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NPEU
Clinical Trials Unit

**OXFORD
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HEALTH
NPEU**



By DOLFIN team

Developmental Outcomes of Long-term Feed Supplementation in Neonates - The DOLFIN randomised controlled trial



DOLFIN TRIAL TEAM



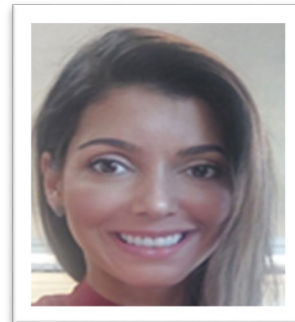
Prof Jeremy Parr
Chief Investigator



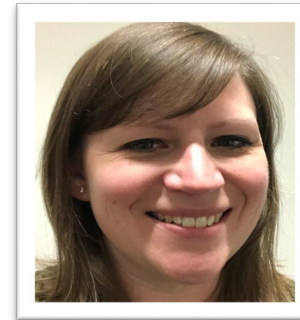
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Co-Chief Investigator



Usharani Wahengbam
Trial Manager



Adriana Francisco
Research Nurse



Hayley Acton
Data Co-ordinator



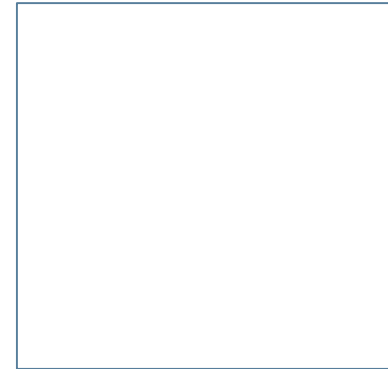
DOLFIN LOCAL TEAM



Principal Investigator



**Co-Principal
Investigator**



Lead Research Nurse

✓ *Please include here relevant information from your site*



BACKGROUND

DOLPHIN pilot (2009 to 2013) in 3 UK Neonatal Units

Aim

To investigate whether a micronutrient supplement containing long-chain fatty acids improves neurodevelopment in neonates at risk for neurodevelopmental impairment.

Method

- 62 neonates recruited
- 59 neonates randomised (HIE and preterm)
- 53 neonates started supplementation
- 29 assigned supplement; 24 completed follow up
- 30 were assigned the placebo; 21 completed follow up.

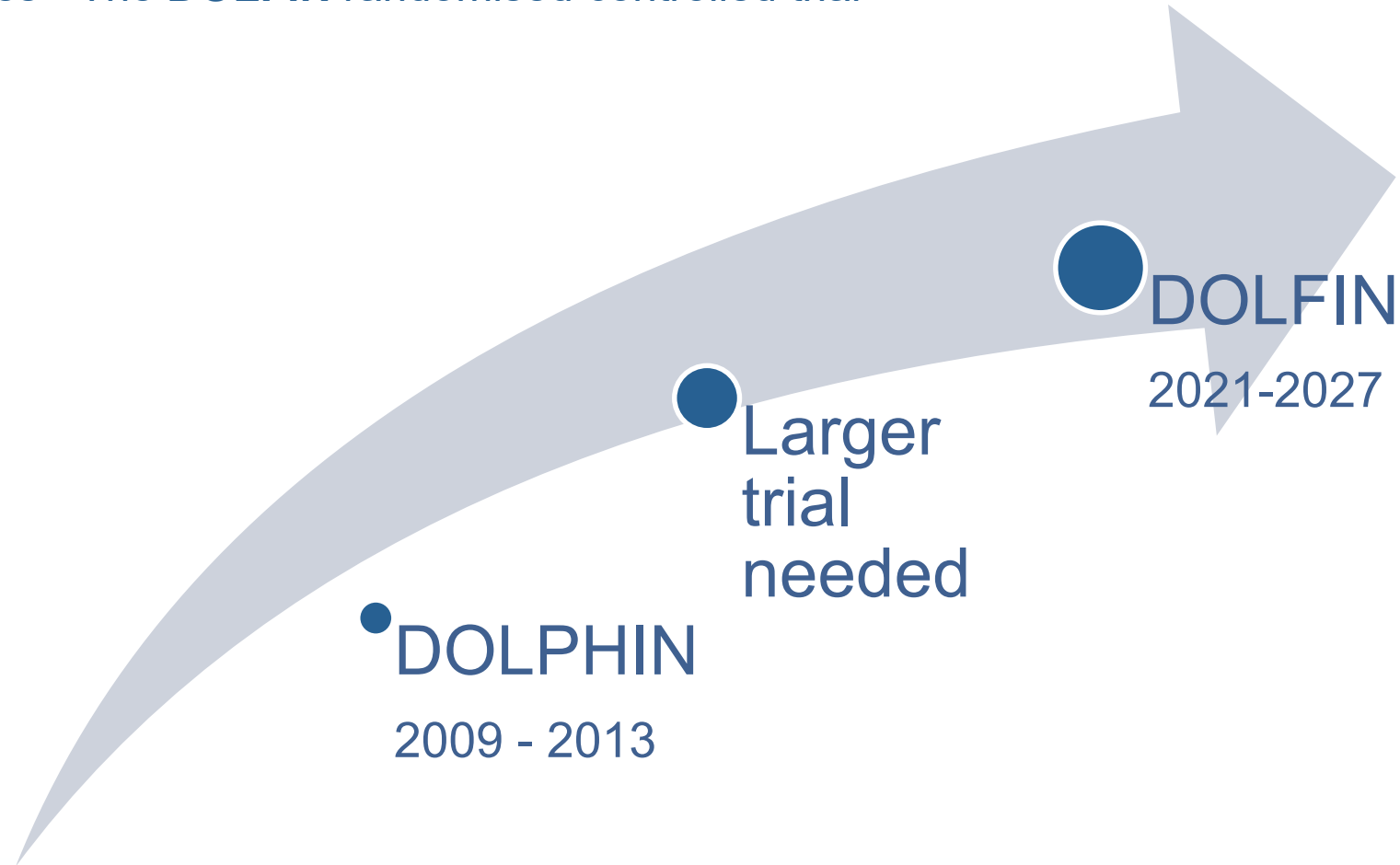
Results

- **Higher mean cognitive scale scores BSID-III**
- **Higher mean language scale scores BSID-III**
- No difference between groups in mean motor scale scores
- Parental reports of neurodevelopmental outcomes showed similar results



DOLPHIN TO DOLFIN

Developmental Outcome of Long Term Feed Supplementation in Neonates - The **DOLFIN** randomised controlled trial



PRIMARY AIM

To evaluate **whether nutritional supplementation** with a nutrient blend LCPUFAs, UMP, CMP **plus usual care from birth to 12 months post EDD improves cognitive development at 24 months post EDD, compared to** infants receiving a matched **control supplement plus usual care** for:

(1) infants born <28 weeks of gestation (who can be randomised up to 3 months post EDD).

(2) infants born at ≥ 35 weeks of gestation receiving therapeutic hypothermia for HIE (who can be randomised up to EDD plus 28 days).



SECONDARY AIM

To evaluate **whether nutritional supplementation** with a nutrient blend containing LCPUFAs, choline, UMP and CMP **plus usual care from birth to 12 months post EDD** alters the following **outcomes compared** to infants receiving a **matched control supplement plus usual care**.

Neurodevelopmental outcomes: language, motor, emotional, conduct, hyperactivity/inattention, peer relationship problems and prosocial behavior at 24 months post EDD.

Infant growth, clinical outcomes, safety, infant tolerability, parental acceptability, maternal quality of life to 24 months post EDD.

Health Economics outcomes



PRIMARY OUTCOMES

At 24 months post EDD

Non-verbal Cognitive Scale Standardized Score PARCA-R



SECONDARY OUTCOMES

At 24 months post EDD (UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED)

BMI, weight, head circumference

Language Scale Standardized Score PARCA-R

Parent acceptability of supplementation (6 and 12 months)

Safety of supplementation (throughout the intervention phase)

Motor skills (fine and gross motor scales scores) ASQ-3

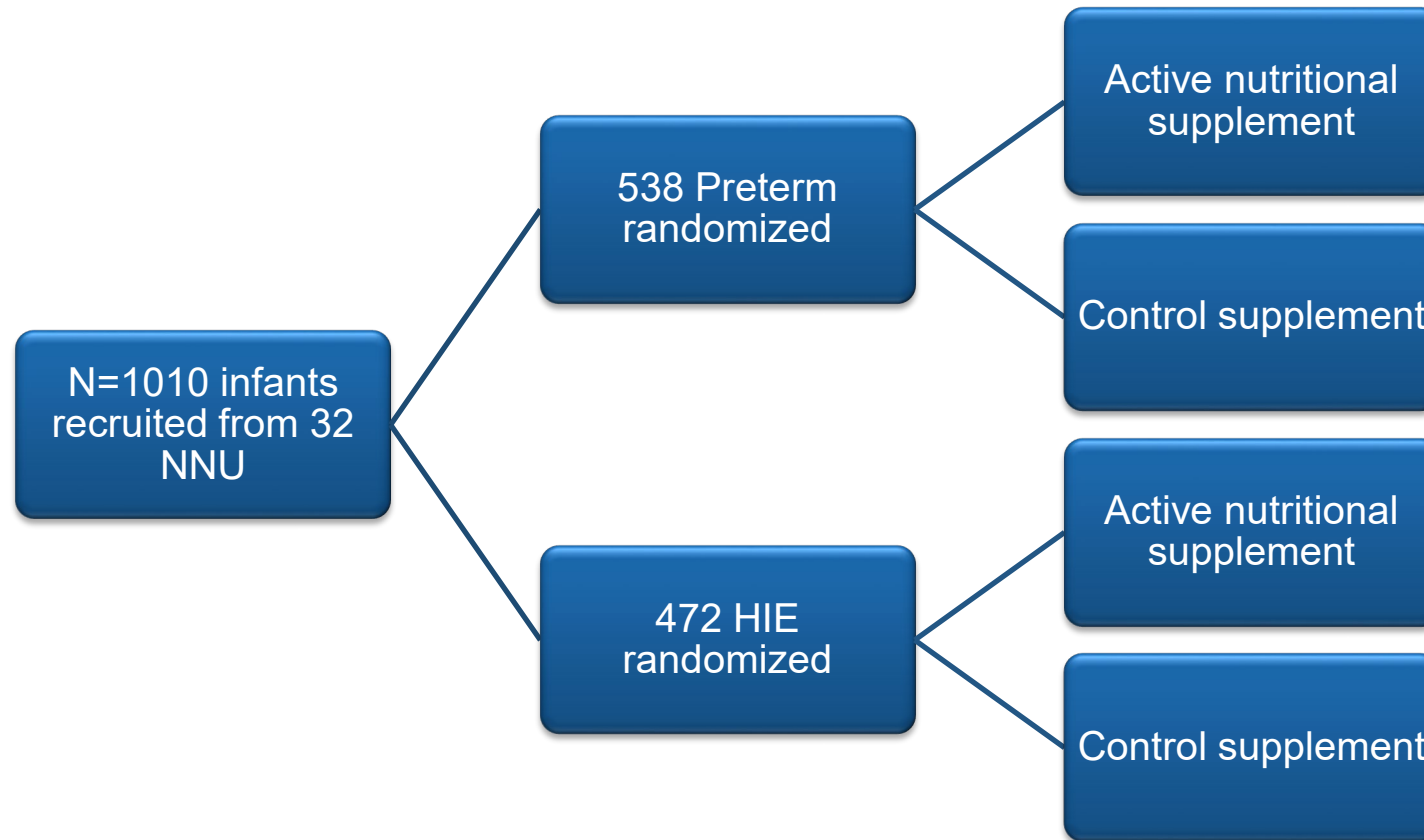
Emotional, conduct, hyperactivity, and peer problems scale scores and prosocial scores SDQ

NHS data at discharge and 24 months post EDD - health received/diagnosed conditions (NEC, sepsis, CLD, post-discharge hospitalizations, overweight, obesity)



STUDY DESIGN

Multicentre, blinded, stratified, randomized, placebo-controlled trial with economic evaluation



INCLUSION CRITERIA

- ✓ Individual with parental responsibility able to give consent
- ✓ Parents able to comply with the protocol
- ✓ Infants likely to tolerate full enteral feeds
- ✓ Infant has realistic prospect of survival beyond discharge
- ✓ Preterm infants born <28 weeks gestational (can be consented up to 3 months post-EDD)
- ✓ HIE infants born at 35+ weeks gestational age receiving therapeutic hypothermia for HIE (can be consented up to EDD plus 28 days)



EXCLUSION CRITERIA

- ✓ Infants with middle cerebral artery infarcts
- ✓ Infants with major congenital brain malformation, or genetic condition with abnormal brain development
- ✓ Infants with galactosaemia
- ✓ Infants receiving all feeds via jejunal tube, who do not receive any gastric or oral feeds



TRIAL INTERVENTION

Active nutritional supplement

- ✓ Micronutrient breast milk/formula milk/food active supplement powder
- ✓ Contains LCPUFAs, choline, UMP, and CMP
- ✓ Supplied by Nutricia
- ✓ Delivered to sites and parents' homes by IPS
- ✓ Quality and safety tested at the factory
- ✓ Supplied in 13g sachets
- ✓ No Nutricia branding on sachets or trial materials
- ✓ Will be added daily to usual feed (breast/formula/weaning foods)

OR

Control supplement

- ✓ Similar levels of fat and comparable energy content
- ✓ Contains fractions of the active components in the investigational product and no UMP or CMP
- ✓ Identically packaged
- ✓ Quality and safety tested at the factory
- ✓ Supplied in 13g sachets
- ✓ Delivered to sites and parents' homes by IPS
- ✓ No Nutricia branding on sachets or trial materials
- ✓ Will be added daily to usual feed (breast/formula/weaning foods)



TRIAL FLOW



SCREENING

- Clinical trial team screen infants admitted to NNU.
- Co-recruitment to other trials is permitted, except for intervention trials with neurodevelopment as primary outcome.



CONSENT

- In-person or remote
- Obtained from parents with legal responsibilities
- **Preterm infants:** remotely in hospital/CCS **prior to discharge home**
- **HIE:** remotely either in hospital/CCS or **post-discharge home**



RANDOMISATION

- ASAP after consent
- Preterm infants: randomized from NNU/CCS or up **to 3 months post-EDD** prior discharge home
- HIE infants: randomized up to **EDD + 28 days**. May occur pre-NNU/CCS discharge or post-discharge home
- Allocation ratio: 1:1



TRIAL FLOW



SUPPLEMENTATION

- **INFANTS MUST HAVE REACHED FULL FEED MILK BEFORE STARTING SUPPLEMENT**
- Supplementation lasts 12 months post-EDD
- **Daily basis**



FOLLOW-UP

- Electronic communication to prompt parents to complete and return questionnaires
- 3 , 6, 12, 18 and 24 months post EDD
- Paper copies of the questionnaires.
- Adherence questionnaire completed via APP



DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVITY

Easy Read PIL and Supplement Leaflets

- Easy Read documents can be offered to families to support participation
- Families must be able to meet post-discharge requirements: (e.g. questionnaires, supplement dosing, adherence reporting); **parents must consent using main PIL.**

DOLFIN

Parent Information Leaflet

easy read

This Easy Read document has been written in partnership with Sunderland People First. It is an Easy Read version of the DOLFIN Parent Information Leaflet

Sunderland People First
A Voice For Change

The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust | NIHR National Institute for Health and Care Research | NPEU Oxford Population Research Unit | NPEU Clinical Trials Unit

WHY HAVE I BEEN INVITED TO TAKE PART?

 You have been invited to take part because you are the parent of a baby who was born early or had difficulties around birth.

 Babies born early or who have difficulties around birth have a higher risk of child development problems.

WHAT WILL I HAVE TO DO IF I DECIDE TO TAKE PART?

 You will be asked to give the supplement to your baby daily for one year after their original due date.

 We will ask you to fill out a questionnaire:
- when your baby joins the study
- when your baby leaves hospital
- at 3, 6, 12, 18 and 24 months after your baby's original due date.

 We can send you the questionnaire by text or email. Or you can fill in a paper form. You can choose.

DOLFIN


Parent Information for Supplement Use

easy read


This Easy Read document has been written in partnership with Sunderland People First. It is an Easy Read version of the DOLFIN Supplement Leaflet



PROMOTIONAL ITEMS



This study is for infants born less than 28 weeks and infants born at 35 weeks or more who have received cooling therapy for Hypoxic Ischaemic Encephalopathy (HIE)



www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/dolphin

Inclusion Criteria

- ✓ Preterm stratum: Infants born less than 28 weeks of gestation, up to discharge home (can be consented up to 3 months post EDD)
- ✓ HIE stratum: Infants born at 35 weeks of gestation or more, who have received therapeutic hypothermia for HIE (can be consented up to EDD plus 28 days)
- ✓ Individual with parental responsibility able to give consent
- ✓ Parents able to comply with the protocol
- ✓ Infants likely to tolerate full enteral feeds
- ✓ Infant has realistic prospect of survival beyond discharge

Exclusion Criteria

The infant is not eligible if ANY of the following apply:

- ✗ Infants with middle cerebral artery infarcts
- ✗ Infants with major congenital brain malformation, or genetic condition with abnormal brain development
- ✗ Infants with galactosaemia
- ✗ Infants receiving all feeds via jejunal tube, who do not receive any gastric or oral feeds

DOLFIN Eligibility Card V1.0, 02-10-2023 IRAS: 303421

This hospital is taking part in the DOLFIN study.

Scan the QR code to watch our video and find out more.



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DOLFIN is funded by the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR). The views expressed are those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of the NIHR or the Department of Health and Social Care.

DOLFIN QR Card V1.0, 27-09-2023 IRAS: 303421



Dear Parents,

If your baby was	Born less than 28 weeks old	They may be eligible to take part in the DOLFIN Trial
	OR	The DOLFIN trial is looking at whether giving a specially developed nutritional supplement via breast or formula milk helps with brain development.
Born at 35 weeks or more and has received cooling therapy for Hypoxic Ischaemic Encephalopathy (HIE)		If your baby is eligible you may be approached about joining this study, or if you want to find out if you may be eligible please ask your local hospital team.

For more information please contact:
DOLFIN Trial Manager dolfin@npeu.ox.ac.uk 01865 617919

www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/dolphin



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DOLFIN Postcard v1.0 02-Oct-2023 IRAS ID: 303421

Thank you

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