















**CONSCOP 2 -** Randomised controlled trial of contrast enhanced colonoscopy in the reduction of right sided bowel cancer

## VERSION 4 17TH NOVEMBER 2020

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#### SIGNATURE PAGE

The undersigned confirm that the following protocol has been agreed and accepted and that the Chief Investigator agrees to conduct the trial in compliance with the approved protocol and will adhere to the principles outlined in the relevant trial regulations, GCP guidelines, and CTR's SOPs.

I agree to ensure that the confidential information contained in this document will not be used for any other purpose other than the evaluation or conduct of the clinical investigation without the prior written consent of the Sponsor

I also confirm that I will make the findings of the trial publicly available through publication or other dissemination tools without any unnecessary delay and that an honest accurate and transparent account of the trial will be given; and that any discrepancies from the trial as planned in this protocol will be explained.

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**General Information** This protocol describes the CONSCOP 2 clinical trial and provides information about the procedures for entering participants into the trial. The protocol should not be used as a guide, or as an aide-memoire for the treatment of other participants. Every care has been taken in drafting this protocol; however, corrections or amendments may be necessary. These will be circulated to the known Investigators in the trial. Problems relating to the trial should be referred, in the first instance, to CTR

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### **Trial Co-ordination:**

The CONSCOP 2 trial is being coordinated by the Centre for Trials Research (CTR), Cardiff University, a Clinical Research Collaboration (UKCRC) registered trials unit.

This protocol has been developed by the CONSCOP 2 and FORE AI Trial Management Group (TMG).

For **all queries** please contact the CONSCOP 2 team through the main trial email address. Any clinical queries will be directed through the Trial Manager to either the Chief Investigator or a Co-Investigators

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#### **Randomisations:**

#### Randomisation

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### **Clinical queries**

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All clinical queries will be directed to the most appropriate clinical person.

# **Serious Adverse Events:**

### **SAE** reporting

Where the adverse event meets one of the serious categories, an SAE form should be completed by the responsible clinician and submitted to <a href="mailto:CTR-Safety@Cardiff.ac.uk">CTR-Safety@Cardiff.ac.uk</a> within 24 hours of becoming aware of the event (See section 16 for more details).

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### Glossary of abbreviations

ΑE Adverse Event ΑI Artificial Intelligence AR **Adverse Reaction** CA **Competent Authority** CF **Consent Form** CI Chief Investigator CRC Colorectal Cancer **CRF** Case Report Form

CRO Contract Research Organisation
CTA Clinical Trials Authorisation
CTR Centre for Trials Research

CTU Clinical Trials Unit CU Cardiff University

**EUCTD** European Union Clinical Trials Directive

FIT Faecal Immunochemistry Test

FORE AI Future of Real-Time Endoscopy Artificial Intelligence

**GAFREC** Governance Arrangements for NHS Research Ethics Committees

GCP Good Clinical Practice
GP General Practitioner
HB Health Board
HE Health Economics

HTA Health Technology Assessment

IC Informed consent

ICH International Conference on Harmonization
IDMC Independent Data Monitoring Committee

IEC Independent Ethics Committee

**ISF** Investigator Site File

ISRCTN International Standard Randomised Controlled Trial Number

ITT Intention-To-Treat
IU International Unit
IVD Invitro Diagnostic Device
MRC Medical Research Council
NCT National Clinical Trial
NHS National Health Service

NICE National Institute for Clinical Excellence
NIMP Non-Investigational Medicinal Product

**NLI** No Local Investigator

NPSA National Participant Safety Agency

NRR National Research Register

PCCRC Post Colonoscopy Colorectal Cancer

PCT Primary Care Trust
PI Principal Investigator

PIAG Participant Information Advisory Group

PIC Participant Identification Centre
PIS Participant Information Sheet

QA Quality Assurance

**QALY** Quality-adjusted Life Years

QC Quality control QL (QoL) Quality of Life

R&D Research and Development
RCT Randomised Controlled Trial
REC Research Ethics Committee

**RGF** Research Governance Framework for Health and Social Care

SAESerious Adverse EventSAPStatistical Analysis PlanSARSerious Adverse Reactions

Scharr School of Health and Related Research

**SL** Serrated Lesion

SOP Standard Operating Procedure
 SSA Site Specific Assessment
 SSL Sessile Serrated Lesion

SSP Specialist Screening Practitioner

SUSAR Suspected Unexpected Serious Adverse Reaction

**TMF** Trial Master File

TMG Trial Management Group
TSC Trial Steering Committee
USM Urgent Safety Measures

# 1 Amendment History

The following amendments and/or administrative changes have been made to this protocol since the implementation of the first approved version.

Amendment No. (specify substantial/non- substantial)	Protocol version no.	Date issued	Summary of changes made since previous version
NSA01	V3.0	16.09.2020	<ul> <li>Update randomisation details</li> <li>To include the sentence in the trial design schema by request of BCSP: If patient is happy to be contacted about the study, then a member of the research team will make contact.</li> <li>Process evaluation reworded to accommodate COVID19 restrictions on face to face contact for interviews/training</li> <li>Clarification on withdrawal levels</li> <li>Minor changes to practice due to COVID19</li> <li>To include option to scan slides</li> <li>Change to remote data capture rather than paper CRF</li> </ul>
SA02	V4.0		<ul> <li>Embedment of the sub-study FORE AI into the CONSCOP2 study</li> <li>Change of classification of Indigo carmine dye to a Class I CE marked invitro diagnostic device</li> </ul>

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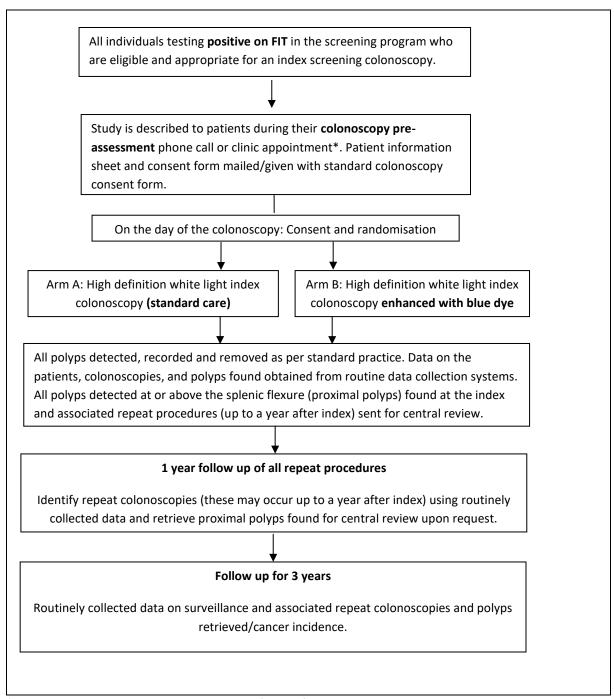
# 2 Synopsis

Short title	Randomised controlled trial of contrast enhanced colonoscopy in the			
	reduction of right sided bowel cancer.			
Acronym	The CONSCOP 2 study			
Internal ref. no.	CONSCOP2 701			
	FORE AI 958			
Funder and ref.	NIHR HTA: NIHR127914			
	AI-AWARD01932			
Trial design	A randomised open controlled trial (RCT) of contrast-enhanced vs non-			
	enhanced colonoscopy in index bowel cancer screening to reduce			
	bowel cancer mortality. The data obtained in this study will establish			
	whether or not chromocolonoscopy should be used instead of			
	standard white light for index colonoscopies within the UK bowel			
	cancer screening programmes.			
Trial participants	Participants in the UK bowel screening programmes (Wales, England,			
	Scotland) who test positive on the FIT test and are eligible for an index			
	screening colonoscopy.			
Planned sample size	2652			
Planned number of sites	20			
Inclusion criteria	All FIT-positive people in the participating centres, eligible for index			
	screening colonoscopy using high definition scopes.			
Exclusion criteria	<ul> <li>Previous resectional colorectal surgery (as this would influence both study methods and outcomes depending on the length of residual colon in the individual)</li> </ul>			
	Any participants not deemed fit for colonoscopy on the screening program or undergoing alternative investigation such as CT pneumocolon or minimal prep CT scan as their index procedure instead.      Any participants not dealers in a court (see the leading Court in a court in			
	<ul> <li>Known allergy to food colouring agent (as the Indigo Carmine dye is a safe food colouring agent but extremely rarely there may be individuals with a specific allergic response to this in the past).</li> <li>Previous inclusion in trial</li> </ul>			
Recruitment duration	24 months			
Follow-up duration	36 months			
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Planned trial period	60 months		
Primary objective	Compare proximal advanced serrated lesion detection rates for chromocolonoscopy and standard colonoscopy		
Secondary objectives	<ul> <li>Compare other lesion detection rates (e.g. advanced neoplasia, serrated lesions, advanced adenomas) for chromocolonoscopy and standard colonoscopy.</li> <li>Assess the impact of FIT thresholds on serrated lesion detection rates in each arm of the study.</li> <li>Evaluate the longer-term economic impact of chromocolonoscopy within the screening setting.</li> <li>Model and compare the post-colonoscopy interval advanced polyp and cancer detection rates for the two arms.</li> <li>Assess the association between demographic and lifestyle factors and serrated lesions at index colonoscopy.</li> <li>Assess the association between demographic and lifestyle factors and the presence of serrated lesions at index and surveillance colonoscopies in order to inform the stratification and optimisation of surveillance frequency.</li> </ul>		
Primary outcomes	Polyp types detected and location within the bowel		
Intervention	Chromocolonoscopy (Indigo Carmine dye)		

# 3 Trial summary & schema

### 3.1 Trial schema



<sup>\*</sup> England: pre-assessment clinic to assess fitness for colonoscopy. Scotland: Nurse appointment to offer colonoscopy. Wales: Specialist Screening Practitioner phone call.

### 3.2 Trial lay summary

People testing positive on a bowel cancer screening stool test are offered colonoscopy (bowel camera examination). About half of those have cancers or polyps (small abnormal growths that might lead to cancer in the future) found on colonoscopy. Studies have shown that screening reduces cancer development (through removing polyps found) and deaths from cancer in the lower bowel. However, in the upper bowel, the types of polyps often found (known as serrated) are flat, subtle and hard to find with standard colonoscopy and deaths from cancer of the upper bowel are not reducing. Up to 1 in 5 bowel cancers may actually have developed from these subtle serrated polyps. Almost 1 in 12 bowel cancers found in England are missed despite a seemingly clear colonoscopy in the previous 3 years. This study investigates if spraying a blue dye in the upper large bowel helps the doctor to *detect* more flat polyps during the colonoscopy. At the moment we do not know if spraying the dye in the upper large bowel is the best way to improve detection so we need to randomly assign people who are due to have a screening colonoscopy into two groups, one to have a standard colonoscopy and the other to have a colonoscopy using the dye spray. We will then be able to compare what happens between the two groups.

# 4 Background

Screening has been shown to reduce colorectal cancer (CRC) incidence and mortality. This benefit is substantial in the reduction of distal CRCs, but modest for proximal colon cancers.<sup>2,3</sup> A higher proportion of cancers developing after an index colonoscopy, post-colonoscopy CRCs (PCCRCs), are proximal and have worse survival outcomes. PCCRC rates within 3 years after colonoscopy range from 3.4 - 9% of all CRCs (English NHS 8.6%) and their incidence is associated with colonoscopy quality measures.<sup>5,6</sup> Participants may be falsely reassured by screening colonoscopy and findings at further surveillance in 12 months may reflect lesions not detected at the initial procedure. Two types of factors may contribute to the occurrence of proximal PCCRCs: 1) technical (operator/procedure quality) dependent factors which can result in missed lesions, lower detection rates, and incomplete resection of lesions, and 2) polyp biology dependent factors due to morphology, accelerated growth, and molecular characteristics.<sup>7-10</sup> Apart from the traditional adenoma to carcinoma pathway for polyps, it is widely recognised that subsets of a different type of polyp – sessile serrated lesions (SSLs) - cause cancer via the alternative serrated neoplasia pathway and this may be responsible for up to 35% of all sporadic CRCs. 11 Several studies have demonstrated that SSLs are common precursors to proximal PCCRCs. 10 These polyps are flat or non-polypoid in morphology making them more difficult to detect endoscopically and studies show wide variation in detection rates (1-20%) amongst endoscopists.<sup>12,13</sup> The NHS bowel cancer screening programmes in Scotland, England and Wales will have all changed over from faecal occult blood (FOB) to faecal immunochemical test (FIT) based screening through 2018-19. This change is expected to result in an increased sensitivity and improvement in detection of CRC along with a consequent increased requirement for colonoscopy and accurate surveillance. Current surveillance frequency does not accurately match the future risk of developing CRC and is based only on the number and size of *adenomas* detected.<sup>14</sup>

# 4.1 Rationale for current trial/Justification of Treatment Options

Pan-colonic chromocolonoscopy already forms part of standard practice in colonoscopic surveillance in high-risk cases of inflammatory bowel disease and is part of evidence based national and international guidelines. 15 We recently completed a parallel group randomised controlled, open label multicentre feasibility trial (CONSCOP) within the bowel cancer screening programme in Wales with 740 participants randomised to either standard white light colonoscopy or colonoscopy enhanced with blue dye (chromocolonoscopy). 16 We demonstrated that chromocolonoscopy is safe and feasible within a population based CRC screening programme and increased detection of proximal serrated neoplasia and all other polyp types. We also calculated the additional time and cost associated with this intervention. A Cochrane review of chromocolonoscopy vs standard colonoscopy concluded that there was strong evidence that chromocolonoscopy enhances the detection of neoplasia in the colorectum.<sup>17</sup> However, none of the previous RCTs assessed SSL detection and none were powered to detect differences in significant lesions (advanced forms of SSL and adenomas). There was a difference in the numbers assigned to further surveillance based on having three or more polyps but only if studies using high definition colonoscopies were excluded. To the best of our knowledge, there have been no RCTs of chromocolonoscopy investigating detection of polyps since the review. Existing literature therefore supports the feasibility and importance of comparing high definition white light colonoscopy to high definition chromocolonoscopy for the clinically relevant outcome of proximal advanced SL detection.

The CONSCOP2 study seeks to improve the effectiveness of the bowel cancer screening programme in reducing the incidence and mortality from proximal colon cancer. This study will do this by examining whether or not:

• chromocolonoscopy is more effective in achieving improved significant serrated polyp (i.e. advanced forms of serrated polyp) detection at the initial procedure

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- chromocolonoscopy is more effective and cost effective at reducing the numbers of polyps and cancers found at the subsequent surveillance colonoscopy
- follow-up frequency for different groups of patients can be optimised by long term modelling using routine data taking proximal SL prevalence and patient characteristics into consideration

# 5 Trial objectives/endpoints and outcome measures

# 5.1 Primary objectives

Compare proximal advanced SL detection rates for chromocolonoscopy and standard colonoscopy.

# 5.2 Secondary objectives

- Compare other lesion detection rates (e.g. advanced neoplasia, serrated lesions, advanced adenomas) for chromocolonoscopy and standard colonoscopy.
- Assess the impact of FIT thresholds on serrated lesion detection rates in each arm of the study.
- Evaluate the longer-term economic impact of chromocolonoscopy within the screening setting.
- Model and compare the post-colonoscopy interval advanced polyp and cancer detection and death rates for the two arms.
- Assess the association between demographic and lifestyle factors and SLs at index colonoscopy.
- Assess the association between demographic and lifestyle factors and SLs at surveillance colonoscopies in order to inform the stratification and optimisation of surveillance frequency.

## 5.3 Primary outcomes measure(s)

The primary endpoint of the study (significant serrated proximal polyp detection) relies on subjective pathologist assessments of polyp characterisation. After identifying the patients who had any proximal polyps using routinely collected screening data, slides will be collected from all proximal polyps detected. These will all be centrally reviewed by at least 3 expert pathologists to minimise any inter-observer variability bias in order to achieve consensus agreement on polyp classification. All proximal polyps collected at the index and associated repeat procedures will be collected.

## 5.4 Secondary outcomes measure(s)

 Types of all proximal polyps will be obtained from the central review described for the primary outcome measure. Types of all distal polyps detected at index and associated repeat procedures will be obtained from local histopathology reports and screening data.

Outcomes of procedures (further assessments within the screening programme e.g. surveillance)
 will be collected from routinely collected screening datasets.

 Types of all polyps detected at surveillance procedures will be obtained from local histopathology reports and routinely collected screening datasets.

• Cancers and deaths will be obtained from routinely collected health datasets.

# 6 Trial design and setting

This is a multicentre, open-label, individually randomised (1:1) controlled trial of standard (High Definition White light - HDWL) versus HDWL + additional chromocolonoscopy. CONSCOP2 will recruit 2652 participants from ~20 centres in England, Wales and Scotland attending index colonoscopies within the bowel screening programme and will follow them up through routinely collected data systems. Recruitment will take place over a 2-year period and the last trial intervention will occur when the last patient has their index colonoscopy. Data about index colonoscopies will be collected on CRFs and from routinely collected health datasets within the NHS. Longer term follow-up of participants will continue for 3 years using routinely collected data.

#### 6.1 Risk assessment

A Trial Risk Assessment has been completed to identify the potential hazards associated with the trial and to assess the likelihood of those hazards occurring and resulting in harm. This also includes an assessment of the risk of the COVID-19 pandemic on the study as well as individuals participating in it. This risk assessment has been completed in accordance with the MRC/DH Joint project guidance document 'Risk-adapted approaches to the management of Clinical Trials of Investigational Medicinal Products' and includes:

- The known and potential risks and benefits to human subjects
- How high the risk is compared to normal standard practice

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• How the risk will be minimised/managed

How the risk of SARS COV2 infection will be minimised/managed

This trial has been categorised as a low risk, where the level of risk is comparable to the risk of standard medical care. A copy of the trial risk assessment may be requested from the Trial Manager. The trial risk assessment is used to determine the intensity and focus of monitoring activity (see section 25.1).

# 7 Site and Investigator selection

This trial will be carried out at participating sites within Wales, England and Scotland. All sites who are interested in participating in the trial will be required to complete a registration form to confirm that they have adequate resources and experience to conduct the trial.

Before any site can begin recruitment a Principal Investigator at each site must be identified. The following documents must be in place and copies sent to the <a href="mailto:CONSCOP2@Cardiff.ac.uk">CONSCOP2@Cardiff.ac.uk</a> trial email account (see contact details on page 4):

> The approval letter from the site's R&D Department, following submission of the Local Information Pack

> Favourable opinion of host care organisation/PI from Main Ethics committee

➤ A signed Trial Agreement

Current Curriculum Vitae of the Principal Investigator (PI)

Completed Site Delegation Log and Roles and Responsibilities document

> Full contact details for all host care organisation personnel involved, indicating preferred contact

A copy of the most recent approved version of the Participant Information Sheet(s) and Consent Form(s) on host care organisation headed paper

Returned copy of the Self-Evident Correction Log signed by the PI.

Upon receipt of all the above documents, the Trial Manager will send written confirmation to the Principal Investigator/lead Research Nurse detailing that the centre is now ready to recruit participants into the trial. This letter/email must be filed in each site's Site File. Along with the written confirmation, the site should receive their trial supplies and a trial pack holding all the documents required to recruit into the Trial.

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Occasionally during the trial, amendments may be made to the trial documentation listed above. CTR will issue the site with the latest version of the documents as soon as they become available. It is the

responsibility of the CTR to ensure that they obtain local R&D approval for the new documents.

Site initiation will be by attendance at site or by teleconference/Videoconference if attendance of key

personnel is unfeasible. All site research nurses or SSPs and colonoscopists must have attended site

initiation training.

8 **Participant selection** 

Participants are eligible for the trial if they meet all the following inclusion criteria (Section 8.1) and

none of the exclusion criteria apply (Section 8.2). All queries about participant eligibility should be

directed to the Trial Manager before randomisation. Any queries will be raised with the CI or one of

the clinical Co-Investigators in the CI's absence.

The SSP/Research Nurse should identify eligible patients prior to ringing patients to conduct the

telephone assessment Clinic to discuss their colonoscopy (Wales), pre-assessment clinic to assess

fitness for colonoscopy (England) or an appointment to offer colonoscopy (Scotland).

8.1 Inclusion criteria

Patients meeting the following criteria may be included in the trial:

1. All participants testing positive on faecal immunochemical test (FIT) in the screening program who

are eligible and appropriate for an index screening colonoscopy will be offered participation in the

study.

2. The patient has provided written informed consent.

8.2 **Exclusion criteria** 

If any of the following criteria apply, patients cannot be included in the trial:

1. Any participants not deemed fit for colonoscopy on the screening program or undergoing

alternative investigation such as CT pneumocolon or minimal prep CT scan as their index

procedure instead.

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- Participants who have undergone previous resectional colorectal surgery will be excluded from
  the study though their standard management in the screening program will continue unchanged.
  Non colorectal abdomino-pelvic surgery is not an exclusion provided they are considered feasible
  to undergo colonoscopy
- 3. Anyone with a known allergy to a food colouring agent.
- 4. Previous inclusion in the trial

# 9 Recruitment, Screening and registration

### 9.1 Participant identification

In Wales, patients testing positive on the FIT test are invited to a colonoscopy at a Telephone Assessment Clinic. In Scotland, patients testing positive on the FIT are invited to a telephone assessment to assess fitness for colonoscopy. In England, patients testing positive on the FIT test are invited to a physical pre-assessment clinic to assess fitness for colonoscopy. SSPs/RN should ensure that they are fully protected with PPE as per National and local organisational infection prevention and control guidance before conducting any face to face clinical assessments.

During the respective physical clinic/virtual appointment, the SSP will undertake the pre-assessment and book the participant in for colonoscopy as part of standard practice. They will then ask the participant if they would be happy to speak to a nurse who is trained in the research trial who will describe the study to the patient and tell the patient that they will be sent more information about the study (the CONSCOP2 Patient Information Sheet (PIS)) through the post along with two consent forms:

- the standard colonoscopy consent form
- and the CONSCOP2 informed consent form.

The patient should be asked to bring these to their colonoscopy appointment. A contact number for someone at the site will be on the PIS should the patient wish to discuss any aspect of the trial.

# 9.2 Screening logs

A screening log of all patients assessed for eligibility will be kept at each site so that consent rates can be monitored and any problems with the eligibility criteria can be found. When at site, logs may contain identifiable information, but this **must** be redacted prior to being sent to the CTR. The screening log should be sent to the <a href="mailto:conscop2@cardiff.ac.uk">conscop2@cardiff.ac.uk</a> every month (see section 22 and 23 for further detail on data monitoring/quality assurance).

#### 9.3 Recruitment rates

A total of 2652 participants will be recruited at an average rate of 110 per month.

#### 9.4 Informed consent

On the day of the procedure after booking at the reception desk, patients will be taken to the admissions bay as usual. Routine admissions procedures for the patient will be followed as per BSG and JAG guidance for processes prior to endoscopic procedures in the unit. The patient will then be seen by the SSP/Research Nurse to confirm that they are happy to participate in the trial and written consent forms will be collected in accordance with the principles of GCP. They should sign just the standard colonoscopy consent form if they do not wish to participate in the trial. If they do wish to participate in the trial, then they must also sign the CONSCOP2 consent form. Once consent has been obtained, the patient can be randomised (see section 9.5).

The participant's written informed consent must be obtained using the CONSCOP2 Consent Form, which follows the Participant Information Sheet. The participant will be given sufficient time after the initial invitation to participate before being asked to sign the Consent Form. Informed consent must be obtained prior to the participant undergoing procedures that are specifically for the purposes of the trial. Consent may be taken by a member of the clinical staff at each site (SSP, Research Nurse or consultant) as long as this has been recorded on the Site Delegation Log (see section 7). The consent form includes mandatory permission to follow up the health of patients using routinely collected NHS data for the purposes of the trial research objectives and related ancillary research. To allow this, consent is requested to collect patient identifiers (BSN/NHS/CHI number, date of birth, name) at

Cardiff University where they will be held securely. Optional consent will also be sought to bank the routinely collected polyps for future not-for-profit (including genetic) research but all samples will be anonymised. Please note, only when written informed consent has been obtained from the participant and they have been randomised into the trial can they be considered a trial participant.

The right of the participant to refuse to participate in the trial without giving reasons must be respected. After the participant has entered the trial, the investigator must remain free to give alternative treatment to that specified in the protocol, at any stage, if he/she feels it to be in the best interest of the participant. However, the reason for doing so should be recorded and the participant

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will remain within the trial for the purpose of follow up and data analysis according to the treatment

option to which he/she has been allocated. Similarly, the participant must remain free to withdraw at

any time from the protocol treatment without giving reasons and without prejudicing his/her/their

further treatment.

One copy of the CONSCOP2 informed consent form should be given to the participant but the original

copy should be kept in the investigator site file and a further copy should be kept with participant's

hospital notes.

9.5 Randomisation

This is a randomised controlled trial therefore neither the participants nor their physicians will be able

to choose the participant's colonoscopy method. The method will be allocated randomly (1:1) using

a centralised computer-based algorithm (using minimisation stratified by centre with an 80:20 random

element). This is to ensure that the groups of participants receiving each of the different methods are

similar.

The site must confirm the eligibility of a patient in the patient's medical notes prior to randomisation.

On the day of a colonoscopy, after informed consent is obtained, a member of staff delegated to do

so should randomise the patient to either an enhanced or non-enhanced colonoscopy. This can be

done either by the internet, telephone or by email:

Randomisation

Internet (anytime):

https://trials.cardiff.ac.uk/portal

If there is an emergency or an issue with randomisation and you need to contact a member of the team

please telephone (Mon - Fri, 9am-5pm):

Telephone (Mon-Fri 9am – 5pm): 02920 687950 or 02920 687542 (if internet unavailable)

10 Withdrawal & lost to follow-up

10.1 Withdrawal

In consenting to the trial, participants are consenting to trial investigations, trial follow-up and data

collection. Participants may withdraw from the trial at any time. All withdrawal forms should be

emailed to CONSCOP2@cardiff.ac.uk

Patients may:

Level 1: Withdraw of consent to use samples in future research.

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Level 2: Completely withdraw from the trial – participants withdraw permission for longer term followup and use of samples in future research.

Withdrawal for any reason requires a completed CONSCOP2 Withdrawal CRF to be faxed to the CTR with the hard copy to follow soon after. Participants do not have to give a reason for their withdrawal but sites should make a reasonable attempt to find out why.

Data and samples collected prior to any participant withdrawal will be collected and used for trial analysis by the CTR.

Patients who withdraw consent prior to the initial colonoscopy should be completely withdrawn from the trial.

### 11 Trial Intervention

All participants will undergo a routine colonoscopy test as part of the UK bowel screening programmes. An approved Screening Colonoscopist who has satisfied the training requirements to carry out colorectal cancer screening on a designated bowel cancer screening endoscopy list will carry out the colonoscopic procedure. During the endoscopy test, titrated sedation and analgesia in the form of a benzodiazepine (midazolam) and or an opioid analgesic (Pethidine, fentanyl) and or Nitrous Oxide inhalational gas are offered to the participant as and if considered appropriate by standard clinical criteria as per standard practice. The nurse present in the endoscopy room then monitors the participants' physiological parameters and comfort scores closely during the course of the procedure. During the procedure, antispasmodic agents may be given if there is no contraindication. In addition to endoscopy nurses, every colonoscopy list has an SSP and or research nurse who is present in the room and will collect data about the procedure. All procedure and trial related processes within the endoscopy units and procedure rooms will follow Infection prevention and control guidance as per local and national guidelines including those where appropriate on social and physical distancing and to minimise any risk of infection. If there are any polyps detected, then they will be removed in the standard manner. The process described above is standard practice in the UK bowel screening programmes.

#### 11.1 Trial Arm A: Colonoscopy without enhanced dye

Participants will undergo colonoscopy as per standard procedure described above.

11.2 Trial Arm B: Colonoscopy with enhanced dye

For eligible participants who are randomised to the dye-enhanced colonoscopy group, standard

procedure described above will be followed. In addition to this, once the caecum is reached a contrast

dye (indigo carmine) will be sprayed on the surface of the right colon either using a spray pump or

spray catheter through the colonoscope on withdrawal. This will require specific training (to be

provided by the Research Team to the local colonoscopists and SSPs) to ensure standardisation of

technique of spraying the dye as well as recognise appearances of adenomas and serrated polyps

under indigo carmine dye. The standard colonoscopy procedure takes on average 30 minutes with the

enhanced procedure estimated to take an extra average of 6 minutes based on robust trial data from

CONSCOP1. Overall procedure times may vary depending on therapy being required for polyp

removal.

Indigo carmine is a blue contrast dye that pools between the mucosal projections and highlights

topography and surface morphology on polyps and it does not stain cells. It is a safe food colouring

agent (Food standards agency-EU approved additive E number: E132) and is already used routinely in

various endoscopy procedures in standard clinical practice. There are no known interactions of any

medicinal products with Indigo carmine. Anyone with a known allergy to a food colouring agent will

be excluded. Supply of dye to sites will be organised by the CONSCOP2 Trial Manager.

11.3 Compliance

Colonoscopists undertaking screening in this cohort are all accredited and some will have previous

experience of pan-colonic dye spray use in the context of chronic inflammatory bowel disease and

Lynch syndrome. We will ensure that all participating colonoscopists attend an online training event

including quizzes of images and video prior to and after the training, access to an online training

resource for reference, as well as lectures and video tutorials on technique and lesion detection with

and without indigo carmine dye spray. We will also include training on the PARIS classification, Kudo

classification and lesion characterisation with virtual and dye based chromocolonoscopy.

For participants allocated to the chromocolonoscopy arm with inadequate bowel preparation on the

day, dye will be used at the subsequent adequately prepared colonoscopy, otherwise repeat

procedures will use high definition white light colonoscopy. Colonoscopists are allowed to use the

irrigation pump with water for washing colonic mucosa without any restriction in both trial arms.

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# 12 Trial procedures

The only trial procedure, the colonoscopy, occurs at the routine index colonoscopy visit. All assessments are conducted routinely.

#### 12.1 Assessments

#### CRF data collection

On the day of the index colonoscopy (or, if inadequate bowel preparation, the first subsequent repeat procedure with adequate bowel preparation), the CONSCOP2 eCRF should be completed. Other than the height and weight measurements, no additional assessments above routine are required but the CRF will collect data items not routinely collected e.g. aspirin use, and family history of bowel cancer.

# 12.2 Follow-up

Patients will be followed up in routinely collected data for 3 years after the last patient has their colonoscopy. Data on all colonoscopies conducted on trial participants within the screening programme over this period (including repeats and surveillance) and their outcomes will be collected from sites and associated centralised screening programme databases. At the end of this follow up period data on cancers and deaths in any of the trial participants will be obtained from country specific registries (Wales: Welsh Cancer Intelligence and Surveillance Unit (WCISU); Scotland: Electronic Data Research and Innovation Service (eDRIS); England: Public Health England Office for Data Release (ODR); or equivalents).

### Pathology reports and central pathological review

Once per fortnight the research team will send a list of patients to the site for whom they require a copy of any pathology reports associated with screening colonoscopies or associated repeats for clearance. The site should scan, anonymise, and send these to the research team (see section 16.2).

Clinical members of the central research team will review the local pathology reports. They will record details (size, location, morphology) of all polyps found into the central research database at Cardiff University.

The central study team will liaise with the local team to request pathology slides from all polyps detected in the proximal colon by letter to the appropriate local pathology department. We will request that all slides be sent to Cardiff & Vale NHS Trust where they will be scanned before being returned to the local pathology departments. The scans will be reviewed by an expert panel of at least

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three independent expert pathologists within the UK NHS. The expert panel will review all slides independently blinded to the original report. Cases without diagnostic agreement will be re-reviewed by all three pathologists to reach a consensus diagnosis.

# 13 Safety reporting

The Principal Investigator is responsible for ensuring that all site staff involved in this trial are familiar with the content of this section.

All SAEs must be reported immediately (and within 24 hours of knowledge of the event) by the PI at the participating site to the CTR PV and safety specialist email to <a href="mailto:CTR-safety@Cardiff.ac.uk">CTR-safety@Cardiff.ac.uk</a> unless the SAE is specified as not requiring immediate reporting (see section 13.2).

#### 13.1 Definitions

Term	Definition	
Adverse Event (AE)	Any untoward medical occurrence in a clinical trial participant which does not necessarily have a causal relationship with their involvement in the study.	
Serious Adverse Event	Any adverse event that -	
(SAE)	<ul> <li>Any adverse event that -</li> <li>Results in death</li> <li>Is life-threatening*</li> <li>Required hospitalisation or prolongation of existing hospitalisation**</li> <li>Results in persistent or significant disability or incapacity</li> <li>Consists of a congenital anomaly or birth defect</li> <li>Other medically important condition***</li> </ul>	

\*Note: The term 'life-threatening' in the definition of serious refers to an event in which the trial participant was at risk of death at the time of the event or it is suspected that used or continued use of a trial intervention would result in the subjects death; it does not refer to an event which hypothetically might have caused death if it were more severe.

\*\* Note: Hospitalisation is defined as an inpatient admission, regardless of the length of stay, even if the hospitalisation is a precautionary measure for continued observation. Pre-planned hospitalisation e.g. for pre-existing conditions which have not worsened, or elective procedures, does not constitute an SAE.

\*\*\* Note: other events that may not result in death, are not life-threatening, or do not require hospitalisation, may be considered as an SAE when, based upon appropriate medical judgement, the event may jeopardise the participant and may require medical or surgical intervention to prevent one of the outcomes listed above.

# 13.2 Trial Specific SAE Reporting requirements

Only adverse events occurring within 30 days of the index colonoscopy (or, if inadequate bowel preparation, the first repeat procedure with adequate bowel preparation) should be reported. We will ask local teams and research nurses to monitor their participant re-admissions within 30 days for those in the study aligned to existing local governance arrangements.

# 13.3 Causality

Causal relationship will be assessed for the intervention and procedures:

Intervention: Indigo carmine dye

Procedures: Colonoscopy, polyp removal

The Principal Investigator (or another delegated medically qualified doctor from the trial team) will assess each SAE to determine the causal relationship and the Chief Investigator (or another appropriately qualified member of the Trial Management Group) can also provide this assessment where necessary:

Relationship	Description	Reasonable possibility that the SAE may have been caused by the intervention?
Unrelated	There is no evidence of any causal relationship with the intervention	No
Unlikely	There is little evidence to suggest there is a causal relationship with the intervention (e.g. the event did not occur within a reasonable time after administration	No

	of the trial medication). There is another reasonable	
	explanation for the event (e.g. the participant's clinical	
	condition, other concomitant treatment).	
Possible	There is some evidence to suggest a causal relationship with the intervention (e.g. because the event occurs within a reasonable time after administration of the trial medication). However, the influence of other factors may have contributed to the event (e.g. the participant's clinical condition, other concomitant treatments).	Yes
Probable	There is evidence to suggest a causal relationship and the influence of other factors is unlikely.	Yes
Definite	There is clear evidence to suggest a causal relationship and other possible contributing factors can be ruled out.	Yes

The causality assessment given by the Principal Investigator (or delegate) cannot be downgraded by the Chief Investigator (or delegate), and in the case of disagreement both opinions will be provided.

### 13.4 Expectedness

The Chief Investigator (or another delegated appropriately qualified individual) will assess each SAE to perform the assessment of expectedness.

SAEs which add significant information on specificity or severity of a known, already documented adverse event constitute unexpected events. For example, an event more specific or more severe than that described in the protocol is considered unexpected.

The list below provides the expected adverse reactions associated with the colonoscopy procedure:

- Abdominal Pain
- Heavy bleeding (including from polyp removal) requiring unexpected admission, surgery or transfusion
- Perforation of bowel requiring unexpected admission, surgery or transfusion

Allergy to dye

Hyperventilation

Vasovagal episode

Anxiety

13.5 **Reporting procedures** 

13.5.1 Participating Site Responsibilities

The PI (or delegated appropriately qualified doctor from the trial team) should sign and date the SAE

CRF to acknowledge that he/she has performed the seriousness and causality assessments.

Investigators should also report SAEs to their own health boards or trust in accordance with local

practice.

A completed SAE form for all events requiring immediate reporting should be submitted via fax or

email to the CTR within 24 hours of knowledge of the event. A separate form must be used to report

each event, irrespective of whether or not the events had the same date of onset.

The participant will be identified only by trial number, partial date of birth (mm/yy) and initials. The

participant's name should not be used on any correspondence.

It is also required that sites respond to and clarify any queries raised on any reported SAEs and report

any additional information as and when it becomes available through to the resolution of the event.

Additionally, the CTR may request additional information relating to any SAEs and the site should

provide as much information as is available to them in order to resolve these queries.

**Serious Adverse Event (SAE) email address:** 

CTR-Safety@Cardiff.ac.uk

SAE Fax number: 0203 043 2376

Serious adverse events should be reported from time of signature of informed consent, throughout

the treatment period up to, and including 30 days after the participant has their colonoscopy.

An SAE form is not considered as complete unless the following details are provided:

Full participant trial number

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An Adverse Event

A completed assessment of the seriousness, and causality as performed by the PI (or another

appropriately medically qualified doctor registered on the delegation log).

If any of these details are missing, the site will be contacted and the information must be provided by

the site to the CTR within 24 hours.

All other AEs should be reported on the CRF following the CRF procedure described in Section 16.

13.5.2 The CTR responsibilities

Following the initial report, all SAEs should be followed up to resolution wherever possible, and further

information may be requested by the CTR. Follow up information must be provided on a new SAE

form.

Once an SAE is received at the CTR, it will be evaluated by staff at the CTR and sent to the Chief

Investigator (or their delegate) for an assessment of expectedness.

For all non-CTIMP studies, including clinical investigations of medical devices, only reports of related

and unexpected Serious Adverse Events (SAEs) should be submitted to the REC. These should be sent

within 15 days of the chief investigator becoming aware of the event. Reports of related and

unexpected SAEs in double-blind trials should be unblinded. There is no requirement for annual safety

reports in addition to the information provided through the annual progress report.

13.6 Urgent Safety Measures (USMs)

An urgent safety measure is an action that the Sponsor, Chief Investigator or Principal Investigator

may carry out in order to protect the subjects of a trial against any immediate hazard to their health

or safety. Any urgent safety measure relating to this trial must be notified to the Research Ethics

Committee immediately by telephone, and in any event within 3 days in writing, that such a measure

has been taken. USMs reported to the CTR will be handled according to CTR processes.

14 Statistical considerations

14.1 Randomisation

Randomisation will take place on a secure online service (see section 9.5) or centrally at the CTR by

telephoning the trial team if the secure online service is unavailable (see section 9.5). Participants will

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be randomised using minimisation stratified by centre (with 80:20 random element maintained).

Randomisation will have an allocation ratio of 1:1.

14.2 Sample size

To have 90% power to detect an odds ratio of 2.81 in the detection rate of proximal advanced SL

(increasing from 0.8% and 2.4% in favour of chromocolonoscopy) at a two-sided 5% significance level

would require 2652 patients randomised 1:1. To consent this number we anticipate that 3315 eligible

patients will need to be invited to participate (>80% consent rate in CONSCOP). This odds ratio was

found in the CONSCOP feasibility study and is considered to be clinically meaningful. 16

For Stage 2, based on current estimates of those who are beyond the screening programme age limit

of 74 years and of drop outs we estimate that we will follow up 930 (~35%) patients at surveillance

visits up to 3 years. Based on simulated data from CONSCOP we predict this would allow us to estimate

the proportion of significant polyps missed or additionally detected under various alternative

surveillance strategies (that incorporate lifestyle factors) with a standard error of at most 0.15. Again,

this is a conservative estimate given that the uptake and sensitivity of screening will increase with the

introduction of FIT across the UK.

14.3 Missing, unused & spurious data

We do not expect missing data for the primary outcome and there will be no data imputation for

missing data in the primary endpoint. Imputation methods for missing data in the secondary endpoints

will be fully documented in the SAP.

14.4 Procedures for reporting deviation(s) from the original SAP

Any deviation(s) from the final statistical plan will be described and justification given in the final

report.

14.5 **Termination of the trial** 

After Stage 1, following review of the primary analysis by the IDMC/TSC, if no significant difference is

seen in the primary endpoint then the trial will stopped, and will not proceed to Stage 2.

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15 Analysis

15.1 Stage 1

At the end of stage 1 (when patients have all been followed up for 1 year to collect data on repeat

procedures), the following analyses will be conducted:

**Primary analysis** 

All randomised patients will be included in an intention-to-treat (ITT) analysis using logistic regression

to calculate odds ratios for the trial arm effect on proximal advanced SL detection rates with the

operator as a random effect.

Secondary analyses

Multivariable sensitivity analyses (both proximal and overall) will include important prognostic

variables (smoking, obesity, sex, family history of cancer, aspirin use), as well as centre as a random

effect, using multilevel mixed-effects logistic regression. Additionally, operator will be used as a

random effect in a further sensitivity analyses if available.

ITT logistic regression will also be used to compare detection rates, both proximal and overall, of

advanced neoplasia, SLs, and advanced adenomas including important prognostic variables (smoking,

obesity, sex, family history of cancer, aspirin use), as well as screening centre as a random effect.

The primary analysis will also be conducted in subgroups of different FIT thresholds.

15.2 Stage 2

Follow up of participants through routinely collected data will be conducted 3 years after the last

patient is recruited to collect data on cancer and death rates, surveillance colonoscopy outcomes, and

polyps retrieved.

During the first CONSCOP study, a health economics evaluation was conducted, focussing primarily on

the per procedure cost of a chromocolonoscopy procedure vs standard. Here, a health economic

evaluation of the longer-term impact of the intervention on surveillance outcome will be conducted.

Should the Stage 1 analyses show the intervention to be effective at detecting proximal advanced SLs,

then - under current guidelines - significantly more surveillance colonoscopies would be expected.

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Mathematical models (MiMiC-Bowel) developed at ScHARR (School of Health and Related Research, University of Sheffield), enhanced by estimates from the data analyses in Stage 2, will explore the likely cost-effectiveness of rolling out chromocolonoscopy under the current surveillance guidelines, the likely downstream cancer and advanced polyp detection rates, as well as possible revised thresholds and surveillance intervals for undertaking surveillance, some of which will include stratification on risk factors. The model takes an NHS perspective and enables predictions of the lifetime impact of different screening and surveillance strategies on resource use, cancer incidence, cancer mortality and QALYs. The model includes both phenotypic (e.g. age, lifestyle) and genomic individual level characteristics. The model represents colonoscopy using the following parameters: sensitivity to precancerous conditions (currently subdivided as low or high risk adenomas), sensitivity to CRC, completion rate, compliance with invitation to colonoscopy, cost of colonoscopy. To represent chromocolonoscopy within the economic model, data on the cost of the procedure and the differential detection rates for precancerous conditions (specifically serrated lesions) findings from Stage 1 will be used. MiMiC-Bowel will be further developed to represent different characteristics of precancerous conditions and specifically to include the serrated polyp pathway. This will be achieved by undertaking a review to obtain the best available data on serrated polyp prevalence and progression rates. MiMiC-Bowel will be used to predict the long-term economic impact of replacing standard colonoscopy with chromocolonoscopy in the screening programme. Predicted outcomes will include - cancer cases prevented, changes in stage at diagnosis, reduction in CRC mortality. Prediction for surveillance outcomes will also be generated such as: number of first surveillance procedures required, number of second surveillance procedures required, number of surveillance interval cancers, etc. The second step of the economic analyses will be to validate the model predictions via comparison to both the 3 year surveillance data collected in Stage 2 as well as longer term (5-6 year) follow up of surveillance of ~750 patients in the original CONSCOP feasibility trial. If required, the model may be further refined following validation and new predictions generated.

Currently the surveillance algorithm used in the UK bowel screening programmes uses the number, size and histo-pathology of adenomas detected at index procedures to allocate a patient to have a further colonoscopy in 3 years or be returned to routine recall. It is anticipated that in the future surveillance could be determined based on an individual predicted risk of CRC in the next 5/10 years. A risk model for future CRC risk will in addition utilise demographic, lifestyle, genomic and screening/surveillance history. The data produced by this and the first CONSCOP feasibility trial will provide a unique, large, high quality dataset to inform the development of this model. Critical elements not available in other datasets include aspirin use, chromocolonoscopy use, and serrated

polyp characteristics. Using parametric regression models, we will use the Stage 1 data to estimate the functional form and strength of the impact of baseline characteristics, such as smoking status, BMI, aspirin use etc, on the findings from both index and follow-up colonoscopies, as well as on the outcomes of CRC incidence, stage at diagnosis, and mortality. This will then allow us to proceed with Stage 2, in which we will build a mathematical model, to investigate how CRC incidence (and mortality), as well as the total number of follow-up colonoscopies performed, might hypothetically be changed by altering the protocol through which surveillance frequency is decided. In particular, we will investigate the cost-benefit implications of making them dependent on colonoscopy quality, patient and polyp characteristics, as well as changing the way in which surveillance depends on the outcomes of the index colonoscopy. In a second step, we will consider not simply changing how patients are allocated to the 36m-surveillance groups based on their personal characteristics and index colonoscopy findings, but also consider other options, such as 48m- or 60m-surveillance, which will require the incorporation of mathematical models for polyp formation/detection into ours. Since these will be based on assumptions, we will investigate the robustness of our conclusions to departures from these assumptions by varying them within reasonable ranges. All of the above will be done both under the assumption that all colonoscopies are performed using standard colonoscopy and under the assumption that all colonoscopies are performed using chromocolonoscopy in order to evaluate the differential (and, we hypothesise, superior) cost-benefit implications that could be achieved under the roll-out of chromocolonoscopy as opposed to standard. This will also involve subtle assumptions for the translation of findings from index to follow-up colonoscopies, the sensitivity to which we shall investigate, since in Stage 2, none of the follow-up colonoscopies are performed by chromocolonoscopy. Throughout, we will use the mathematical model to propagate all statistical uncertainty from our Stage 1 estimates into our uncertainty when comparing hypothetical scenarios in Stage 2. By this we mean that parameter values informed by Stage 1 will be repeatedly drawn from their derived sampling distributions in each new Monte Carlo run of the Stage 2 model, leading to a range of plausible answers to each of our "what if" questions at Stage 2.

# 16 Data Management

#### 16.1 Source data

Trial data	Source Data						
	CRF	Routinely collected screening database	Site file	Pathology report	SAE form	Cancer/death routine datasets	
Informed consent			X	_	<u> </u>		
Demographic data	Х	Х					
Colonoscopy outcomes	Х	Х					
Polyps removed		Х		Х			
Cancer/death						Х	
Adverse events					Х		

Source Data is defined as "All information in original records and certified copies of original records of clinical findings, observations or other activities in a clinical trial necessary for the reconstruction and evaluation of the trial. Source data are contained in source documents." There is only one set of source data at any time for any data element, as defined in site source data agreement.

Source data include, but are not limited to, hospital records (from which medical history and previous and concurrent medication may be summarised in the CRF), clinical and office charts, laboratory and pharmacy records, diaries, microfiches, radiographs, and correspondence. CRF entries will be considered source data if the CRF is the site of the original recording (e.g. there is no other written or electronic record of data). All documents will be stored safely in confidential conditions. Sites will retain all original source of data from these investigations for future reference. On all trial-specific documents, other than the signed consent form, the participant will be referred to by the trial participant ID, not by name.

16.2 Completion of Electronic CRFs

It is intended that data recording for this trial will be through use of a web-based system called Vanilla.

This is a secure encrypted system accessed by an institutional password and complies with General

Data Protection Regulation 2016.

Details of how to access the system will be supplied to investigators/SSPs and research nurses as part

of site set up. A user password will be supplied upon completion of all processes required prior to

opening.

Participating sites will be provided with training and instructions on how to complete online CRFs.

The database will flag reminders for any overdue data. It is the site's responsibility to submit complete

and accurate data in timely manner.

If missing or questionable data are identified, a data query will be flagged on the system. The data

manager will raise a data clarification form and this will be sent to sites via Fastfile. The site shall be

requested to answer the data query or correct the data within two weeks.

The completed data clarification form should be scanned, saved into a Fastfile folder and emailed back

to CONSCOP2@Cardiff.ac.uk. A copy should be retained at the site along with the participants' CRFs.

Scanning Pathology Reports

Please scan and e-mail a copy of all pathology reports to <a href="CONSCOP2@cardiff.ac.uk">CONSCOP2@cardiff.ac.uk</a>. Please redact any

patient identifier information from the reports so that only the allocated patient CONSCOP2 trial

number is included. Polyp identifiers such as sample pot numbers and pathology slide identifiers

should be left on.

17 Sub-studies

17.1 Polyp sample collection for future translational research

We will obtain consent from patients to use their routinely removed polyp samples in future research.

These samples will not be collected from sites within the CONSCOP2 trial, only consent to obtain them

in the future will be obtained. (Please refer to the CONSCOP2 Translational Management Plan).

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17.2 Site visits by the principal investigator to improve recruitment in a multicentre

randomized trial

We will randomise sites to either be visited by the Chief Investigator and/or Clinical Research Fellow

part way through recruitment to discuss the trial in order to assess impact on recruitment. All required

outcome data would already be collected through screening logs.

17.3 Face to face vs telephone screening

This will be investigated in a non-randomised study. Scotland and Wales have telephone pre-

assessments with people testing positive with FIT in the screening programmes whereas England has

face-to-face pre-assessments. It will be at these pre-assessments that the study is first mentioned

(although informed consent will be taken on the day of the colonoscopy). Because we are collecting

detailed screening data (see section 8 on project management) we will be able to compare consent

rates across these different pre-assessment modalities.

17.4 Effect of type of recruiting clinician/nurse on consent rates

In the screening data that we ask sites to collect, we will identify the staff type who screened and

consented the participants (either general colorectal nurse, specialist screening practitioner, or

research nurse). This will give us, albeit non-randomised, data to assess the rates of identifying and

consenting participants for each staff type that can be used to guide both the delivery of this trial and

future trials in this patient group. This will be relevant to the NIHR and wider research community in

comparing recruitment to trials with designated research nurses as compared to embedding research

into existing NHS workforce roles. We will be able to undertake this study as part of our monitoring of

recruitment at no extra cost.

17.5 FORE-AI (Future of Real Time Endoscopy – Artificial Intelligence)

FORE AI is a separately funded (also by the NIHR - same funder as CONSCOP2) sub-study that will be

conducted on a subset of CONSCOP2 participants. The project is led by Odin Vision a trading name of

Odin Medical Limited and will be conducted in collaboration with the CONSCOP2 trial team, Cardiff

University Division of Population Medicine, CTR, Aquarius Population Health, and the Bowel and

Cancer Research Charity. The study will investigate the use of artificial intelligence to analyse real time

colonoscopy videos to improve the detection of and diagnosis of polyps. This is a non-interventional

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study and will collect prospective video data only and will not affect the care of the participants in any way.

## 17.5.1 Background and rationale

Odin Medical Ltd, in conjunction with University College London have developed a computer system called CADDIE (Computer Assisted Detection and Diagnosis for Intelligent Endoscopy) that streams live video taken from endoscopes during colonoscopies to a secure cloud computing system (Figure 1) where a neural network algorithm analyses the images to detect and diagnose polyps. [19, 20, 21]. This has the potential to prevent missed polyps (25% of adenomas are missed by doctors during colonoscopy[22]) and reduce waiting times for diagnosis (patients wait an average of 3 weeks for results). Thus, CADDIE has the potential to reduce post colonoscopy colorectal cancer, improve patient quality of life, and save money for the NHS.

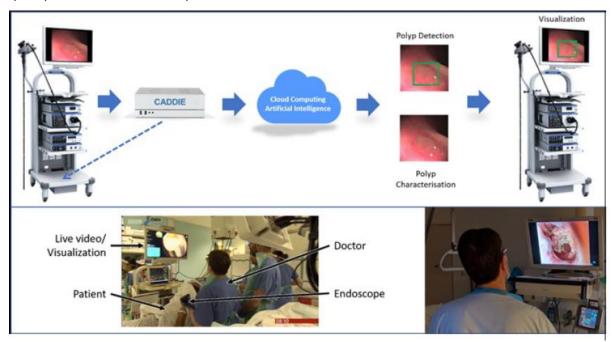


Figure 1. The structure of the CADDIE AI solution. The system is positioned on the endoscopy stack under the monitor and streams video to the cloud where it is securely processed. The results (polyp location or characterisation information) are streamed back to the hospital and overlaid on the image e.g. green square indicating the location of a polyp.

The American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE) publishes the diagnostic or therapeutic thresholds that must be met for a technique or device to become considered appropriate for

incorporation into clinical practice – the PIVI guidelines. There are two PIVI guidelines relevant to CADDIE characterisation/diagnostic technology:

 PIVI 1: For a technology to be used to guide the decision to leave suspected rectosigmoid hyperplastic polyps 5 mm or smaller in place (without resection), the technology should provide a 90% or greater negative predictive value (NPV) (when used with high confidence) for adenomatous histology.

PIVI 2: For colorectal polyps 5 mm or smaller to be resected and discarded without pathologic
assessment, endoscopic technology (when used with high confidence) used to determine
histology of these polyps, when combined with the histopathologic assessment of polyps larger
than 5 mm, should provide 90% or greater agreement in assignment of postpolypectomy
surveillance intervals when compared with decisions based on pathology assessment of all
identified polyps.

Therefore, negative predictive value NPV and agreement with postpolypectomy surveillance intervals are the key metrics for validation.

## 17.5.2 Objectives

#### **Primary**

Evaluate AI performance relative to the Preservation and Incorporation of Valuable endoscopic Innovations (PIVI) [23] guidelines for optical diagnosis and surveillance intervals.

## Secondary

- Evaluate AI polyp detection to demonstrate accuracy in comparison to standard of care (high definition white light colonoscopy) and advanced care (chromoendoscopy) as planned within CONSCOP2.
- Evaluate AI polyp characterization/diagnosis in comparison to double read histopathology as planned in CONSCOP2.
- Evaluate the effect of demographic information on surveillance intervals and identify bias in the machine learning.
- Incorporate clinical evidence above into the product technical file to prepare the CADDIE system for CE marking as a class 2a device under the Medical Device Regulation.
- Health economics: model the long-term health benefits of AI at screening colonoscopy with and without chromoendoscopy for improving the quality of endoscopy to support.

#### **17.5.3 Methods**

This is a non-interventional study in which patient consent is sought in order to collect prospective video data for research purposes.

## Site selection, set up, equipment and training

A subset of the CONSCOP2 sites will be selected based on site responses documented on a feasibility questionnaire.

Odin Medical Limited will supply the investigational AI hardware direct to sites mediated via the CTR during the CONSCOP2/FORE AI site set up process. Odin Medical Limited will conduct one equipment set up and colonoscopist training site visit per site.

Sites may commence CONSCOP2 recruitment prior to activation to recruitment to FORE AI. Sites will not be activated for recruitment to FORE AI until the following are in place:

- Amended CONSCOP2 site agreement
- Amended CONSCOP2 delegation of duties log
- Amended CONSCOP2 training log
- FORE AI equipment receipt confirmation
- FORE AI training completion

## Participant screening and recruitment

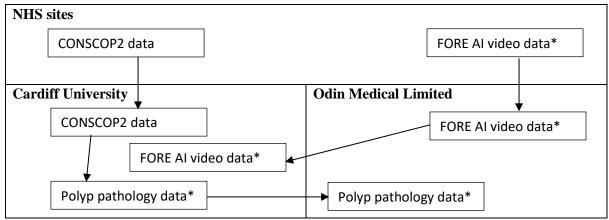
In the participating FORE AI sites, all CONSCOP2 participants will be approached for additional optional consent to participate in the FORE-AI sub-study via the CONSCOP2 main PIS/ICF. Declining participation in FORE AI will not impact participation in CONSCOP2.

## Video data collection at site

FORE AI is an observational study embedded within a randomised trial (CONSCOP2) and does not involve any additional interventions for the patient. FORE-AI participants will have videos of their endoscopy streamed to the CADDIE system. During the colonoscopy, the colonoscopist will bring a polyp into focus/centre of the image (as they would do for photodocumentation) and then, if they decide to remove the polyp, press a pedal on the CADDIE system then continue to remove the polyp. When they press the pedal, a "FORE AI polyp ID number" will appear on the screen seen by the attending SSP/Research Nurse who should note it down on the CONSCOP2 CRF alongside the other data collected about that particular polyp.

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The video of the procedure, only identified by CONSCOP2 trial ID and FORE AI polyp numbers, will then be uploaded to a secure cloud service run by Odin Vision and hosted by Google cloud services in the UK.



<sup>\*</sup>includes CONSCOP2 Trial ID and Polyp ID of polyps detected by colonoscopist as only identifiers

Figure 2. Data flow in the FORE-AI substudy

#### Artificial Intelligence analysis

The CADDIE system will detect and diagnose any polyps that it finds on the video and match against the parts of the video marked by colonoscopists as areas where they removed polyps. These findings will be sent by Odin to Cardiff University where the CONSCOP2 research team will match the CADDIE results against the pathology findings collected in CONSCOP2 (Figure 2). The pathology finding will be sent to Odin (pseudo-anonymised with only CONSCOP2 Trial ID and Polyp ID). The video data and/or pathology findings may be used to develop, train, evaluate and test neural networks for improving the quality of endoscopy. Results of the CADDIE AI detection/characterization will not be sent to sites (as the fully functional system showed in Figure 1 would do) and will only be analysed by the research team to address the sub-study objectives in accordance with NHS, HEI and NIHR data governance regulations relevant to all participating organisations.

Prior to publication in any research journals, anonymised aggregated results of the comparison between AI and pathology findings will be transferred to a health economics research organisation (Aquarius Population Health Ltd) from Cardiff University in order to model the potential long-term health benefits of AI. This data will be in a format publishable in research journals and as such will not be patient level and will not be identifiable in any way.

Sample size

The primary objective of the study will be measured by PIVI 2. We aim to recruit subjects to detect a

90% or greater agreement in the assignment of postpolypectomy surveillance intervals comparing 1)

decisions based on histopathologic assessment of all identified polyps and 2) decisions based on AI +

doctor optical diagnosis for colorectal polyps 5 mm or smaller combined with the histopathologic

assessment of polyps larger than 5 mm. If 865 patients consented to the FORE-AI substudy we would

be able to calculate 95% confidence intervals of +/-2% around an agreement estimate of 90% in high

risk surveillance allocation between the two systems. Recruiting 1000 patients allows ~10% loss of

data/patient withdrawal.

**Monitoring and oversight** 

All FORE AI central, statistical and site monitoring will be documented in the CONSCOP2 Monitoring

Plan and CONSCOP2 Risk Assessment.

A FORE AI Project Steering Committee will have oversight for FORE AI, reporting directly to the main

CONSCOP2 TMG, IDMC and TSC oversight committees and a FORE AI specific PPI Shadow Committee.

A FORE AI Project team, inclusive of representatives from each FORE AI co-applicant and collaborator,

will be responsible for day-to-day management of this sub-study and will report to the FORE AI Project

Steering Committee via the FORE Project Manager at Odin Medical. The CTR will be delegated day-to-

day Trial Management and support liaison between individual FORE project team members and

clinical sites and the various steering groups.

Each site will be visited 4 times by Odin Medical during the course of the sub-study for the purposes

of 1) Site initiation; 2) Hardware installation; 3) Feedback; and 4) Project shutdown and hardware

return.

17.6 CONSCOP2 Process Evaluation

17.6.1 Trial training

As mentioned in section 11.3, specific training will be provided by the Research Team to all

colonoscopists and SSPs to ensure standardisation of technique of spraying the dye as well as

recognise appearances of adenomas and serrated polyps under indigo carmine dye. This will take the

form of an online training module and webinar for opportunity for interaction and questions.

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#### 17.6.2 Methods

The process evaluation will include the use of logs and reports collected as part of the trial training as well as semi-structured telephone or video interviews with a sub-sample of screening colonoscopists. Within the introduction of the online pre-trial training, , screening colonoscopists will be asked to complete a training session registration form (see Appendix 1). They will be informed that information relating to them will be collected on the, quiz (at the end of the training session) and patient case report forms (CRFs) as part of the trial in order to report on the process of the trial.

#### 17.6.3 Aims of the Process Evaluation

Training in chromocolonoscopy is a potential contributing factor to the success of the intervention and future implementation. We will therefore conduct a process evaluation within the CONSCOP2 trial that particularly focusses primarily on training for the intervention. It will also explore barriers and facilitators to chromocolonoscopy and inter-observer effects of pathologists as these may affect training and future implementation. We will specifically address the following questions:

- 1. What was the dose (how much training was accessed online and the pattern of access eg all in one session or repeat visits etc) and reach (how many took part) of the training?
- **2.** Was there a learning effect for ability to detect advanced significant polyps during the time of the trial?
- **3.** Was there variation and correlation in the training accessed and the outcomes for SSL detection between individuals?
- 4. Did detection rates vary by prior experience of chromocolonoscopy?
- **5.** What did the screening colonoscopists think were the benefits and shortcomings of the training?
- **6.** What did the screening colonoscopists think were the barriers and facilitators to implementing chromocolonoscopy?
- **7.** What was the inter-observer variability among the pathology reports from the local pathologists and central review panel?

## 17.6.4 Screening colonoscopists logs and quiz

Screening colonoscopists accessing online training will be asked to complete a registration form (Appendix 1) for the session and logs from the online training support will be captured including any interactive components of the training module e.g. in any question and answer content. This will allow us to assess how much training was received and by whom. A short quiz will be given to screening colonoscopists as part of the initial training to assess their knowledge prior to and after the online training. They will also be asked to complete a short online training evaluation questionnaire following completion of the training.

Prior experience of chromocolonoscopy for each colonoscopist in the intervention arm will be recorded in order to compare detection rates between those with different levels of experience. Screening colonoscopists will be asked to indicate the years of experience they have of chromocolonoscopy (if any) and type of background (e.g. gastroenterologist, colorectal surgeon, nurse) on a registration form (Appendix 1).

Proximal advanced serrated lesion rates for colonoscopists will be collated and compared between the start and end of study. This will provide information about potential learning effects, i.e. improvement in detection rates over time both for types of colonoscopy. The screening colonoscopists name will be added to the CRF for each patient, thus noting who undertook the colonoscopy. The SSP or Research Nurse will complete this on the CRF.

## 17.6.5 Interviews with screening colonoscopists

Semi-structured telephone or video interviews with up to twenty screening colonoscopists will be conducted to gain their views on the training and future implementation of chromocolonoscopy within a screening programme. A purposive sample will be used for the interviews to ensure colonoscopists with different backgrounds (gastroenterologists, colorectal surgeons and nurse endoscopists) and varying levels of prior chromocolonoscopy experience are included. Screening colonoscopists will be recruited from six study sites (we will aim to include two from each nation with two different size hospitals from each nation- large tertiary/teaching hospital or district general/smaller hospital), to include sites participating in the FORE AI sub-study and sites not participating in FORE-AI. A consent script will be used at the beginning of the interview and consent will be audio-recorded. The topic guide (Appendix 2) will include the following: experiences of chromocolonoscopy (both before and within the trial), benefits and shortcomings of the training sessions, suggestions for improvements to training, barriers and facilitators to chromocolonoscopy

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implementation. Additional questions for screening colonoscopists at sites participating in the FORE-

Al sub-study will explore acceptability, feasibility and perceived advantages/disadvantages of Al, and

any effect this has had on their practice. Interviews will be planned to take place approximately three

to six months after training has been completed. Interviews will be audio-recorded and transcribed

verbatim. Following the interview participants will be sent a thank you email (Appendix 4).

17.6.6 Recruitment for interviews

As part of the online training, screening colonoscopists will receive a copy of the interview information

sheet asked to indicate whether they would be willing to be contacted to be invited to take part in a

research interview. Responses will be used to select screening colonoscopists to be invited. The study

invitation pack (consisting of Appendix 3, participant information sheet and consent script) will be

emailed to those purposively selected to be invited to confirm their interest. Those who agree to take

part will be asked to suggest suitable times for the interview, and an interview will be arranged at a

mutually convenient time. A consent script will be used at the beginning of the interview and consent

will be audio-recorded.

17.6.7 Training dose and reach

Descriptive statistics will be used to report the usage of the online training support, including number

of colonoscopists, duration and timings of access (using the web logs). Descriptive statistics (numbers

and percentages) of the professional background (e.g. nurse, gastroenterologist) of online training

session participants will also be calculated.

17.6.8 Prior experience and learning effect

Descriptive statistics of the prior experience of colonoscopists will calculated for both any vs. no

experience (number and percentage) as well as for length of experience (average, range) for those

who have any.

The association between proximal advanced serrated lesion detection rate and prior experience, prior

baseline knowledge, use of the online training support, professional background and knowledge

(assessed at the end of training) will be assessed using logistic regression.

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Proximal advanced serrated lesion detection rates of screening colonoscopists will be calculated three months into the trial (or following their first 20 chromocolonoscopies) and then in the last three months of the trial (or their last 20 chromocolonoscopies). These will be compared using logistic

regression.

17.6.9 Inter-observer variability

Kappa statistics will be calculated to assess the inter-observer agreement on polyp pathology and

correlation between endoscopist classification and pathology category.

17.6.10 Views on training and implementation

Interviews and responses to the training evaluation questionnaire will be analysed using a framework

approach<sup>18</sup>. Following familiarisation of with the transcripts, a thematic framework will be identified

consisting of themes (or codes). This framework will then be systematically be applied to each

transcript (indexing) and grouped by theme (charting). Finally, the data is interpreted by searching for

patterns and seeking explanations.

18 Protocol/GCP non-compliance

The Principal Investigator should report any non-compliance to the trial protocol or the conditions and

principles of GCP to the CTR in writing as soon as they become aware of it.

19 End of Trial definition

The end of the trial is defined as the date of final data capture to meet the trial endpoints. In this case

end of trial is defined as three years after the last patient has an index colonoscopy.

The Sponsor must notify the main REC of the end of a clinical trial within 90 days of its completion or

within 15 days if the trial is terminated early.

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20 Archiving

The TMF and TSF containing essential documents will be archived at an approved external storage

facility for a minimum of 15 years. The CTR will archive the TMF and TSFs on behalf of the Sponsor.

The Principal Investigator is responsible for archival of the ISF at site on approval from Sponsor.

Essential documents pertaining to the trial shall not be destroyed without permission from the

Sponsor.

21 **Regulatory Considerations** 

21.1 **Ethical and governance approval** 

This protocol has approval from a Research Ethics Committee (REC) that is legally "recognised" by

the United Kingdom Ethics Committee Authority for review and approval.

This trial protocol will be submitted through the relevant permission system for global governance

review by the HRA approval process.

Approval will be obtained from the host care organisation who will consider local governance

requirements and site feasibility. The Research Governance approval of the host care organisation

must be obtained before recruitment of participants within that host care organisation.

21.2 **Data Protection** 

The CTR will act to preserve participant confidentiality and will not disclose or reproduce any

information by which participants could be identified, except where specific consent is obtained. Data

will be stored in a secure manner and will be registered in accordance with the General Data

Protection Regulation 2016. The data custodian and the translational sample custodian for this trial is

the Director of the Cancer Division at the Centre for Trials Research.

This includes collection of NHS number (or equivalent), to follow up the health outcomes in routinely

collected data within the UK NHS and Departments of Health.

21.3 Indemnity

Non-negligent harm: This trial is an academic, investigator-led and designed trial, coordinated by

the CTR. The Chief Investigator, local Investigators and coordinating centre do not hold insurance

against claims for compensation for injury caused by participation in a clinical trial and they cannot

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offer any indemnity. The Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry (ABPI) guidelines will not apply.

• Negligent harm: Where studies are carried out in a hospital, the hospital continues to have a duty of care to a participant being treated within the hospital, whether or not the participant is participating in this trial. Cardiff University does not accept liability for any breach in the other hospital's duty of care, or any negligence on the part of employees of hospitals. This applies whether the hospital is an NHS Trust or not. The Sponsor shall indemnify the site against claims arising from the negligent acts and/or omissions of the Sponsor or its employees in connection with the Clinical Trial (including the design of the Protocol to the extent that the Protocol was designed solely by the Sponsor and the Site has adhered to the approved version of the Protocol) save to the extent that any such claim is the result of negligence on the part of the Site or its

All participants will be recruited at NHS sites and therefore the NHS indemnity scheme/NHS professional indemnity will apply with respect to claims arising from harm to participants at site management organisations.

## 21.4 Trial sponsorship

employees.

Cardiff University will act as Sponsor for the main CONSCOP2 trial and FORE AI sub-study. The Sponsor will be delegating certain responsibilities to Cardiff University (CTR), the Chief Investigators, Principal Investigators, host sites and other stakeholder organisations as appropriate in accordance with the relevant agreement that is informed by regulation and trial type.

The Sponsor shall be responsible for ensuring that the trial is performed in accordance with the following:

- Conditions and principles of GCP.
- Declaration of Helsinki (1996).
- UK Policy Framework for Health and Social Care Research.
- The General Data Protection Regulation (2016).
- Other regulatory requirements as appropriate.

The Sponsor has delegated the following responsibilities to the CTR and Chief Investigator:

Obtaining favourable ethics committee opinion and subsequent amendments

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- Selection of investigators and ensuring each site has full trial documentation
- Keeping records of all AEs reported by PIs
- Ensuring recording and prompt reporting of SARs to the CI
- Ensuring PIs are informed of SUSARs
- Providing annual listing of all SARs to investigators using the Annual Safety Report, or Investigator Safety Report
- Reporting serious breaches of GCP or trial protocol within 7 days of initial notification
- Having quality assurance systems in place to ensure that the study is conducted according to
   GCP at all participating sites
- Monitoring of the study

The following responsibilities are delegated to the Principal Investigator at individual participating sites:

- Have in place arrangements to adhere to GCP and the applicable regulatory requirements.
- Have in place arrangements to ensure that all persons assisting with the trial are adequately informed about the protocol and their trial related duties and functions, and maintain a list of appropriately qualified persons to whom the Principal Investigator has delegated significant trial-related duties.
- Ensure the accuracy, completeness, legibility, and timeliness of the data reported to the CTR in the CRFs and in all required reports.
- Keep a copy of all essential documents (as defined in ICH-GCP) and ensure appropriate archiving and destruction once the study has ended.
- Take appropriate urgent safety measures.
- Report urgent safety measures to CTR immediately and no later than 24 hours.
- Report serious breaches of GCP or trial protocol to CTR immediately and no later than 24 hours.

21.5 Funding

The CONSCOP 2 trial is being funded by the NIHR HTA, and the FORE AI sub-study by the NIHR AI in

Health and Care Award.

22 Trial management

22.1 TMG (Trial Management Group)

The Trial Management Group (TMG) will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the trial and will

meet initially every month in order to closely manage the study. The TMG members will include the

Chief Investigator, Co-investigators, CTR representatives, and specialist advisors.

TMG members will be required to sign up to the remit and conditions as set out in the TMG Charter

22.2 TSC (Trial Steering Committee)

• An independent Trial Steering Committee (TSC) which is a committee of independent members

that provides overall supervision of the trial. The role of the TSC is to act on behalf of the Sponsor

and funder, to provide overall supervision for the trial, to ensure that it is conducted in accordance

with GCP, and to provide advice through its independent Chairman. The TSC will decide on

continuing or stopping the trial, or modifying the Protocol. It will meet at least annually and will

consider the results of other trials and new information which has arisen, and recommend

appropriate action.

TSC members will be required to sign up to the remit and conditions as set out in the TSC Charter.

22.3 DMC (Data Monitoring Committee)

DMC members will be required to sign up to the remit and conditions as set out in the DMC Charter.

The DMC will be independent of the investigators, funders and Sponsor and will comprise of an

independent statistician and at least two other independent experts. DMC members will be required

to sign up to the remit and conditions as set out in the DMC Charter.

The DMC will review accruing trial data and assess whether there are any safety issues that need to

be addressed, or if there are any reasons to terminate the trial. Reports to the DMC will be prepared

and presented by the trial statistician prior to the DMC meeting. The trial statistician may be called in

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to the DMC meeting to answer questions, and the DMC may request additional reports or information. The DMC Chairperson will report the DMC recommendations to the TSC. The report may also be submitted to the TMG and if required, the REC.

The Committee's terms of reference, roles and responsibilities will be defined in a charter.

# 23 Quality Control and Assurance

#### 23.1 Monitoring

The clinical trial risk assessment has been used to determine the intensity and focus of central and on-site monitoring activity in the CONSCOP 2 trial and embedded FORE AI study. Low monitoring levels will be employed and are fully documented in the trial monitoring plan based on experience from CONSCOP1.

Investigators should agree to allow trial related monitoring, including audits and regulatory inspections, by providing direct access to source data/documents as required. Participant consent for this will be obtained.

Findings generated from on-site and central monitoring will be shared with the Sponsor, CI, PI & local R&D.

#### 23.2 Audits & inspections

The trial may also be participant to inspection and audit by the Cardiff University under their remit as Sponsor, and the CTR under their delegated duties in managing the trial.

The CI, or PIs and participating sites, will permit audits and REC review, providing direct access to source data and documents.

# 24 Publication policy

Data from all sites will be analysed together and published as soon as possible. Individual participating PIs may not publish data concerning their participants that are directly relevant to questions posed by the trial until the TMG has published its report. The TMG will form the basis of the writing committee and advise on the nature of publications encompassing the main study and embedded sub-studies, subject to the Sponsor's requirements. Publication will be according to the publication policy of the CTR and the CONSCOP2 publication plan. The embedded FORE AI study results will be published separately to the main CONSCOP2 publications.

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Principles regarding authorship and writing

- All proposals for publications using CONSCOP2 data must be approved by the TMG.
- A lead author and wider writing team will be established for each identified paper.
- All potential contributors will have the opportunity to opt into a writing team.
- It is the responsibility of the Chief Investigator (CI) and Study Lead to ensure balance and inclusivity in writing teams across the range of likely study publications, to ensure everyone is appropriately acknowledged and has the opportunity to be involved as an author.
- It is the responsibility of the CI to decide authorship order, usually in discussion with the lead author and Study Lead.
- All named authors must meet authorship criteria (e.g. see http://www.bmj.com/about-bmj/resources-authors/article-submission/authorship-contributorshipauthorship)).
- Submission of abstracts for conference presentation should be agreed in advance with the TMG. Authors should allow sufficient time for their request to be reviewed. This may be completed via email. However, if there is insufficient time for the TMG to review such a request, the CI can make a decision on behalf of the TMG. The body of the presentation (including posters) should be reviewed by the TMG prior to presentation. This may be completed via email.
- All publications should comply with the NIHR policy and guidance on the publication of research outputs which may be issued by the Authority from time to time
- Publications related to FORE AI shall include the following acknowledgement "This report is independent research funded by the National Institute for Health Research (Artificial Intelligence, FORE AI, AI\_AWARD01932) and NHSX. The views expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of the National Institute for Health Research, NHSX or the Department of Health and Social Care."

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# **Appendix 1 – CONSCOP 2 - Training Session Registration Form.**

As part of the CONSCOP-2 trial and training evaluation we would be very grateful if you could provide the following information.

1. Today's date:	
2. Name of hospital or Trust	
3. Name	
4. Professional background	
5a. Do you have prior experience of	Yes / No
chromocolonoscopy?	
5b. If yes to 5a, how many years of experience do	
you have of chromocolonoscopy?	
6a. Would you be willing for a researcher to contact	Yes / No
you to invite you to take part in a telephone/video	
interview for CONSCOP2?	
6b. If yes to 6a, please provide a contact email	
address:	