

# Invitation reminder study

<b>Submission date</b> 22/10/2012	<b>Recruitment status</b> No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b> 30/11/2012	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 17/05/2016	<b>Condition category</b> Cancer	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data

## Plain English summary of protocol

### Background and study aims

Breast screening saves lives by detecting cancer earlier, which can make treatment more effective. This reduction in cancer deaths depends partially on women regularly attending their three-yearly routine screening appointments. Even though many women who do not attend will have made an informed decision, others will be in favour of screening but may have simply forgotten about the appointment. Womens attendance at breast screening should be based on decisions about the likely benefits and risks of screening rather than on whether they remember their appointment. We are therefore carrying out a study to investigate whether a reminder letter sent by post to arrive close to a womans screening appointment increases attendance and whether this approach is cost-effective.

### Who can participate?

Women living in Bolton, Bury and Rochdale, South Lancashire, and Liverpool will be entered into the study when they are invited to their routine three-yearly screening appointment.

### What does the study involve?

One half of the women invited to their routine screening receive a reminder letter around two days before the screening appointment in addition to the normal invitation letter. The other group with only receive the standard invitation letter without any reminders.

### What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

This reminder letter was produced following consultation, including with lay people, to ensure that it contains only accurate information, and is non-coercive in tone. Women in the reminder group of the study who are in favour of screening but may have simply forgotten about the appointment will be reminded to either attend the appointment or call in and re-book. We do not anticipate any risks that may adversely affect the participants as a result of taking part in the trial.

### Where is the study run from?

Centre for Cancer Prevention (CCP) at Barts and The London, Queen Mary University of London, UK

### When is study starting and how long is it expected to run for?

November 2012 to December 2013

Who is funding the study?  
National Health Service (NHS) - Cancer Screening Services

Who is the main contact?  
Prof. Stephen Duffy  
s.w.duffy@qmul.ac.uk

## Contact information

**Type(s)**  
Scientific

**Contact name**  
Prof Stephen Duffy

**Contact details**  
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## Additional identifiers

**Protocol serial number**  
1

## Study information

**Scientific Title**  
A randomised controlled trial of the effect of a breast screening appointment reminder letter on population uptake

**Study objectives**  
The aim of this study is to investigate whether sending an appointment reminder letter to women invited for routine breast screening improve appointment attendance.

**Ethics approval required**  
Old ethics approval format

**Ethics approval(s)**  
Not provided at time of registration

**Study design**  
Multicentre randomised controlled trial

**Primary study design**

Interventional

**Study type(s)**

Screening

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

Breast cancer screening

**Interventions**

Women in the intervention arm will be sent a reminder letter by post approximately seven days before their screening appointment.

**Intervention Type**

Other

**Phase**

Not Applicable

**Primary outcome(s)**

An increase in attendance within 30 days of the first offered appointment

**Key secondary outcome(s)**

Attendance within 90 days of the first offered appointment, secondly, within 180 days of the date the episode was opened, and thirdly, at the date and time of the first offered appointment.

Subgroup analyses will be performed and the cost per additional attendance will be calculated.

**Completion date**

31/12/2013

**Eligibility****Key inclusion criteria**

All women scheduled for invitation to their next breast screening appointment in Liverpool, South Lancashire, and Bolton, Bury and Rochdale.

**Participant type(s)**

Patient

**Healthy volunteers allowed**

No

**Age group**

Adult

**Sex**

Female

## **Key exclusion criteria**

1. Self referrals
2. Early re-calls
3. Women who are invited because of a higher risk of breast cancer
4. Women who have cancelled their appointment before the letter extract is generated and who do not re-book at a later stage are excluded as they will never appear in any of the letter extracts.

## **Date of first enrolment**

01/11/2012

## **Date of final enrolment**

31/12/2013

## **Locations**

### **Countries of recruitment**

United Kingdom

England

### **Study participating centre**

**Queen Mary University of London**

London

United Kingdom

EC1M 6BQ

## **Sponsor information**

### **Organisation**

Queen Mary University of London (UK)

### **ROR**

<https://ror.org/026zzn846>

## **Funder(s)**

### **Funder type**

Government

### **Funder Name**

## 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?
<a href="#">Results article</a>	results	19/01/2016		Yes	No