**British Early Diagnosis in Sarcoma Audit (BritE-StAr)**

**FAQs**

**Who can be involved?**

Designated sarcoma centres responsible for diagnosing and treating appendicular, pelvic and spinal bone and soft tissue sarcoma. Anyone can be a named collaborator and submit the data, however there must be a named consultant lead for each unit.

**Why should I participate?**

In both sarcoma UK and Bone Cancer Research Trust patient surveys, improving the pathway to diagnosis was found to be the number one priority for patients. Early diagnosis of sarcoma has a huge impact on long term outcome, and as such is central to the strategies for both of these charities.

This project provides the opportunity for both your centre and contributing clinicians to be a named collaborator on a national, prospective, multi-centre audit.

**I’m a student/ FY/ CT1-2 /speciality trainee/fellow– can I still participate?**

Absolutely – we are keen for enthusiastic students and junior doctors to get involved. Whilst each unit must have a lead consultant, doctors of all grades can be involved in local audit setup and data collection. If you can’t find a senior to help you, email us (brite.star@nhs.net) and we will try to help you find a collaborator either locally or remotely.

**How do I become a named collaborator for my hospital?**

By registering your interest using the following google form: [**https://docs.google.com/forms/d/170WE6aPnq2ND8NUBW58G3Vpbl3-3p1NnWEWuJxoESlI**](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/170WE6aPnq2ND8NUBW58G3Vpbl3-3p1NnWEWuJxoESlI)

You will receive an email with the toolkit including a patient engagement letter and questionnaire, information for registering the project locally and a locked spreadsheet in which to collect data from your unit within the study period (5.9.22 to 27.11.22 inclusive). We will ask for all data to be submitted by 22rd December 2022. Please email [brite.star@nhs.net](mailto:brite.star@nhs.net) if you have any queries, or any difficulties with the registration process.

**How many people can be involved from one hospital?**

There is no limit on how many people can be involved from each hospital. One person from each trust will be the ‘primary contact’ – and will be responsible for collecting and submitting data; they may enlist help from colleagues and juniors who must be credited on the spreadsheet submitted. Each unit must name a ‘lead consultant’ responsible for supervising the project within that institution.

**Do I need permission from my hospital?**

Yes, you will need to register the project with the audit department with the governance department at your unit. We will provide a template for completing the registration form, in order to make this process as easy as possible for collaborators.

**I’m having difficulty registering this project with my trust – what should I do?**

Please get in touch with us via the study email account [brite.star@nhs.net](mailto:brite.star@nhs.net). We will try to help you with any further information that is required.

**When is data collection happening?**

The data collection period will be from **5.9.22 to 27.11.22 inclusive.**

**What are we collecting data on?**

Data will be collected on all patients who are diagnosed appendicular, pelvic or spinal bone or soft tissue sarcoma.

**How do I complete the data sheet?**

The data collection spreadsheet is very simple to complete. Start by completing your details including which hospital you are collecting data for, and who are your co-collaborators (including their email addresses).

Please complete each relevant column for each patient and avoid leaving gaps in the data where possible. Some cells are coded and will only allow you to submit data in a particular format, and others will allow you to choose from a drop down list.

Spreadsheets should be emailed to [brite.star@nhs.net](mailto:brite.star@nhs.net) from your NHS address (again for patient confidentiality purposes) before the closing date of 23.12.22.

It is imperative for patient data protection that you remove the hospital numbers before you submit the spreadsheet.

**How do I record data?**

Data should be recorded on the BritE StAr spreadsheet. This should be submitted by emailing the completed spreadsheet to (brite.star@nhs.net) no later than (23.12.22).

**What if I am missing some data before the submission deadline?**

Please aim to obtain the missing data for all patients before submitting the data for the whole department. If you feel that you are not going to be able to collect the data by the deadline then please get in touch with us at (***brite.star@nhs.net***).

***If you still have a question that has not been addressed by these FAQs please do not hesitate to email us at brite.star@nhs.net.***