

DIRUM Newsletter – Summer 2011

On behalf of the project team, welcome to this first DIRUM newsletter. Some of you reading this may have had an opportunity to visit the DIRUM stand at the recent Health Economists' Study Group (HESG) 2011 Summer Conference.

DIRUM is a project funded by the [Medical Research Council Network of Hubs for Trial Methodology Research](#) (MRC HTMR) to compile a Database of Instruments for Resource Use Measurement. It has been led by Bangor University in collaboration with the Universities of Bristol, Birmingham, and British Columbia, and the London School of Economics and Political Science. The aim is to create a practical, open-access database of resource-use questionnaires for trial health economists.

The DIRUM website has been visited nearly a thousand times, and instruments have been downloaded more than 200 times in its first two months alone.

It currently includes 31 instruments, with a further 20 having been identified for inclusion. The more instruments that are made available for sharing via DIRUM, the more scope there is for improving the methods for resource use data collection and increasing the accuracy of cost estimates.

If you have a resource-use instrument based on patient recall, such as a questionnaire or diary and, which you think we should include in DIRUM, please contact us: info@dirum.org

If you missed the HESG demonstration, there will be a DIRUM stand at the MRC HTMR Clinical Trials Methodology Conference on the 4th and 5th October in Bristol. Details of the conference can be found from:

http://www.methodologyhubs.mrc.ac.uk/methodology_conference_2011.aspx

You can find out more in a workshop on “Resource-use measurement based on patient recall: Issues, challenges and DIRUM”, being held in Birmingham on the 19th October. There are still some limited places available and details may be obtained from:

<http://www.dirum.org/assets/downloads/DIRUM-Workshop.Final.pdf>

Thank you for supporting DIRUM. Please visit our website: <http://www.DIRUM.org>

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Centre for Health Economics & Medicines Evaluation, Bangor University on behalf of the DIRUM project team.