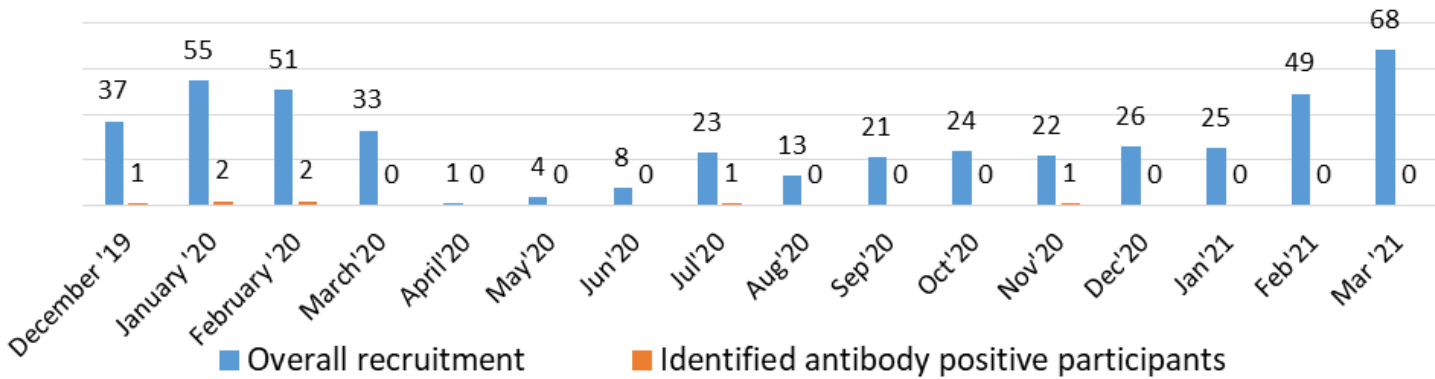




SINAPPS

PPiP2 overall recruitment (December 2019 to March 2021)
n=460



Updates

We are now recruiting again in 34 out of 42 PPiP2 sites! We are thrilled to see the number of participants recruited increasing every month thanks to all the hard work of researchers and trained doctors in our PPiP2 sites! SINAPPS2 is also open, and we recruited two participants. We urgently need to test more PPiP2 participants to identify potential trial participants.

Recruiting in PPiP2 sites

Because of reduced capacity at many sites due to important COVID 19 research, our PPiP2 central team have been helping PPiP2 sites in consenting participants. Our team have letters of access in the majority of participating Trusts and we can remotely consent referred participants over the phone and post blood kits to clinicians to obtain samples. Please let us know if we can help.

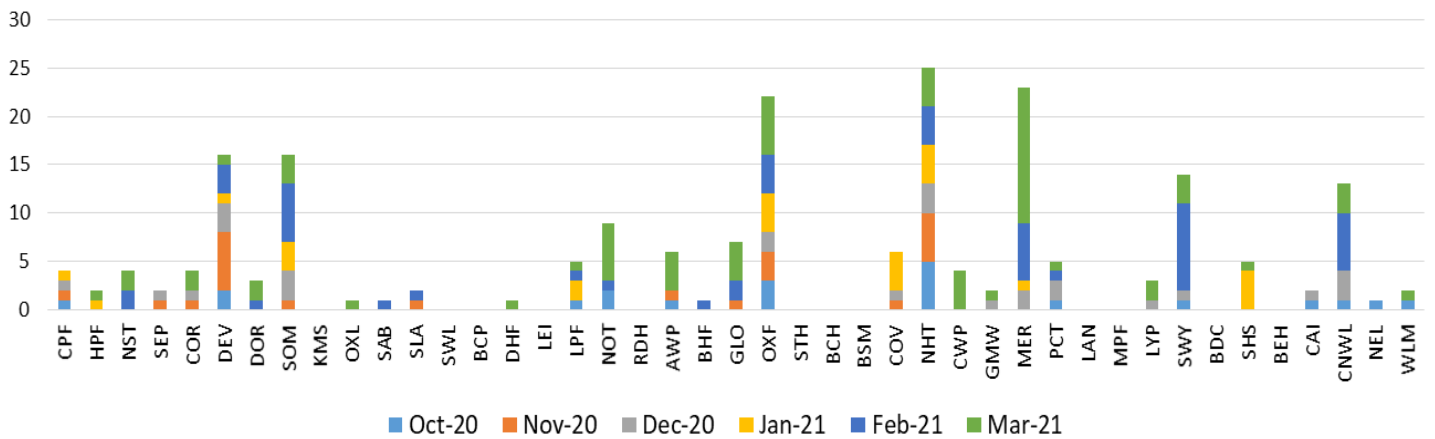
Special Mentions

PPiP2 researcher Kelly Palethorpe in Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust recruited a whopping 16 PPiP2 participants in March! Thank you Kelly!

Working with Junior Doctors

Since January 2020 in collaboration with local researchers we are implementing our new strategy including junior doctors in PPiP2 recruitment. We have trained over 100 clinicians offering them hands-on research experience and a certificate for their portfolio! Experiences of two junior doctors are included on the following page. Please do spread the word to doctors in hospital wards who may be interested to get involved! We will provide information about research of autoimmune psychosis and then detail the process of identifying eligible participants and sending us the samples after informed consent is taken by researchers. As the doctors rotate every few months new starters in each new rotation will be invited.

PPiP2 Recruitment by Site (October 2020- March 2021)



Junior Doctors experiences

We asked two doctors in PPiP2 sites to share their experiences of supporting PPiP2 recruitment. Please see their stories below.

PPiP2 Recruitment Training video!

We are working on creating videos on both the background and study procedures. We can share with clinicians and researchers interested in helping to support PPiP2 recruitment. They will be available soon.

Dr Fatima Junaid (Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Trust)

My consultant discussed the PPiP2 study in our first meeting together at the start of my four-month psychiatry rotation. I thought the premise was interesting and hadn't been part of clinical research before so jumped at the opportunity and got involved as much as I could. Research experience engages you more deeply with patients and their disease process, making you more active in trying to understand and treat them. It takes some time getting papers and equipment ready, but once that's done, it takes about an hour per patient to go through consent*, bloods and paperwork. I found a number of patients were keen to help with the development of scientific understanding if there was a possibility it may help someone else in the future and they felt like it was a positive contribution they could make. * Dr Junaid has also completed an online GCP training to obtain informed consent from patients.

Dr Joe Butler (Oxford Health NHS trust)

I became involved with PPiP2 when a researcher gave a presentation to the junior doctors working in Littlemore Mental Health Centre, Oxford. I learnt there is increasing evidence of association between psychosis and auto-antibodies, and that there are trials evaluating the effectiveness of immunotherapy in those experiencing psychosis and high titres of auto-antibodies. The researcher dropped off a box of test kits to my office and information leaflets on how to enrol participants.

If a patient is eligible for PPiP2, I have a chat to them and their nearest relative about the study, provide them with the information leaflet, and assess their capacity to get involved. If they wish to become involved, I pass on their details to the research team. After hearing back from the research team, I use a PPiP2 test kit to take a sample of blood and send it to the lab. Later I get an email that explains the results. Given that I talk to patients and their relatives, and take blood tests anyway, incorporating PPiP2 into my clinical practice has been easy and takes minimal additional time.

As someone at the start of their career in psychiatry, I hope that by engaging in research, I can help ensure the methods of assessment and management of those experiencing psychosis are effective and evidence-based. Severe mental illness is associated with a drop in life expectancy of fifteen to twenty years, and the findings from research such as PPiP2 will be important in reducing this inequality.

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