



Softened Water Eczema Trial SWET UPDATE

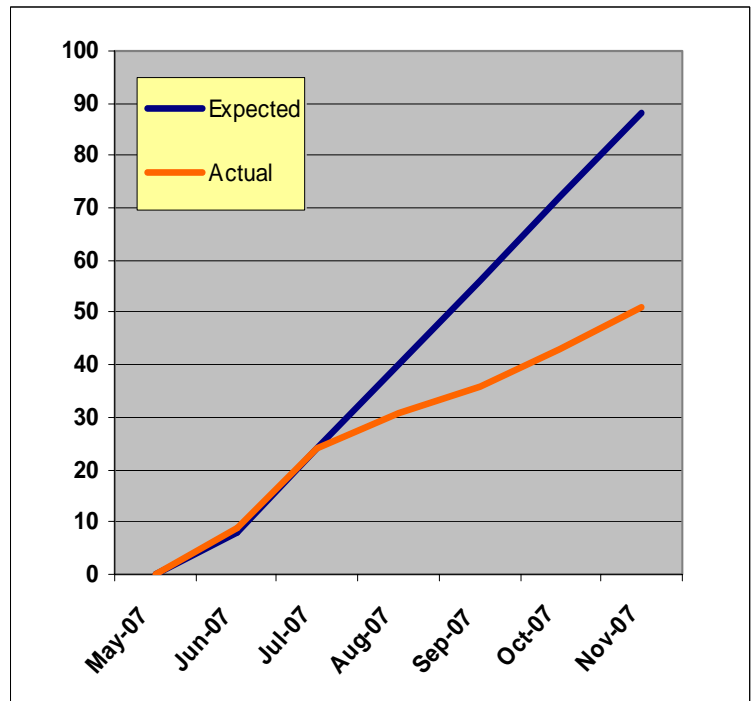
Update 1

November 2007

Website www.swet-trial.co.uk

Welcome to the first SWET UPDATE newsletter. It's been an extremely busy first year, and everyone on the trial team has been working hard. We received ethical approval for the trial in January, appointed our four research nurses in March/April and recruited our first participant in May. Recruitment was on target for the first two months, but dropped over the summer for two main reasons: (1) we had to put a hold on new recruits to our Cambridge centre while we advertised and appointed a replacement for SWET research nurse Jane Devonshire, who has (sadly for SWET), moved to the southwest and (2) a higher proportion of homes failed the Home Screen than in the first two months (we are currently unable to install water softeners in 35% of homes screened). Due to patchy water hardness in the Nottingham region, only about a third of families who are interested in taking part live in areas supplied by water hard enough for eligibility to the trial. We will soon be adding Leicester as a fifth study centre, which will boost recruitment in the Midlands.

Recruitment since May 2007



| Centre | 1 June | 1 July | 1 August | 1 Sept | 1 Oct | 9 Nov |
|------------------|--------|--------|----------|--------|-------|-------|
| 01 Nottingham | 1 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 6 |
| 02 London | 2 | 5 | 9 | 12 | 16 | 18 |
| 03 Cambridge | 2 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 11 |
| 04 Isle of Wight | 4 | 8 | 8 | 9 | 12 | 20 |

Karin Koller, Trial Manager, University of Nottingham

Children's Corner



decorated by Ben, Isle of Wight, June 2007



Thank you to everyone for wearing the Actiwatch™ during the first and twelfth weeks. We are working on giving you a printout of your own night-time movement during the first week, which you will be able to show your friends.

A big THANKYOU to all families who have participated in SWET since May, or who are still involved.

We have recruited 55 children, and only need another 255 more! Please spread the word....

If you are on the trial and have decorated your medicines box, ask the research nurse to take a photo of it at your next clinic visit, and we will include it in the next newsletter.

Technical aspects

All Home Screens and water softener installations/removals on the Isle of Wight are carried out by MG Heating Ltd based in Newport. The equivalent work on the mainland has been carried out by European Water Care Ltd (based in Harlow) but due to other work commitments the company recently withdrew from involvement with SWET. However, they are working closely with the UK Water Treatment Association to ensure a smooth handover to John Kyle and his team of water engineers (SWET Engineering Team), who take over full responsibility for the mainland from mid-November. We would like to thank Lorraine Doran at European Water Care for her hard work co-ordinating engineer visits on the mainland over the first 6 months.

A big thank you too to our industry partners who are contributing to the trial in the form of supplies, services and donations. Further details can be found on the SWET website at

www.swet-trial.co.uk

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