

## About Enteric

Enteric, The Bowel Function Healthcare Technology Cooperative, is one of two pilot HTC's jointly funded by the Department of Health and the Technology Strategy Board with support from the Research Councils and the ABHI. We aim to become the national centre for facilitating innovative technology in the field of disorders of bowel function for the NHS and beyond.

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## Faecal Incontinence Review by NICE

NICE have announced a review of their clinical guideline on the management of faecal incontinence in adults. The consultation period is 1st-14th November 2010 and interested organisations are invited to submit comments. Enteric is planning to put forward some suitable responses to NICE. The consultation document is accessible on the NICE website at [www.guidance.nice.org.uk](http://www.guidance.nice.org.uk), together with a proforma. Responses should reach NICE by 5 pm on 14th November at the latest, and should be sent via email: [faecalincontinencereview@nice.org.uk](mailto:faecalincontinencereview@nice.org.uk).

## PTNS trials:

- \* The PTNS v. SNS trial, funded by Research for Patient Benefit (RfPB), is now under way.
- \* A ten-centre trial is being set up for PTNS v. Placebo, to be run in collaboration with Enteric's clinical partners nationwide. A funding application has been submitted to the HTA.
- \* Enteric has agreed a grant of £12,000 to Durham NHS Trust for a three-centre trial in respect of SNS for functional constipation.

## APPEAR: Visit by Chinese Surgeons



A group of ten senior Chinese surgeons visited London early in October to attend a presentation on the APPEAR procedure by Professor Norman Williams. This follows on from his successful promotional visit to China last year.

In August 2010, a web portal pilot for the collection of APPEAR data, hosted by Enteric, went live for user testing and training, and international multicentre trials of the procedure and stapler are under way.

## Bowel Health Survey raises concerns

A recent survey amongst mothers carried out by the charity Bowel & Cancer Research, in association with Enteric, confirmed suspicions that problems of bowel function are greatly under-reported and under-treated amongst this group. Two out of 5 respondents reported developing bowel problems following childbirth which materially affect both their health and quality of life. Almost 1 in 2 respondents said they felt ashamed because of their problems and 1 in 2 worried about having accidents. Over a third felt low or depressed by their problems. 40% felt as if they are different to other people and more than 1 in 5 felt lonely or isolated. Healthcare professionals were felt to be lacking in information and only a minority of the respondents had been referred to a specialist unit. Enteric will be examining the results of the survey and carrying out further work to determine areas where improved diagnostic technologies or healthcare pathways could better meet women's needs.

**Enteric Core Team**

*Clinical Director:*  
Professor Norman  
Williams

*Deputy Clinical  
Director:*  
Mr Charles Knowles

*Director of  
Technology:*  
Dr Michael Grahn

*Business  
Development  
Manager:*  
Mr Antonio Quadrucci

*Administrative  
Assistant:*  
Ms Sue Taylor

Hosted by Barts &  
The London NHS  
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of the NIHR i4i  
programme and is  
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and the ABHI

**Sensiprobe in clinical trials**

A fully functional prototype of the Sensiprobe device, a miniature thermal probe designed to facilitate oesophageal sensory testing, has now been produced and has passed through preliminary evaluation.



Clinical evaluation is scheduled to begin in the near future and it is intended that the initial study should be completed by the end of this year.

Meantime, it is hoped that commercial partners can be identified for the future development of this device.

**Bowel Trainer**

This is a new ostomy continence control device invented by Michael Playdon. It has the potential to reduce the need for ostomy bag use, thus giving permanent colostomates greater independence and freedom of movement.



Ten devices and ten placebos were referred to Clinical Physics for risk assessment and were passed as safe. A nurse-led trial of the device is scheduled for early 2011 involving patients of Barts and the London NHS Trust.

**ESRC Internship award for Enteric**

The ESRC and Enteric have joined together to provide a jointly funded internship opportunity, where an ESRC current funded PhD student will be working in the area of health economics for a period of three months, which will be based within Enteric. This post has been advertised and interviews should be held in due course.

Enteric exists to bring new techniques and technologies for the treatment and management of disorders of bowel function into general use. To do this we need your involvement. Contact us if:

- You have a need that is not currently met by existing devices or practices
- You have identified a new or expanded use for an existing technology
- You have an idea that promises to improve treatments or management
- You have a device or diagnostic system in development.