

# YourTube Newsletter

Study

## Study update—Recruitment now finished

As a reminder, the Your Tube study aims to assess the safety, benefits and risks of gastrostomy feeding, comparing children who have formula feeds with children who have blended food in their diet.

The recruitment of families with a gastrostomy-fed child began in September 2019 and was originally scheduled to end in July 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic had other ideas, with the resulting strain on the NHS requiring the study to pause for 4 months in mid 2020. We then had to apply for several extensions in order to still be able to achieve the aims of the study. Recruitment finally concluded at the end of October with the total number of families deciding to take part at **246**. This is considered by all involved to be a fantastic achievement given the immense pressure placed on the NHS teams who supported recruitment, during the pandemic.

Recruitment to the study was supported by 28 NHS Trusts across England and 4 Children's Hospices. From these different organisations we had a wide range of healthcare professionals assist with recruitment. Dietitians, Speech and Language Therapists, Community Children's Nurses, Research Nurses, Paediatricians and Surgeons all helped to approach eligible families about taking part in the study. It was clear from this amazing level of support that feeding children with a gastrostomy is an area of interest for a wide range of clinicians and healthcare professionals. As a final point on recruitment, on behalf of the whole study team **we would just like to say a huge thank you to all the clinicians and research personnel across the NHS and the four Children's Hospices who made this recruitment total possible.**

The study is now in what is known as the 'Follow-up' period, over the next 18 months as we continue to collect information from parents and clinicians.



Wishing you a Merry  
Christmas from the Your  
Tube Study Team



## Get to know the team

### Julia Hackett—New Study Manager

Julia is a researcher within the Martin House Research Centre. She recently took over as Study Manager for Your Tube. Julia's research is mainly about supporting parents of children and young people with life-threatening or life-shortening conditions.



"It's great to have joined such an enthusiastic team and be working on such an important study. Evidence to improve the advice and support that families of a child who is gastrostomy fed, is needed, and I'm excited to be contributing to a study which aims to do this."



## Top Recruiting Organisations

### 20 families

—Solent NHS Trust

### 17 families

—Children's Hospice South West

### 15 families

—South Tyneside and Sunderland  
NHS Foundation Trust

### 12 families

—Birmingham Women and Children's  
NHS Foundation Trust  
—Evelina Children's Hospital (GSTT)

## There's still time to complete the first study questionnaire!

The first reporting period, what we refer to as the 'baseline', will very shortly come to an end. For any family yet to return a baseline questionnaire, there is still time! Parents can complete the questionnaire on paper, online or over the telephone.

If you would like to schedule a call to complete the questionnaire by telephone, please get in touch using the email address below.

Clinicians! There's still time for you to submit any remaining baseline questionnaires too!

## Contact the study team

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Study Coordinator - Mark O'Neill  
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### Study website

<https://www.york.ac.uk/healthsciences/research/public-health/projects/yourtube/>