**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, **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 or Paula Williamson, 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](https://doi.org/10.1016/S01406736%2820%2932290-X).