



# Timing it Right

## Stroke Family Support Program

Official RCT Newsletter Issue 6, October 2012

Fall Edition

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### Tip of the Hat

A special thanks to **Sherry Chaisson** at our Halifax site, who enrolled 6 caregivers since joining the TIR team in July, increasing rate of enrolment drastically and finishing with the highest recruitment rate in the final months of enrolment.

### Final Enrolment Update\*

Site	Enrolment 2012		Increase
	June	October	
Toronto	70	75	+5
Ottawa	53	56	+3
Halifax & SSD	15	21	+6
Calgary	32	35	+3
Pembroke	25	29	+4
Thunder Bay	22	22	--
Oshawa	19	23	+4
Kingston	2	3	+1
PEI	29	30	+1
Cape Breton	3	3	--
Barrie	10	13	+3
<b>All Sites</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>30</b>

\* All numbers above also include caregivers who were excluded/withdrawn after randomization.

### Study Enrolment Complete!

We're pleased to announce that we have exceeded our target enrolment of 300 caregivers and study enrolment is now closed! All efforts can now be focused on follow-up survey completion as well as the patient outcomes study. Thanks to everyone for their hard work in helping reach our target enrolment.

### Follow-up Progress to Date

In this final stretch of the study, let's focus our efforts to ensure that follow-ups are completed and we have a good dataset to work with.

**Legend:** The colours indicate the survey's status.

Complete (Green) Pending (Blue) Missed (Yellow) Withdrawn\* (Purple)

Site	N=	Caregiver Follow-up Surveys											
		3 month				6 month				12 month			
Toronto	75	39	3	27	6	33	10	18	8	24	14	18	5
Ottawa	56	40	3	8	5	34	7	7	3	25	19	2	2
Halifax & SSD	21	9	4	8	0	9	6	6	0	5	9	7	0
Calgary	35	23	4	4	4	23	6	0	2	11	16	2	0
Pembroke	29	20	4	2	3	16	9	0	1	10	12	1	2
Thunder Bay	22	18	0	3	1	17	1	3	0	11	5	3	2
Oshawa	23	16	5	1	1	12	9	1	0	0	22	0	0
Kingston	3	0	1	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	0	0
PEI	30	22	0	5	3	19	5	3	0	1	26	0	0
Cape Breton	3	1	0	2	0	0	2	1	0	0	3	0	0
Barrie	13	7	3	3	0	5	4	0	4	0	9	0	0
<b>All Sites</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>11</b>

\*Withdrawn numbers only include those withdrawn at each follow-up time point (non-cumulative).

Remember that if surveys are returned incomplete, please follow-up with Anna to ensure they are marked as complete, missed or withdrawn in EmPower.

### Enhance Your Follow-up Rate: The Dillman Method



According to Dillman's Total Survey Design method, survey response rates are higher when personalized touches are used. This includes the use of real stamps versus postage meter stamps that institutions often use, as well as using **blue ink** for all signatures. Be sure that you are using these aspects of the Dillman method for all your survey mailings to ensure a high return rate.