

Keeping you updated about



Dear Parent/Guardian,

We would like to say a huge **THANK YOU** for taking part in the Oxy-PICU Study. Without your help and contribution we wouldn't be able to carry out this important research.

Why Oxy-PICU?

Breathing support is the most common treatment provided to children in paediatric critical care, and a ventilator with extra oxygen is often a vital part of treatment in paediatric intensive care units (PICU).

We know adding too much oxygen can injure the lungs and possibly other parts of the body. The 'usual' level of oxygen in the blood (known as 'oxygen saturation') is 98-100%. Current advice is not to use oxygen to achieve usual oxygen saturation levels when the lungs are sick, but to aim a little lower (88-97%). However, as there isn't much evidence about what is best, doctors and nurses tend to aim for higher numbers.

Our aim was therefore to find out whether children who come to intensive care in an emergency needing both ventilation and extra oxygen have better outcomes when doctors and nurses aim for oxygen saturations at the lower end of the recommended range (88-92%), or at levels often currently used (95-100%). Answering this question will help improve the future treatment of children in intensive care.

How is your child helping?

All parents/guardians are contacted after one year of their child being involved in the Oxy-PICU Study, and asked to complete a questionnaire.

We'd really appreciate your help in completing and returning this questionnaire. The information you provide will let us know how your child is currently feeling and will be used to **help improve the care of future children** who have been in a similar position to your child. All information provided will be securely handled and stored by the Intensive Care National Audit & Research Centre (ICNARC), and your data will not be identifiable.

If you would prefer to go through the questionnaire over the phone, or have any other questions about completing the questionnaire or the study itself, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

We are very grateful for your time and assistance in this research.

Thank you!

You might want to share this video with your child: <https://youtu.be/Fs1yUxeBFQ>

This animation is for young people who have taken part in research when they were very poorly. Children, researchers, nurses and doctors helped make this animation with the company Morph. They based the animation on The Children's Voices project, which explored the views of children aged 7-15 about research. Find out more at: <https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/psychology-health-and-society/departments/>

We are here to help you...

If you have any questions about Oxy-PICU, or about your questionnaire, we're more than happy to help:

Irene Chang, Trial Manager

Sam Peters, Research Assistant

We manage the day-to-day running of the Oxy-PICU study.

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