

# THE BUZZ!



Thank you for being involved with the **UK JIA Biologics Register**! This is an update for our **participants**, their **families** and **anyone** who is interested in our research in to the long-term safety and effectiveness of new treatments for Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis (JIA).

**UK JIA Biologics Register** is the collective name for the BCRD Study and the BSPAR Etanercept Study.



UK JIA  
Biologics  
Register



## YOU'RE ALL AWESOME!

Thanks to your involvement in the studies, we have been able to find out so much about how biologics and other new treatments for JIA are working in the long-term. Our study has also had impact in other areas, including:

- DATA CONTRIBUTED TO NATIONAL RHEUMATOLOGY GUIDANCE ON DRUG PRESCRIBING
- COLLABORATIONS WITH SIMILAR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES HAVE ALLOWED BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE RISK OF RARE OUTCOMES
- DATA CONTRIBUTING TO TRAINING OF NEW DOCTORS
- RESULTS HAVE BEEN INCORPORATED IN PATIENT DRUG INFORMATION LEAFLETS AND PRODUCT LABELLING
- DATA CONTRIBUTED TO EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY (EMA) MONITORING OF NEW THERAPEUTICS



**Professor Kimme Hyrich**  
Chief Investigator  
UK JIA Biologics Register

The **UK JIA Biologics Register** is coordinated by a small team at the University of Manchester, based at the Bright Building (*pictured*).



We receive funding from two charities (Versus Arthritis and the British Society for Rheumatology) and have been running for **over ten years!**



**3528**

Children and young people with JIA have been recruited so far

**51**

NHS Hospitals across the UK have recruited participants



## 'FACEBOOK LIVE' EVENT, IN COLLABORATION WITH JIA@NRAS

Find out more about the UK JIA Biologics Register by watching the recording of a Facebook Live event, which was broadcast on the National Rheumatoid Arthritis Society (NRAS) Facebook page in November 2022. This features our amazing researcher Dr Lianne Kearsley-Fleet.

<https://www.facebook.com/jiaatnras/videos/1988034808057677/>



We were delighted to have this opportunity to collaborate with NRAS and tell the JIA community all about our exciting research. NRAS is a national registered charity which provides information and support for people with arthritis. Find out more about JIA@NRAS at

<https://jia.org.uk/>

# LATEST RESEARCH

*Dr Lianne asked the question....*

***"If you stop biologic therapy because your arthritis is well controlled, are you likely to remain off treatment?"***



## What is already known?

Sometimes, treatment for JIA might be reduced or stopped for patients when their arthritis is well controlled. This might be due to worries about the effects of taking these treatments for a long time.

## This UK JIA Biologics Register research aimed to see:

1. How many children/young people stopped biologic therapy because their arthritis was well controlled
2. How many later needed to re-start therapy
3. Who was more likely to have to re-start treatment

## What was discovered?

**1451**

children/young people with JIA were included in this research

**55%**

of those who stopped started the same therapy again after 4 months.



One in five stopped therapy after around **2** years of being on treatment due to feeling well

*Those less likely to need to re-start therapy were those who had started biologics earlier in their disease.*

*Those more likely to need to re-start biologic therapy were those who also had an eye disease called uveitis (which may have been the reason for needing to restart).*

## Why is this important / what is the benefit to patients?

This research has found that many children and young people can stop biologic therapy when their arthritis is well controlled and remain off therapy. More research is needed to identify **which** patients will successfully be able to reduce the dose of their biologic therapy or stop treatment altogether in the future, without being at risk of their disease becoming active again.

The full article can be found here: <https://doi.org/10.1093/rheumatology/keac463>



# PROFESSOR IN A PICKLE!



Professor Kimme needs to figure out the names of these films but she only has emoji clues. Can you help her?



Answers at the bottom of the page!



## CONTACT THE TEAM

*It is so important for us to hear the voices of people affected by JIA and find out what is important to you.*

*We would **LOVE** to hear from you if you have any questions you would like to see answered, or any other suggestions for our research!*



**Please contact the Study Coordinators if you have any questions :**

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