



Participant Update Newsletter, June 2025

Welcome to the first ARTEMIS Participant Newsletter!
We would like to express our deepest thanks for your participation in the ARTEMIS trial

This trial aims to help to improve the treatment of patients like yourself with rectal cancer. We hope that we will be able to determine whether the addition of an immunotherapy drug, along with radiotherapy and chemotherapy, can serve as a viable alternative treatment to invasive surgery for rectal cancer. This newsletter provides an update on the progress and current status of the trial.

Trial Status

The ARTEMIS trial opened in March 2024 and currently 18 hospitals are taking part. We are delighted that we have already recruited 78 patients for the trial. The graph below shows all the hospitals that are taking part in the trial and the numbers of participants recruited.

We will continue recruiting until we have 140 patients in the trial or until March 2026, whichever comes first. Those patients will be involved in the trial for 2.5 years from the time they start.

Patient and Public Involvement

The ARTEMIS trial is conducted in close collaboration with representatives of the public and patients. They are directly involved in all parts of the trial, including this newsletter. They have helped with issues arising on the trial, including the collection of blood, stool and tissue samples for future rectal cancer research.

For more details on the trial please refer to your Patient Information Sheet or ask your doctor or research nurse. You can also visit the trial website at <https://ctru.leeds.ac.uk/artemis/>.

Graph to show the hospitals currently open to ARTEMIS and the number of participants recruited at each centre

