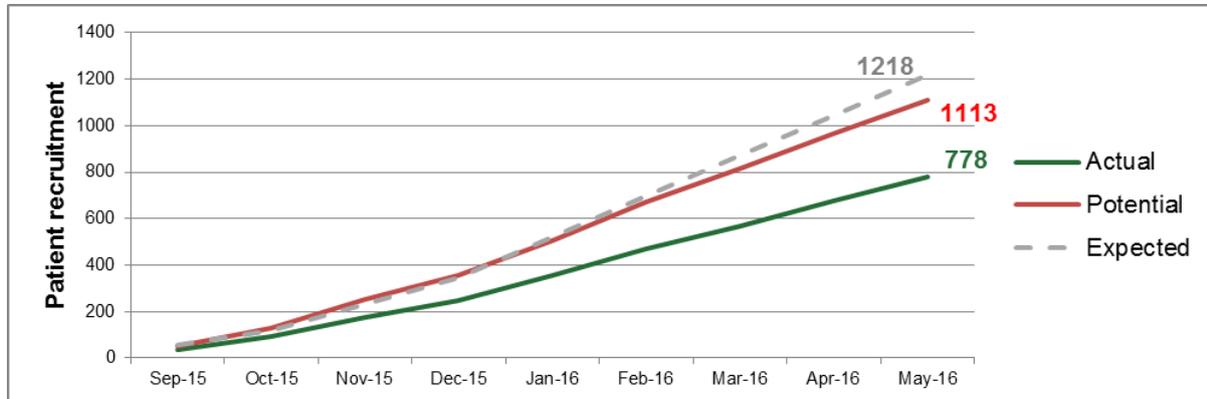# The big recruitment push

May ended with a total of **778** patients recruited to POPPI. To understand why this is behind what was initially expected we have looked closely at Screening and Enrolment Log data from all sites. These have shown us that over **300** patients have been missed—and this is where **urgent** attention is needed.

We need to ensure that as many eligible patients as possible are given the opportunity to take part in POPPI to help ensure that the trial is able to provide high quality evidence as to whether the POPPI complex intervention is beneficial to patients, their carers and the NHS.

Team tactics

What can you do to prevent missing patients?

- Train additional staff to approach eligible patients with the Patient Information Sheet or Leaflet in the critical care unit

- Include updates on POPPI screening and recruitment in daily ward rounds and handovers

- Be flexible - occasionally stay late or cover weekends to ensure eligible patients are approached

- Telephone the unit at times when there is no specific research cover

- Ensure posters are displayed in staff areas and that staff members have POPPI pocket cards with the eligibility criteria (let us know if you need more!)

Team talk

When screening for the '*Able to communicate orally*' criteria, patients should only be excluded if they cannot hold a conversation for a period of time, i.e. if they can only manage to say a few words. Patient's who are able to communicate via speaking valve are not excluded.

League table

1st	Stagger one — average 5.3 patients per month
2nd	Stagger three — average 4.5 patients per month
3rd	Stagger two — average 3.8 patients per month

Stagger one are currently leading the way in terms of average number of patients recruited per month!

It is not too late for staggers two and three to climb the table and challenge stagger one! Ensure your site plays its part.

Contact us

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