

# Genetically determined brain abnormalities in Down's syndrome - towards a treatment: Down's syndrome Lithium Trial

<b>Submission date</b> 28/05/2009	<b>Recruitment status</b> No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b> 19/08/2009	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 20/05/2019	<b>Condition category</b> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data

**Plain English summary of protocol**  
Not provided at time of registration

## Contact information

**Type(s)**  
Scientific

**Contact name**  
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## Additional identifiers

**EudraCT/CTIS number**  
2008-008342-20

**IRAS number**

**ClinicalTrials.gov number**

**Secondary identifying numbers**

## Study information

### Scientific Title

Genetically determined brain abnormalities in Down's syndrome - towards a treatment: a randomised, single-blind, placebo-controlled trial of lithium carbonate in Down's syndrome

### Acronym

DOWNSLIT

### Study objectives

That brain myo-inositol levels in non-demented Down's syndrome individuals can be reduced by a 4-week trial of lithium carbonate at therapeutic doses.

### Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

### Ethics approval(s)

South East Research Ethics Committee, 23/02/2009, ref: 09/H1102/3

### Study design

Single-centre randomised single-blind placebo-controlled trial

### Primary study design

Interventional

### Secondary study design

Randomised controlled trial

### Study setting(s)

Hospital

### Study type(s)

Treatment

### Participant information sheet

Not available in web format, please use the contact details below to request a patient information sheet

### Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Down's syndrome

### Interventions

Lithium carbonate (Camcolit®), 250 mg oral tablets versus placebo.

Titration phase: dose adjusted to achieve therapeutic plasma level of 0.4-1.0 mmol/l

Maintenance phase: twice daily dosing for 4 weeks on therapeutic lithium carbonate dose

Titration phase: dose adjusted to achieve therapeutic plasma level of 0.4-1.0mmol/L

Maintenance phase: twice daily dosing for 4 weeks on therapeutic lithium carbonate dose

Total duration of treatment is around 8 weeks; follow-up will be as appropriate if patients have any side-effects on lithium, otherwise patient involvement ends when they come off the medication. Likewise for placebo group.

**Intervention Type**

Drug

**Phase**

Not Applicable

**Drug/device/biological/vaccine name(s)**

Lithium carbonate (Camcolit®)

**Primary outcome measure**

Brain myo-inositol concentrations (dorsolateral prefrontal cortex [DLPFC] and hippocampus) measured by 1H magnetic resonance spectroscopy (MRS) at baseline and after 4 weeks maintenance lithium treatment at therapeutic dose.

**Secondary outcome measures**

1. Blood biomarkers which have been implicated in the development of Alzheimer's disease:
  - 1.1. Isolation of genomic DNA for studies of genotype in relation to response including the Tau haplotype, Intron 7 repeat of APP, and ApoE4
  - 1.2. Abeta1-40, Abeta1-42 base fragments and other amyloid species
  - 1.3. Markers of amyloid oxidative stress e.g. isoprostane and other members
  - 1.4. Markers of systemic inflammation e.g. IL-6, TNF-alpha and other inflammatory markers
  - 1.5. Other markers of APP processing e.g. BACE
2. Cognitive measures:
  - 2.1. British Picture Vocabulary Scale (BPVS) at baseline
  - 2.2. Cambridge Examination for mental disorders of the elderly revised (CAMDEX-R) section on Cognitive Examination (CAMCOG) after 4 weeks maintenance lithium treatment at therapeutic dose

**Overall study start date**

01/06/2009

**Completion date**

31/12/2011

## Eligibility

**Key inclusion criteria**

1. Individuals with Down's syndrome
2. Over the age of 18 years, either sex
3. Able to provide informed consent for themselves or have a representative to provide proxy consent on their behalf if they lack capacity
4. Able to communicate with the investigator and to comply with requirements of the study
5. Has carer support

**Participant type(s)**

Patient

**Age group**

Adult

**Lower age limit**

18 Years

**Sex**

Both

**Target number of participants**

34

**Total final enrolment**

19

**Key exclusion criteria**

1. Individuals with contraindications to lithium treatment
2. Individuals with contraindications to undergoing a magnetic resonance scan
3. Non-compliance with taking of the tablets between baseline and the final assessment
4. Treatment with lithium within the last 6 months
5. Evidence of dementia
6. Evidence of renal, thyroid or cardiac disease that would contraindicate taking lithium
7. Pregnancy

**Date of first enrolment**

01/06/2009

**Date of final enrolment**

31/12/2011

**Locations****Countries of recruitment**

England

United Kingdom

**Study participating centre**

Professor of Psychiatry and Brain Maturation

London

United Kingdom

SE5 8AF

**Sponsor information**

**Organisation**

King's College London (UK)

**Sponsor details**

c/o Professor Peter McGuffin  
Dean and Head of School  
Institute of Psychiatry  
PO Box 001  
De Crespigny Park  
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**Sponsor type**

University/education

**Website**

<http://www.iop.kcl.ac.uk/>

**ROR**

<https://ror.org/0220mzb33>

**Funder(s)****Funder type**

Charity

**Funder Name**

Baily Thomas Charitable Fund (UK) (ref: 2215/1)

**Alternative Name(s)**

The Baily Thomas Charitable Fund

**Funding Body Type**

Private sector organisation

**Funding Body Subtype**

Trusts, charities, foundations (both public and private)

**Location**

United Kingdom

**Results and Publications**

## Publication and dissemination plan

Not provided at time of registration

## Intention to publish date

## Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

## IPD sharing plan summary

Not provided at time of registration

## Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
<a href="#">Basic results</a>			20/05/2019	No	No
<a href="#">HRA research summary</a>			28/06/2023	No	No