Welcome to our 7th newsletter

Great news!
All 140 participants now recruited to the study

This is a huge achievement and we would like to say a big THANK YOU to the therapists and people with MS in each area who have contributed to the study so far.

There is lots of information about the SUMS study on the website below which is regularly updated:

https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/research/sums

And we also have a twitter account! @SUMSstudy

We are tweeting regular updates and photos to raise awareness of the study – follow us to find out more!

Study summary

The SUMS study is investigating whether regular use of a standing frame at home is beneficial to people with progressive MS. It has recruited participants from all of the Healthcare Trusts in Devon, Cornwall and Norfolk and Suffolk. This study provides therapists and people with MS the opportunity to find out how standing frames might impact on a range of issues that are known to be important to people with progressive MS, such as movement, function, bladder and bowel control, and quality of life.

Understanding this is important so that people with MS can make informed judgements as to whether they wish to participate in a standing programme, and so that therapists, commissioners, and policy makers can understand the benefits that this may bring to patients. We look forward to continuing our assessments with the people involved in the study over the coming months, and will keep you updated via our website, twitter and future newsletters.
Raising awareness

"Taking part in MS study changed my life"

With enormous thanks to two of our SUMS study participants, media coverage from local BBC television in the South West and East Anglia and local newspapers helped to raise awareness of the study.

Interviews with Wendy Hendrie and Jenny Freeman provided accounts of the potential impact of standing frames for people with progressive MS.

Other events

Jenny talked about the SUMS study along with other inspiring researchers at the Cornwall Research Showcase event in March.

Spreading the word!

Wendy spoke with groups at the MS Therapy Centre in Canterbury and the Kings Lynn MS Society branch.

Rehabilitation in Multiple Sclerosis (RIMS) Conference

Barcelona hosted the 2017 RIMS conference at which we presented a Poster. We were delighted to join with researchers across Europe and beyond to share and discuss work advancing the care for people with multiple sclerosis.
Meet the Team

If you would like any further information about the study, please get in contact with us.

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Please let us know if you would like any other information in this newsletter, we want it to be interesting and helpful for you.

Thank you for your help and support with MS Research.