

2024 UK DCTN Trainee Group Faculty

Group mentors are listed in the table below with Dr Rachel Abbott (Consultant Dermatologist and UK DCTN TGPP Chair), Dr Laura Howells (UK DCTN Trial Development Manager), Dr Paul Leighton (Qualitative Researcher) and Lucy Bradshaw (Statistician) providing supernumerary support to all groups.

Dr Jonathan Batchelor	Dr Alia Ahmed
Dr Aaron Wernham	Dr Susannah George
Dr Richard Barlow	Dr Esther Burden-Teh
Dr Alistair Brown	Dr Marianne deBrito

In addition to the mentors, additional faculty for the training days will include the UK DCTN Chair Prof Beth Stuart, representatives from the UK DCTN Executive Committee and Network Manager Dr Carron Layfield.

Please note.....

- The 2024 UK DCTN Trainee Group programme and associated training days are free of charge to attend. You will be responsible for your own travel expenses.
- *To be eligible to apply you should have a dermatology NTN (or have evidence that you have recently been awarded one), be pursuing the CESR training pathway or be a staff or associate specialist level clinician working in dermatology and committed to being more research active.
- Only 20 places are available.
- This is not just about the training days—you will be expected to commit to undertaking a significant amount of work as a member of a UK DCTN Trainee Group.
- Attendance at both training days is compulsory.

Feedback from members of previous UK DCTN Trainee Groups

"The UK DCTN trainee group was an excellent opportunity to work with other trainees, supported by supervisors experienced in clinical research, to develop research ideas and design a study proposal. Not only did I learn lots about clinical trial development, but we were able to develop our own research idea into a funded feasibility study."
Dr Natalie King-Stokes, Paediatric Dermatology UK DCTN Trainee Group 2021.

'Our UK DCTN trainee group provided an excellent forum for discussion of potential research ideas through putting me in touch with like-minded individuals and supervisors experienced in undertaking clinical research trials. This proved an invaluable experience, enabling us to develop a trial idea from its early stages through to presentation of a proposal in front of a practice research panel. In our case, we have been able to continue on this journey, receiving support from the UK DCTN and undertaking additional preliminary work, hopefully leading to a fully-funded clinical trial.'
Dr Aaron Wernham, Surgery and Non-melanoma skin cancer UK DCTN Trainee Group 2015.

Membership of the Network is free and open to all with an interest in dermatology research.
You can join at our website
www.ukdctn.org

For further queries and to obtain an application form please contact:
Dr Carron Layfield, UK DCTN Network Manager
E-mail: carron.layfield@nottingham.ac.uk

or visit the UK DCTN website where you will find the forms and information

<http://www.ukdctn.org/fellowships/trainee-groups/trainee-groups.aspx>

Closing date for applications
Monday 8th January 2024 (5pm)



2024 UK DCTN Trainee Groups

Developing skills in clinical research for dermatology trainees



A programme to help dermatology trainees* effectively reach their research competencies & develop skills in clinical research methodology

About UK DCTN Trainee Groups

Background:

The UK Dermatology Clinical Trials Network (UK DCTN) was established in 2002 by Prof Hywel Williams (pictured right) with the aim of providing much needed evidence for dermatology clinical practice. UK DCTN Trainee Groups were established in 2013 to enable dermatologists at the early stages of their career to become more actively engaged in research and the research development process. The programme runs every 3 years and the 2024 cohort will be our fifth round of Trainee Groups.



Aims:

- Provide training in research methodology
- Allow trainees to develop research ideas in a supportive environment
- Help trainees achieve research competencies effectively

How this is achieved:

- Working in small groups under the guidance of experienced mentors, you will develop clinical research ideas (in any field of dermatology) using evidence-based resources with an approx 6 months time commitment. It is anticipated that most groups will work remotely.
- Kick-started by attending a short initial online training session to give an outline of what's involved. This will include sessions on identifying, defining, refining, informing and developing your research question.
- A one-day clinical research study day at **Willan House, London (BAD offices) later in the year**. Groups will present their research ideas to the faculty as part of this day and find out how to move a study idea forward from theory to the real world.

Introductory training session Tues 5th March 2024 (9am-12noon online)

Being part of a UK DCTN Trainee Group	Dr Rachel Abbott and Dr Carron Layfield
Identifying your research question: Sources of evidence (Publications and literature searching, trial registries, PSPs, relevance to NHS and stakeholders)	Kate Clement
Defining your research question: PICO	Prof Kim Thomas
Refining your research question: Different types of bias and how it can be avoided	TBC
Patient and Public Involvement in Research	Dr Carron Layfield
Informing and developing your research question: Reviews and CATs, surveys, small audits, outputs	Dr Rachel Abbott

Research study day Weds 16th October 2024 (full day in person)

Morning session – Presenting your study ideas	
Welcome and aims of the day	Dr Rachel Abbott and UK DCTN Chair
Group presentations: all groups present their study ideas for discussion and feedback	Various
Working lunch: group discussions with mentors on how to incorporate feedback	Various
Afternoon session – What next? Things to think about to move your study idea forward from theory to real world	
Putting together a multi-disciplinary trial development team	TBC
Health economics and statistics - why are numbers so important?	Lucy Bradshaw Prof Tracey Sachs
Working with the UK DCTN and getting your study funded	Dr Carron Layfield
Real world examples from the UK study portfolio	Various

What is involved and how to apply

Contact UK DCTN for application form
carron.layfield@nottingham.ac.uk
Closing date **Mon 8th Jan 2024**

Successful applicants allocated to small working groups (4-5) and assigned 2-3 expert mentors to provide guidance on developing clinical research studies as part of a team

All trainee group members to attend introductory online training session **March 2024**

Each group to formulate a dermatology clinical research question (sources of evidence to include Priority Setting Partnerships, systematic reviews and published studies)

Develop research question using appropriate tools (for example literature reviews, Critically Appraised Topics, surveys and small audits)

Each group present research study proposal at **UK DCTN Trainee Group Research Study Day October 2024**

Potential outputs include poster and abstract presentations at the BAD Annual meeting and publications of Critically Appraised Topics in BJD

Groups decide whether to continue with further study development for the UK DCTN portfolio

6 months

on-going 12 months+