



Timing it Right

Stroke Family Support Program

Official RCT Newsletter Issue 3, December 2011 **Holiday Edition**

Wishing You all the Best for the Holiday Season and New Year!

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Highlights of TIR in 2011

Thanks for all your hard work in making 2011 a success!

- Recruited 122 caregivers into the study, for total of 193 to date
- Added 5 new research sites across Canada (see below)
- Pilot results presented at Canadian Stroke Congress (one of the top 5 rehab abstracts) and European Stroke Conference

Welcoming Five New Research Sites!!

We're happy to announce that we have added 5 new research sites to the study to help meet our target of 300 caregivers by June 2012. We'd like to send a big welcome to our sites, listed below in order of initiation.

Site—Local Contact · Research Assistant · Stroke Support Person:

- Oshawa, ON – Amy Maebræ-Waller · Jane Brosseau · Denese Benjamin
- Kingston, ON – Darlene Bowman · Nicole Murphy · Sarah Moore
- Charlottetown, PEI – Carolyn MacPhail · Audrey Fraser · Rita MacDonald
- Sydney, NS – Tracy MacGillivray · Tracy MacGillivray · Susan Gouthro
- Barrie, ON – Alda Tee · Jane Wheeler · Michelle Morrison

Tip of the Hat

Congratulations to a running start for **Jane Brosseau** in Oshawa who recruited 7 caregivers in her first month of enrolling for the study! Great job!

A big thank you to **Tessa Kleissen** in Calgary, who also had a great month and recruited 6 caregivers. Keep up the momentum!!

Hats off to **Esmé French** in Thunder Bay & **Lisa Bradley / Lisa Keon** in Pembroke— their sites have the lowest number of stroke admissions of all other sites yet enrolment and follow-up rates have been fantastic!

Also, special thanks to **Holly Woermke**, our Pembroke stroke support person, who took the initiative to present the study to the team at rounds a few months ago.

Friendly Reminders

Remember, if needed, second mailing of follow-up surveys!

If a caregiver does not return their mailed follow-up survey within 2 weeks or if they haven't completed their online survey, and you haven't been able to speak with them on the phone, you should mail a second copy of the survey to the caregiver.

Enrollment Update

Site	Enrolment Dec 2010	Enrolment Dec 2011
Toronto	28	57
Ottawa	16	42
Halifax & SSD	11	19
Calgary	9	26
Pembroke	3	15
Thunder Bay	4	18
Oshawa	new site	8
Kingston	new site	1
PEI	new site	5
Cape Breton	new site	0
Barrie	new site	2
All Sites	71	193

* Note: these numbers include all participants marked as "eligible, consenting" on the screening form in EmPower, and include withdrawn participants.

Plans for the New Year

Beginning in the new year, we plan to conduct our **qualitative interviews** with 6 participants from each site. We will be holding a training session to instruct research assistants on how to conduct qualitative interviews using our interview guide.

We have also **updated** the **Health Resource Utilization** section on the caregiver follow-up survey, to make it easier for the caregivers to complete. You will be notified once these amendments are approved by your ethics board, and will be given a copy of the survey to use from that point onwards.

Thanks to Anne Wightman in Ottawa for suggesting the changes.

Keep up the great work and let's hit our target enrollment!
If we can be of assistance please don't hesitate to contact us:

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