

## **Patients' and carers' experience of participating in a feasibility randomised controlled biomarker trial (BISCORT): a qualitative study**

The BISCORT study is a feasibility randomised controlled trial (RCT) which evaluated the impact of a specialist breathlessness service on salivary cortisol, a biological measure of chronic stress, in patients and their carers. Within this study, patients with advanced disease, along with their carers, were asked to adhere to a 2-day multiple-sample saliva self-collection protocol, which was repeated at a number of timepoints for the duration of the trial. Given this novel methodological feature and its potential to impact on participant burden and trial complexity, a qualitative study was conducted in parallel with the trial with a view to exploring patients' and carers' experience of participating in it. I will be presenting the results of this study, describing patients' and carers' experience of salivary cortisol methodology and RCT participation, and sharing the insights gained through this research into the attitudes of patients with advanced disease to research participation.