



Cross Centre Placements The Cardiff Experience

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Background

Cardiff ECMC

2 components:

- Haematology
- Solid Tumour

Velindre Cancer Centre (VCC)

- Population 1.5 million people in South East Wales
- Clinical Trials Unit has 20 years track record in clinical trials
- Portfolio of around 50 trials open to recruitment (Phase 2 and 3)
- New research infrastructure for early phase trials. Launched May 2013

Current EP Portfolio

- Mix of academic and commercial
- Majority Phase 1b
- 7 trials recruiting, 5 in set-up



VCC Early Phase Team

- **Clinical Lead**
Dr Rob Jones
- **Registrar**
- **Early Phase Team Lead**
- **Research Nurses**
- **Data Manager**
- **Pharmacist and Technician**
- **Trials Administrator**
- **Research Assistant**



What We Wanted To Achieve

Develop contacts

See experienced Units

**Identify best practice and benchmark
VCC practice**

Improve timeliness of trial set-up

Review recruitment strategies

Patient referral and management

**Research clinics and trial treatment
delivery**

Trial coordination

Essential documentation

Quality Assurance

**Staffing, skill mix, performance
management**

Engagement and Partnership working

Communications

**Challenges in Early Phase trials and
solutions!**



Visits

2 day placements at 3 centres:

Newcastle, Oxford and Leeds

Involving:

- Job shadowing
- Seeing departments
- Reviewing processes
- Meeting key personnel
- Discussions and a million questions!
- Advice



What Was Covered In Visits

Historical development of Units

Phase 1 research clinics

Operational Procedures

Novel treatment delivery

Different roles and team skill mix

Labs and processes

Recruitment strategies

Financial systems

Communication processes

Unique issues within early phase

**Integration with other NHS Staff/
Departments**

**Advice the “how to” and “what to
avoid”**



General Key Messages

- **Developing a Unit takes time**
- **Wealth of experience within ECMC centres that is accessible**
- **Teams were willing to share**
- **Benchmarking our VCC processes reassured and brought improvement**



Trial Specific

- **Better management of “*potential* ” patients**
- **Improved patient communication**
- **Standardising local R and D submissions**
- **Financial management**
- **Worksheets to assist essential documentation**
- **Lab processes**
- **Staff Development**



Implementation and Improvements

- **More pro-active management of “potential patients” (patient lists, pre-clinical assessments, research clinics)**
- **Shared systems improving team communication**
- **Increased number of research clinics**
- **General patient information leaflet**
- **New worksheets**
- **Checklists - standardising local trial set-up across Velindre Cancer Centre**



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Time, openness, willingness to share and well planned programme to ensure successful placements

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- **Oxford**

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Thanks for Listening

Any Questions?

