



MRC Clinical Trials Unit (MRC CTU) at UCL Capacity Strengthening Hub

Interested in new training opportunities including four post-doctoral positions?

Dear

Colleagues,

Welcome to the quarterly Newsletter for the MRC Clinical Trials Unit at UCL Capacity Strengthening Hub. Discover the latest news, resources and training on clinical trials and studies, and developments within the Hub.

What is the aim of the Hub?

- Provide resources on all areas of trials, observational studies, and meta-analyses
- Host webinars and roll-out a new mentoring scheme
- Advertise new training opportunities

What is the target audience?

- Individuals/organisations working on clinical trials/observational studies globally

Thank you to everyone who has shared feedback to help the team to improve the Hub. MRC CTU at UCL welcome feedback from those who haven't had chance to yet. There's still time to input, please do so here: [Feedback Form](#)

Webinars

Recent webinar

How to be a good Data Manager

This webinar was held in July.

Four experienced data managers from Vietnam, South Africa, Zimbabwe and the UK talked about their experience and top tips for being a good data manager and answered questions from the audience. 745 people attended live from 102 countries.

This is the fourth webinar in the popular series to inform and promote discussion about different roles in clinical trials.

You can watch the recording of the webinar on the MRC CTU at UCL Hub:

[Webinars](#)

Previous webinars

Please visit our webinar page to watch recordings of past webinars on being a good Principal Investigator or Trial Manager, Point-of-care haemoglobin tests and mentoring.

[Webinars](#)

Training

MRC CTU at UCL have some new training opportunities, including four post-doctoral positions available within the SUPPORT project (funded by EDCTP3): action 'Supporting the next generation of African researchers on preventing HIV paediatric mortality through a training network.'

The deadline to apply is 3rd October 2024. To find out more, please visit the Training webpage.

[Training](#)

LMIC Mentoring Scheme

58 mentees have now been matched with mentors through the MRC CTU at UCL LMIC Mentoring Scheme. We are now collecting feedback on how the mentoring is going and so far feedback has been very positive.

Why have a mentor?

Mentoring can help to:

- Develop skills and expertise
- Meet goals such as career development, promotion, management/leadership, or building self-confidence
- Be successful in areas such as applications for grants or fellowships, and writing papers.

Who can be a mentor?

Anyone can be a mentor if they have:

- 3+ years of experience

or

- Other experience - for example,
 - to mentor on grant applications - 1 successful proposal
 - to mentor on getting papers published – 1 successful publication.

How are people matched?

On the sign-up form mentors indicate areas that they are able to give support in, and mentees indicate 3 areas on which they would like support. They are then matched accordingly, taking into consideration their roles, areas of interest, language(s) they speak, and time zones.

To find out more and sign up for the scheme, please visit the Mentoring webpage:

[LMIC Mentoring Scheme](#)

New Essential Reading List with certification

The fifth and sixth Essential Reading Lists for Data Managers and on Statistical Analysis are now available!

The lists aim to enable people working in specific roles or areas of clinical trials and studies to easily find a range of relevant resources.

A certificate can be obtained by taking the quiz after reading/watching the resources, but this is optional.

Feedback on our first four lists:

- 100% said the concept of reading lists, with quizzes and certification, is 'useful' or 'very useful'
- 87% said the reading lists are 'excellent' or 'very useful' and
- 100% said the content of the reading lists is 'Excellent/Very good'.
- Users commented:
 - “The [trial set-up] reading list is vital as it equip us with knowledge and skills”
 - “This is so helpful, there is a real lack of 'official' training for Trial Managers, so resources like this are great”
 - The lists give “Essential information” and “All resources are very helpful.”

[Essential reading lists](#)

New resources

Below is a selection of our new resources.

Plenary Talk from AIDS 2024: 'Do not forget the children: pioneering progress in paediatric HIV care'

This talk from AIDS 2024 examines the remarkable progress in HIV in children in the past decade. However, there are still challenges in diagnosing children early and anti-retroviral coverage and this looks at clinical trials that are being run to address some of these issues and how other interventions in addition to drugs are also needed.

Download the slides here:.

[Download the slides \(PDF\) - 'Do not forget the children: pioneering progress in paediatric HIV care'](#)

Showing RESPECT: Communicating trial results to participants

This briefing paper summarises key findings from the Show RESPECT study around how to share results with people taking part in clinical trials.

[Read the Briefing Paper \(PDF\) - Showing RESPECT: Communicating trial results to participants](#)

The SHOW RESPECT adaptable framework for planning how to share results with trial participants

This framework provides a list of considerations and prompts to help trial teams think through how overall trial results should be shared with participants.

[Read the Briefing Paper \(PDF\) - The SHOW RESPECT adaptable framework for planning how to share results with trial participants](#)

GDPR video

The MRC Clinical Trials Unit at UCL, Penta and the Health Research Authority have produced a new animated video to help children and young people understand General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) when they are being asked to take part in a trial.

Please do explore all our resources using the interactive searchable tool on the MRC CTU at UCL Capacity Strengthening Hub Resources page.

[Resources](#)

About the MRC Clinical Trials Unit at UCL

This Hub aims to provide resources on the design, conduct, analysis, and knowledge transfer and exchange for randomised controlled trials, observational studies, and meta-analyses. MRC CTU will also advertise new training opportunities and short courses.

The resources shared on the Hub have been created by the MRC CTU at UCL and partners, some are for particular trials and studies and others are more generic. They may be useful for those conducting clinical trials and studies in different countries, and could be used as a template to adapt for other contexts. Country-specific regulations, and the needs, resources, expertise and local knowledge in the setting, will be important to take into account. MRC CTU will do our best to ensure documents on this Hub are kept up to date. Please acknowledge the authors, if you use any slides or training materials owned by other health professionals.

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