

# A randomised controlled trial of biofeedback versus laxatives for chronic idiopathic constipation in women

<b>Submission date</b> 12/09/2003	<b>Recruitment status</b> No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b> 12/09/2003	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 24/09/2013	<b>Condition category</b> Digestive System	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data <input type="checkbox"/> Record updated in last year

## Plain English summary of protocol

Not provided at time of registration

## Contact information

### Type(s)

Scientific

### Contact name

Miss Nicky Horton

### Contact details

Department of Physiology  
North West London Hospitals NHS Trust  
St Mark's Hospital  
Watford Road  
Harrow, Middlesex  
United Kingdom  
HA1 3UJ  
+44 (0) 20 8235 4172

## Additional identifiers

EudraCT/CTIS number

IRAS number

ClinicalTrials.gov number

Secondary identifying numbers

# Study information

## Scientific Title

### Study objectives

Biofeedback therapy leads to improved gut function and improved well being and is superior to standard laxative treatment.

### Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

### Ethics approval(s)

Not provided at time of registration

### Study design

Randomised controlled trial

### Primary study design

Interventional

### Secondary study design

Randomised controlled trial

### Study setting(s)

Not specified

### Study type(s)

Not Specified

## Participant information sheet

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

Digestive System: Constipation

### Interventions

Group 1: Single patients 60 min session involving a detailed history of the patient. Advice given on diet and defaecatory posture. Gut function explained and defaecatory exercises demonstrated using balloon expulsion. Patients will practice exercises at home. Laxatives stopped. Followed up at 16 weeks.

Group 2: The same assessment as Group 1 with the same advice and information. Four subsequent 30-40 min sessions at 4 weekly intervals with the same Biofeedback Nurse to practice balloon expulsion and reinforce information.

Group 3: The same assessment as Group 1 with the same advice on diet, etc, but no information on gut function or defaecatory dynamics and no Biofeedback exercises.

Patients will be commenced on Bisacodyl 1-2 at night increasing up to 3 at night if required. In addition they will be allowed to use suppositories as required. Four subsequent 30-40 min sessions at 4 weekly intervals with the same Biofeedback Nurse to discuss laxative titration and reinforce information and advice.

All patients will be assessed at 4 and 12 months after commencing treatment.

Patients from Groups 1 and 3 can cross over to Group 2 if they are not satisfied with the outcome at 4 months after commencing treatment.

### **Intervention Type**

Drug

### **Phase**

Not Specified

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

biofeedback versus laxatives

### **Primary outcome measure**

Diaries, questionnaires, abdominal transit study.

### **Secondary outcome measures**

Not provided at time of registration

### **Overall study start date**

01/07/2000

### **Completion date**

30/06/2003

## **Eligibility**

### **Key inclusion criteria**

150 patients with 50 patients in each group, from age 18 years.

### **Participant type(s)**

Patient

### **Age group**

Adult

### **Lower age limit**

18 Years

### **Sex**

Female

### **Target number of participants**

150

**Key exclusion criteria**

Not provided at time of registration

**Date of first enrolment**

01/07/2000

**Date of final enrolment**

30/06/2003

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

England

United Kingdom

**Study participating centre****Department of Physiology**

Harrow, Middlesex

United Kingdom

HA1 3UJ

**Sponsor information****Organisation**

Department of Health (UK)

**Sponsor details**

Richmond House

79 Whitehall

London

United Kingdom

SW1A 2NL

**Sponsor type**

Government

**Website**

<http://www.doh.gov.uk>

**Funder(s)**

**Funder type**

Government

**Funder Name**

North West London Hospitals NHS Trust (UK)

## **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