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# Out of Hours Study: the effect of weekend and out-of-hours appointments on attendance rates at breast screening

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| **Submission date**<br>20/10/2009 | **Recruitment status**<br>No longer recruiting | [X] Prospectively registered<br>[_] Protocol<br>[_] Statistical analysis plan<br>[X] Results<br>[_] Individual participant data |
| **Registration date**<br>27/10/2009 | **Overall study status**<br>Completed | |
| **Last Edited**<br>06/01/2014 | **Condition category**<br>Cancer | |

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

## Contact information

**Type(s)**
Scientific

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## Additional identifiers

**Protocol serial number**
N/A

## Study information

## Scientific Title
A multicentre randomised controlled study of the effect of weekend and out-of-hours appointments on attendance rates at breast screening

## Acronym
OOHS

## Study objectives
The primary purpose of the study is to discover whether the offer of weekend or out of hours screening appointments alters attendance rates, and if so, which is better, working hours appointments, weekday evening appointments or weekend appointments.

Women in Manchester and Bristol who are due a routine breast screening appointment will be randomised to trial arms, in which they will receive letters inviting them to an appointment in weekday working hours, an evening, a Saturday, or working hours with the option to change to an evening or Saturday. The measured endpoints for comparison will be overall attendance rates and attendance at first offered appointment.

## Ethics approval required
Old ethics approval format

## Ethics approval(s)
Outer North East London Research Ethics Committee (REC) approved on the 15th March 2009 (ref: 09/H0701/96)

## Study design
Multicentre randomised controlled trial

## Primary study design
Interventional

## Study type(s)
Screening

## Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied
Breast cancer screening and prevention

## Interventions
There are no trial drugs or treatments associated with this trial.

Women who are due to be invited for breast screening in Manchester and Bristol will be allocated, based on month of birth, to one of 6 groups. These will then be randomised in a ratio of 3:1:1:1 to the following conditions:
1. Usual invitation letter to a routine screening appointment within working hours
2. Invitation letter to a routine screening appointment within working hours, but with the option of changing to an appointment on a weekend or on a weekday evening
3. Invitation letter to a weekday evening screening appointment
4. Invitation letter to a weekend appointment

The time taken between sending letters and initial appointment is 5 weeks, if appointments are changed then those within 120 days will be counted. Therefore the maximum length of time the patient could be in the study is 155 days.

### Intervention Type
Other

### Phase
Not Applicable

### Primary outcome(s)
Attendance rate. Comparison will be made between the two major arms of the study, those with a working hours appointment offered, and those with an evening or weekend appointment. Attendance is defined as attending a screening appointment either at the time originally offered, or at an alternative appointment time within 120 days of the original. Data capture will include the appointment date and time offered, and the appointment date and time actually attended (if any).

### Key secondary outcome(s))
1. Whether the invitee attended the first appointment offered, measured by whether the radiographer records on the NBSS system database that the patient attended the original appointment (5 weeks after the invitation letter was sent out)
2. Comparison of the attendance rates between the four groups for subsets of the invitees. In particular, we shall evaluate the effect of the non-standard appointments at prevalence screen and by age group, but will also look at effects on incidence screens, previous attenders and previous non-attenders. This will be assessed using the attendance data collected from the primary outcome, and compared between the patient subsets.

### Completion date
01/01/2011

## Eligibility

### Key inclusion criteria
All women (aged 47-73 at Manchester, 50-70 at Bristol, the age range which is eligible for the screening programme at these sites) scheduled for invitation in batches to their next breast screening appointment by the participating centres.

### Participant type(s)
Patient

### Healthy volunteers allowed
No

### Age group
Adult

### Sex
Female

**Key exclusion criteria**
Does not meet inclusion criteria

**Date of first enrolment**
01/01/2010

**Date of final enrolment**
01/01/2011

## Locations

**Countries of recruitment**
United Kingdom

England

**Study participating centre**
**Cancer Research UK Centre for Epidemiology, Mathematics and Statistics**
London
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## Sponsor information

**Organisation**
Queen Mary University of London (UK)

**ROR**
https://ror.org/026zzn846

## Funder(s)

**Funder type**
Government

**Funder Name**
NHS Breast Screening Programme National Office (UK)

## Results and Publications

## 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? |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Results article | results | 06/08/2013 | | Yes | No |
| Study website | Study website | 11/11/2025 | 11/11/2025 | No | Yes |