults and children over 5 years) with newly-diagnosed epilepsy. It notes that the majority of the content is aimed at patients and their families, but trial staff can access the randomisation website and other specific information via the 'Researchers' link on the left. At the bottom, it states the trial is co-sponsored by the University of Liverpool and The Walton Centre for Neurology and Neuroscience. Logos for NHS National Institute for Health Research, CTRC (Clinical Trials Research Centre), University of Liverpool, and The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust are visible.

## 5. DEVELOP AND APPLY NEW METHODOLOGY

- Better approach to analysis
- Improve future methods

STATISTICS IN MEDICINE

*Statist. Med.* 2005; **24**:1307–1319

Published online 31 January 2005 in Wiley InterScience (www.interscience.wiley.com). DOI: 10.1002/sim.2050

Investigating heterogeneity in an individual patient data  
meta-analysis of time to event outcomes

Catrin Tudur Smith<sup>1,\*†</sup>, Paula R. Williamson<sup>1</sup> and Anthony G. Marson<sup>2</sup>

# ENCOURAGING DATA SHARING



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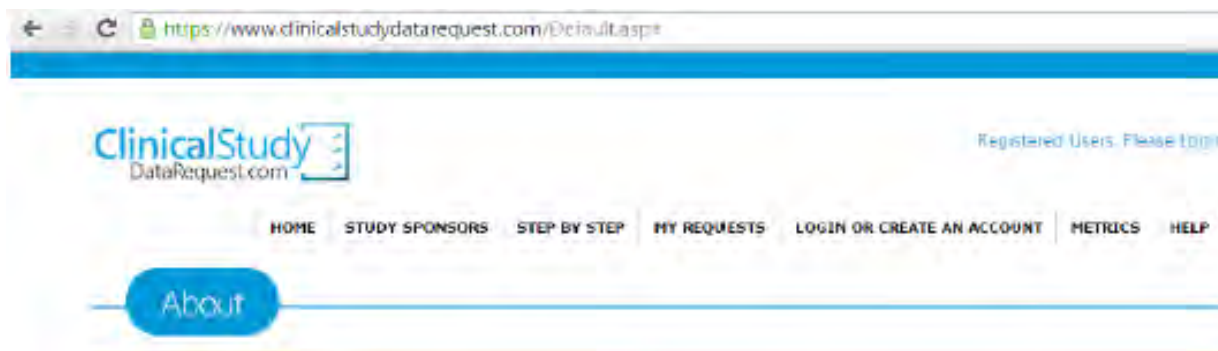


EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY  
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH



*The BMJ* requires data sharing on request for all trials

# ACCESSING IPD FROM CLINICAL TRIALS



13 sponsors  
>2100 studies

2 sponsors  
> 100 studies



# SHARING IPD FROM PUBLICLY FUNDED TRIALS

- 60% of trials registered on clinicaltrials.gov are non-industry sponsored
- Some examples of proactive sharing

Sandercock et al. *Trials* 2011, 12:101  
<http://www.trialsjournal.com/content/12/1/101>



RESEARCH

Open Access

## The International Stroke Trial database

Peter AG Sandercock<sup>1\*</sup>, Maciej Niewada<sup>2,3</sup>, Anna Członkowska<sup>2,3</sup> and for the International Stroke Trial Collaborative Group

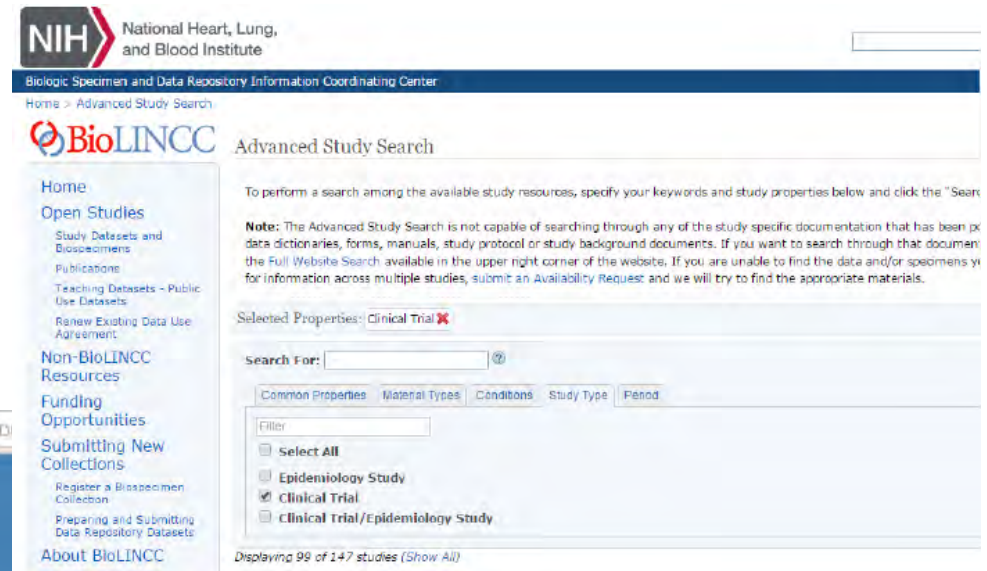
### Abstract

**Background:** We aimed to make individual patient data from the International Stroke Trial (IST), one of the largest randomised trials ever conducted in acute stroke, available for public use, to facilitate the planning and to permit additional secondary analyses.

**Methods:** For each randomised patient, we have extracted data on the variables assessed at randomisation, at an early outcome point (14-days after randomisation or prior discharge) and at 6-months and provided a publicly accessible, analysable database.

**Results:** The IST dataset includes data on 19 435 patients with acute stroke, with 99% complete follow-up. 26.4% patients were aged over 80 years at study entry. Background stroke care was limited and most patients received thrombolytic therapy.

**Conclusions:** The IST dataset provides a source of primary data which could be used for planning trials, for sample size calculations and for novel secondary analyses. Given the age distribution and nature of the background treatment given, the data may be of value in planning trials in older patients and in resource-poor settings.





## VIEWS & REVIEWS

# More needs to be done to share data, particularly from publicly funded trials

OPEN DATA CAMPAIGN

**Why did it take 19 months to retrieve clinical trial data  
from a non-profit organisation?**

Asbjørn Hróbjartsson *The Nordic Cochrane Centre, Copenhagen, Denmark*

Jaspers and Degraeuwe *Systematic Reviews* 2014, **3**:97  
<http://www.systematicreviewsjournal.com/content/3/1/97>



**LETTER**

**Open Access**

**A failed attempt to conduct an individual patient  
data meta-analysis**

Gerald J Jaspers and Pieter LJ Degraeuwe\*

# CTU SURVEY



Journal of Clinical Epidemiology ■ (2015) ■

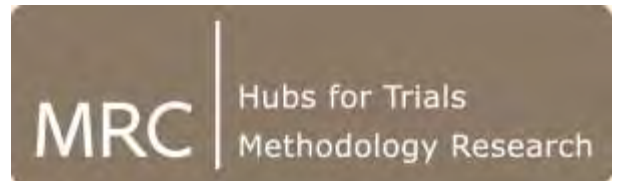
Journal of  
Clinical  
Epidemiology

## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

UK publicly funded Clinical Trials Units supported a controlled access approach to share individual participant data but highlighted concerns

Carolyn Hopkins<sup>a</sup>, Matthew Sydes<sup>b</sup>, Gordon Murray<sup>c</sup>, Kerry Woolfall<sup>d</sup>, Mike Clarke<sup>e</sup>,  
Paula Williamson<sup>a</sup>, Catrin Tudur Smith<sup>a,\*</sup>

## UK Clinical Research Collaboration network of 45 CTUs



23 (51%) CTUs responded to the survey

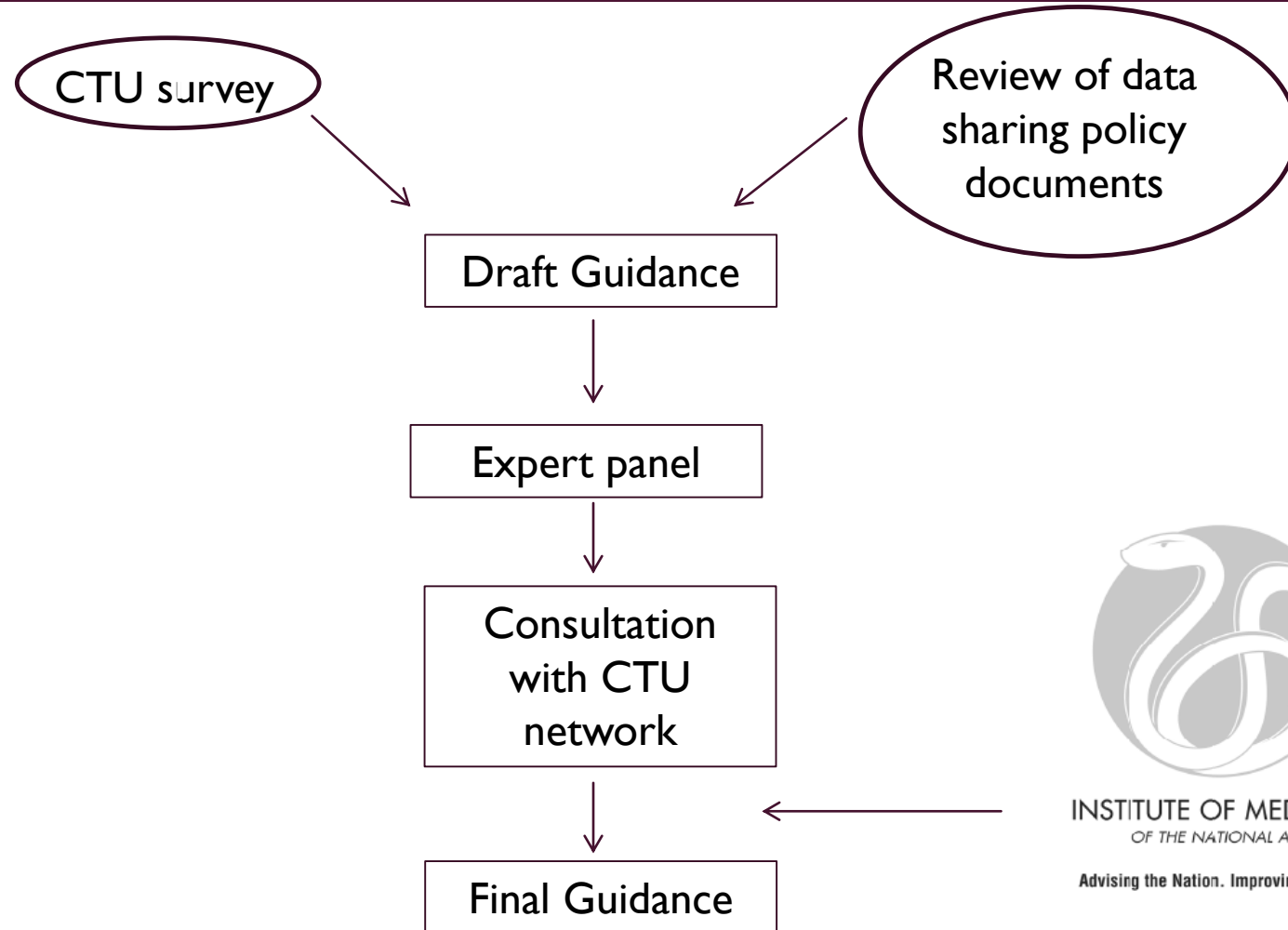
# CTU SURVEY

- 30% had made a request for IPD in the last 12 months
- 65% had received a request for IPD in the last 12 months
- Most common reason was for meta-analysis
  
- 8 (35%) CTUs indicated that consent is generally sought for data to be used outside the original scope of trials
- A standard phrase was not being used across the CTUs

## FUTURE DATA SHARING

- 70% would transfer their clinical trial data to a central facility (with restrictions/conditions)
- Approval process preference
  - Open access 0
  - Learned intermediary 25%
  - Internal Review process 75%
- Concerns: Misuse of data, resources, loss of IP

# GUIDANCE



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# GUIDANCE

## New Data Sharing Guidance document published

15 May 2015



The NIHR is pleased to support a new [data sharing guide](#) for publicly funded clinical trials.

Data sharing has many advantages that benefit patients and advance clinical research. In addition, it ensures that all research data can be utilised to the maximum, and helps prevent duplication and waste.

The guidance document summarises good clinical practice principles for publicly funded CTUs to follow, when sharing individual participant data from clinical trials.

*Tudur Smith C, Hopkins C, Sydes MR, Woolfall K, Clarke M, Murray G, Williamson PR. **How should individual participant data (IPD) from publicly funded clinical trials be shared?** BMC Medicine. 2015;13(1):1-7*

Group of the UK CRC Registered CTUs  
Network. The National Institute for Health  
Research (NIHR) has confirmed it is  
supportive of the application of this guidance.

<http://www.network-hubs.org.uk/files/7114/3682/3831/Datasharingguidance2015.pdf>

# EXAMPLES OF GOOD PRACTICES

- A CTU data sharing policy (scope of trials, data request process, data release process)
- Data use agreement important
- Identify roles and responsibilities for data sharing
- Include plans for data sharing in the protocol and data management plan
- Include a data sharing statement in the consent form and patient information leaflet
  - I understand that the information collected about me will be used to support other research in the future, and may be shared anonymously with other researchers (HRA consent form template)*
- Prepare 'data pack' ready for sharing (De-identified datasets, protocol with amendments, blank CRFs, dataset specifications (or annotated CRFs) including data variable amendments)

# DE-IDENTIFICATION

- Process of turning data into a form which does not identify individuals and where identification is not likely to take place



# DE-IDENTIFICATION METHODS

- **Remove direct identifiers from a dataset**
  - *eg Remove respondents' names or replace with a code. Remove addresses, postcode information, institution and telephone numbers.*
- **Aggregate or reduce the precision of a variable**
  - *eg Record the year of birth rather than the day, month and year; record postcode sectors (first 3 or 4 digits) rather than full postcodes*
- **Restrict the upper or lower ranges of a continuous variable to hide outliers** if the values for certain individuals are unusual or atypical within the wider group researched.
  - *eg Annual salary could be 'top-coded' to avoid identifying highly paid individuals*

Taken from the UK Data Archive

<http://www.data-archive.ac.uk/create-manage/consent-ethics/anonymisation?index=1>

# BEST PRACTICES FOR ANONYMISATION OF QUALITATIVE DATA

- do not collect disclosive data unless this is necessary, e.g. do not ask for full names if they cannot be used in the data
- plan anonymisation at the time of transcription or initial write up
- use pseudonyms or replacements that are consistent within the research team and throughout the project, e.g. use the same pseudonyms in publications or follow-up research
- identify replacements in text clearly, e.g. with [brackets]
- retain unedited versions of data for use within the research team and for preservation
- create an anonymisation log of all replacements, aggregations or removals made - store such a log separately from the anonymised data files

Taken from the UK Data Archive

<http://www.data-archive.ac.uk/create-manage/consent-ethics/anonymisation?index=2>

## EXAMPLE ANONYMISATION LOG

Interview and page number	Original	Changed to
Int1		
p1	Age 27	Age range 20-30
p1	Spain	European country
p3	Manchester	Northern metropolitan city or English provincial city
p2	20th June	June
p2	Amy (real name)	Moira (pseudonym)
Int2		
p1	Francis	my friend
p8	Station Road primary school	a primary school
p10	Head Buyer, Produce, Sainsburys	Senior Executive with leading supermarket chain

Taken from the [UK Data Archive](http://www.data-archive.ac.uk)

<http://www.data-archive.ac.uk/create-manage/consent-ethics/anonymisation?index=2>

# FINAL REMARKS

- Sharing data from clinical research studies can be very valuable
- But this must be done responsibly, protecting participants confidentiality whilst maximising the utility of data
  - Consent for sharing should be obtained from participants
  - Suitable de-identification methods
  - Data use agreement
- Planning data sharing during the design stage can save time
- When designing new studies and identifying new research questions consider whether existing data could be used

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Carolyn Hopkins, Matt Sydes, Kerry Woolfall,  
Mike Clarke, Gordon Murray, Paula Williamson, Sarah Nolan, Liz Tremain, Tony Marson, Duncan Appelbe, Richard  
Appleton

Guidance project was funded by the MRC HTMR (MR/L004933/I-R39)