

Trial Title:	Influence of insulin therapy in non-diabetic patients admitted to hospital with acute exacerbations of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
REC Reference:	07/Q1702/56
EudraCT Number:	2007-000666-20
Chief Investigator:	Dr David Kerr
Sponsor:	Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (now University Hospitals Dorset NHS Foundation Trust)

This Clinical Trial of an Investigational Medicinal Product began at Royal Bournemouth Hospital in July 2007. The aim of the trial was to determine if the effect of treating hyperglycaemia in patients admitted to hospital with an acute exacerbation of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease can reduce their readmission rate to hospital. It was a randomised controlled trial which compared two groups of non-diabetic patients having insulin treatment vs. no insulin treatment.

The initial recruitment target was 312 participants and the estimated trial duration was 1 year. However, almost two years into the trial, only 47 participants had been recruited. The research team experienced significant difficulties with recruitment due to the season nature of COPD admissions, patients declining to participate due to feeling too unwell and ineligibility due to the exclusion criteria. Additionally, Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust invested in a Respiratory Early Discharge Service which had led to dramatic reduction in the number of patients requiring hospitalisation (beyond 2 days) for exacerbation of COPD.

Due to these recruitment issues, the decision was taken in May 2009 to terminate the trial without results and the relevant regulatory authorities were notified.