

Trial Office Dundee (TOD), Dental Health Services Research Unit, University of Dundee



**Welcome** to the INTERVAL Dental Recalls Trial Newsletter to Practices - Spring 2015. We hope all practice staff are well and have been enjoying some of the good weather this springtime. Please note this newsletter is now being sent out on a quarterly basis, with the next issue coming to you in the summer.

### Working in Partnership with Participating Practices

The team of Dental Research Nurses and Hygienists based in the Dental Health Services Research Unit at Dundee University were the subject of an article on research written by Bruce Oxley for the March edition of Scottish Dental Magazine. The article focused on the work the team do on the INTERVAL, IQuaD, HOPSCOTCH and EDOCALD trials, and how they work alongside participating Dental Practices. With their knowledge of how dental practices run on a day-to-day basis and their time spent visiting practices and liaising with practice staff, they have provided an additional link between Trial Admin Offices and practice staff. Scottish Dental is available free of charge to any registered dental professional in Scotland. To sign up and read the article in full, go to [www.sdmag.co.uk](http://www.sdmag.co.uk) For more about the trials mentioned, visit <http://dentistry.dundee.ac.uk/effective-dental-practice-programme>



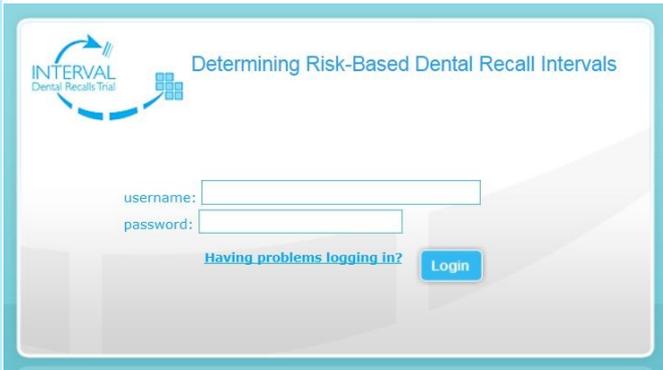
*Prof. Jan Clarkson (standing), (seated l-r) Fiona Ord, Research Dental Nurse; Laura Lovelock, Research Dental Hygienist Therapist; Jill Gouick, Research Dental Nurse and Fiona Mitchell, Research Dental Nurse. Picture courtesy of Mike Wilkinson.*



**INTERVAL Year 4 Clinical Assessments** Almost all of the participants recruited (in 2010 and 2011) by INTERVAL Phase 1 practices have now successfully completed their Year 4 Clinical Assessments. The assessments have been carried out by trained assessors who are blinded as to which recall interval the participant has been randomised to. The assessments form the basis of the Primary Outcome of the Trial, therefore we were very keen to assess as many eligible participants as possible. Trial Office staff would like to express a huge **'thank you'** to all the dedicated staff in the nine Phase 1 Practices who have worked so hard with us to achieve good attendance rates. Special mention must be made of Southside Dental Care, Edinburgh and Amblecote Dental Practice, Birmingham as both practices managed to get almost all of their eligible participants assessed! Very well done.

It may seem like a long way off now but the Year 4 anniversaries of Phase 2 participants will be starting from Spring 2016 onwards. Staff from the TOD will be in touch to give advance notice of the dates when we will be looking to arrange Year 4 Clinical Assessment sessions in your practice.

**‘Determining Risk Based Recall Intervals’ - Have you logged on to the INTERVAL online training package? <http://interval.smile-on.com/>**



A gentle reminder that all INTERVAL dentists must complete the online training package for allocating recall intervals to patients randomised to the risk based arm. The Trial Office will be checking and contacting practices to remind dentists of the need to complete it. **A CPD Certificate is available on completion.** The package was developed by Healthcare Learning Smile-on for the INTERVAL Trial and follows National Institute for Health & Care Excellence (NICE) guidelines (CG19) ‘Dental Recall: Recall interval between routine dental examinations’. There are a number of patient scenarios to work through considering patient risk levels and respective recall allocations. To ensure you receive a CPD certificate, please remember to complete the ‘Evaluation’ section once you have finished. A copy of the NICE guidelines on recall, mentioned above, is available at [www.nice.org.uk](http://www.nice.org.uk)



**Patient Attendance Data (PAD) Forms** The TOD is now monitoring the return of PAD forms following up on visits made to practices by the Research Team. During the visits white folders containing PAD forms were given to practices and guidance provided on correct completion of the forms. A PAD form should be returned to the TOD each time a participant has a check-up or to reflect that the practice has tried three times to reschedule a participant’s check-up. Congratulations to the ten practices below that have achieved above average rates of return of information on recall attendances! The staff at N13 Dental Clinic in London (photo opposite) have also been working hard to ensure information on participants’ recall attendance is returned. Return rates will vary from month to month and with each participant’s circumstances. We really appreciate the efforts made by practice staff and would encourage staff to contact the TOD (details below) if you would like further guidance.



*(l-r) Dr Pegah Ziahosseini, Dentist; Maggie Szczecina, Receptionist; Ayaan Mahmoud, Trainee Dental Nurse*

Collegiate Dental Practice, Manchester	Montgomery Street Dental Care, Edinburgh
Horizon Dental Clinic, Blyth, Newcastle	Nairn Dental Clinic, Town & County Hospital, Nairn
Bute Dental Surgery, Isle of Bute	Loughside Dental Practice, Belfast
Brightons & Polmont Dental Surgery, Polmont, Falkirk	Lochshell Dental Clinic, Wick
Number One Surgery, Consett, Newcastle	Kelvingrove Dental Care Ltd, Glasgow

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