

SWAT 99: Impact of recruitment plan on participant recruitment.

Objective of this SWAT

To investigate the impact on participant recruitment in clinical trials of using a recruitment action plan during site initiation visits.

Study area: Recruitment

Sample type: Sites

Estimated funding level needed: Very Low

Background

Participant recruitment in randomised trials is a known challenge and many fail to reach their necessary recruitment target. Although an array of processes and routinely used methods are implemented in trials, many of these lack any formal evaluation [1,2,3]. This SWAT aims to investigate whether a structured recruitment plan implemented at a site initiation visits has an impact on recruitment rates.

Interventions and comparators

Intervention 1: Site initiation conducted with recruitment action plan provided for the site to complete.

Intervention 2: Site initiation conducted without site recruitment plan.

Index Type: Method of Recruitment

Method for allocating to intervention or comparator

Randomisation

Outcome measures

Primary: Total number of participants recruited over specified time frame.

Secondary: Time from site opening to recruitment of first participant.

Analysis plans

The primary analysis will be participant recruitment numbers comparing sites in the intervention group versus those in the control group.

Possible problems in implementing this SWAT

Lack of site adherence with the recruitment plan implemented at the site initiation visit.

References

1. Huang GD, Bull J, Johnston McKee K, Mahon E, et al. Clinical trials recruitment planning: A proposed framework from the Clinical Trials Transformation Initiative. *Contemporary Clinical Trials* 2018;66:74-9.
2. Bower P, Brueton V, Gamble C, et al. Interventions to improve recruitment and retention in clinical trials: a survey and workshop to assess current practice and future priorities. *Trials* 2014;15:399.
3. Treweek S, Pitkethly M, Cook J, et al. Strategies to improve recruitment to randomised trials. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2018;2:MR000013.

Publications or presentations of this SWAT design

Examples of the implementation of this SWAT

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