**Expression of Interest for membership of a new MRC-NIHR TMRP ‘Greener Trials’ subgroup**

Almost 16 years ago the Sustainable Clinical Trials group measured the carbon footprint of the CRASH trial, a multicentre international trial of the effect of corticosteroids on head injury, and concluded that *“clinical trials contribute substantially to greenhouse gas emission*”1. The group developed guidelines for reducing the carbon footprint of trials and showed that they improved carbon efficiency in CRASH-2 compared with CRASH-1. Since then little seems to have happened to consciously reduce the carbon consumption of clinical trials, but the urgency of the threat from the climate crisis has increased exponentially.2

A recently funded project by the NIHR, <https://fundingawards.nihr.ac.uk/award/NIHR135419>, has brought renewed activity and interest in the area. To maintain and build on this, the TMRP Executive have approved the creation of a new subgroup, housed within the Trial Conduct Working Group, but working across all Working Groups.

Potential topic areas for the group include:

* Further development, improvement and testing of the method to quantify the carbon footprint of current clinical trials to inform future lower carbon clinical trial design;
* Promotion of guidance and training of CTUs to use the method at the design stage of trials;
* Identification of barriers and facilitators to adoption of greener research practices within clinical trials;
* Understanding of how to develop this field of research, given the need to include the combined expertise in the operational delivery of clinical trials, methodology and sustainability.
* Patient and public involvement and engagement activities to build on pilot work investigating patients’ views on carbon trade off decisions to inform the transition into routine practice.
* Development of the research agenda for assessing the potential relationship between lower carbon trial designs and trial efficiency.

If you are interested in joining the group, please email Lisa Fox, [Lisa.Fox@icr.ac.uk](mailto:Lisa.Fox@icr.ac.uk), **by 5th June.**

If you would also be interested in co-leading the group, please send an expression of interest, no more than one side of A4, explaining your interests, your discipline/area of expertise, and the organisation you are based in. For more information on the role of co-lead, please contact either Lisa Fox, [Lisa.Fox@icr.ac.uk](mailto:Lisa.Fox@icr.ac.uk) or Paula Williamson, [prw@liv.ac.uk](mailto:prw@liv.ac.uk).

1 Sustainable Trials Study Group. Towards sustainable clinical trials. BMJ 2007; 334: 671 doi: <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.39140.623137>.

2 Watts N, Amann N, Arnell N, et. The 2020 report of The Lancet Countdown on health and climate change: responding to converging crises. Lancet 2021; 397: 129-70. <https://doi.org/10.1016/S01406736(20)32290-X>.