



OPRI

Observational and Pragmatic
Research International

DECEMBER 2025

OPRI NEWSLETTER

STRIVING TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF PATIENTS
THROUGH REAL LIFE RESEARCH

Volume 8

OPRI EVENTS 2025

The CONQUEST UK National Steering Committee Event London, England

In July, members of the **CONQUEST UK National Steering Committee**, representing clinical practice, academia, and industry convened at the Royal College of General Practitioners in London to celebrate recent successes and discuss the core research project for 2025: "CONQUEST Advance".

"**CONQUEST ADVANCE**" is a retrospective UK study that answers questions beyond the scope of the PREVAIL trial. ADVANCE will measure the implementation of CONQUEST-aligned clinical activity in practices receiving the fully supported program compared with non-participating practices.

CONQUEST
Collaboration On Quality Improvement Initiative
for Achieving Excellence in Standards of COPD Care.



Royal College of
General Practitioners



Celebrating Two CONQUEST/PREVAIL Publications:

1. Practical Strategies for Achieving System Change in the US: Lessons and Insights from the CONQUEST Quality Improvement Program | [**Primary Health Care Research & Development**](#)
2. PRagmatic EVALuation of an Improvement program for people Living with modifiable high-risk COPD (PREVAIL) vs usual care: protocol for a cluster randomized trial | [**J of COPD Foundation**](#)

To learn more about CONQUEST and our ongoing research, visit [our website](#).

OPRI PRESENTATIONS 2025

 Telford, England


Fostair vs Symbicort: CLinical effectiveness of anti-inflammatory reliever therapies (AIR) for exacerbation prevention: a non-inferiority study

Presenter: **Arthur Jackson**

- To assess whether beclometasone-formoterol (BDP-F) used as an anti-inflammatory reliever (AIR) is non-inferior to budesonide-formoterol (BUD-F) in achieving asthma control, while also comparing inhaled corticosteroid (ICS) use, treatment persistence, and healthcare utilisation.
- BDP-F AIR was non-inferior to BUD-F AIR for asthma control, with both regimens showing increased ICS use, similar rates of therapy switching, and comparable healthcare utilisation.


[ABSTRACT](#)
[PRESENTATION](#)

Measuring the Impact of the CONQUEST COPD Quality Improvement Programme in UK Primary Care

Presenter: **Alexander Evans**

- Initiation or step-up to appropriate therapy in the CONQUEST period was more likely in the intervention arm, in both newly diagnosed and already diagnosed MHR patients, compared to controls.
- Patients with potentially undiagnosed MHR COPD receiving the CONQUEST QIP were significantly more likely to receive a COPD diagnosis alongside confirmatory spirometry within the CONQUEST period compared to controls.

[ABSTRACT](#)
[POSTER](#)

 Amsterdam, Netherlands

- 2025 saw ICRA host two pivotal meetings during ERS, Amsterdam. There was an overall focus on fulfilling ICRA's mission to drive global collaboration, conduct research, and advance education and advocacy in the cardiopulmonary field.
- The first session was held with our panel of Committee Members, bringing together world renowned respiratory and cardiovascular specialists.
- ICRA's second meeting at ERS brought together an array of experts from academia, industry and research organisations. We discussed how ICRA can play a pivotal role in future proofing industry and research methods and recognised the partnership of dual specialist patient pathway improvement and educational materials.
- These sessions shared year-to-date highlights and covered research priorities for the coming year and how we intend to work together to achieve these.

To learn more about ICRA, please visit [our website](#).

OPRI MEETINGS 2025

 **Amsterdam, Netherlands**



ISAR **WORKING GROUP MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**



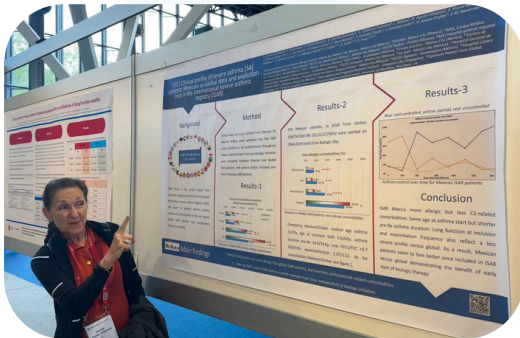
ISAR Steering Committee (ISC) & MOONLIGHT Working Group Meeting

- 36 attendees (29 in-person, 7 virtual)
- ISAR’s achievements since the start of the ISAR Extension
- Tezepelumab study opportunity
- Long-term sustainability of ISAR
- MOONLIGHT updates



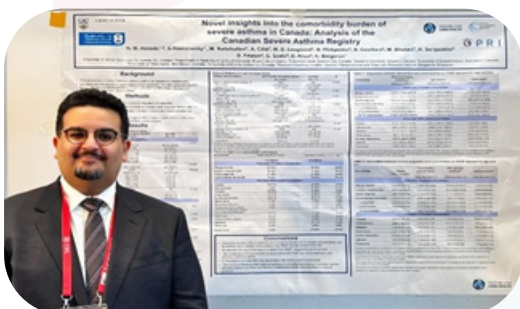
ISAR Research Updates & SHINE Working Group Meeting

- 45 attendees (39 in-person, 6 virtual)
- ISAR’s publications in 2025
- 2 ISAR posters at ERS: Canada and Mexico’s comorbidity analyses
- GLEAM and SHINE updates



Quality Improvement (QI) & ENLIGHTEN Working Group Meeting

- 42 attendees (38 in-person, 4 virtual)
- ISAR’s QI goal 2026 discussion
- Tools: REDCap Lite, OCS risk calculator, RESA (Dr Wenjia Chen)
- ENLIGHTEN updates



SPOTLIGHT Working Group Meeting

- 36 attendees (33 in person, 3 virtual)
- SPOTLIGHT updates

ISAR Industry Symposium

- 32 attendees (31 in person, 1 virtual)
- ISAR’s successes and collaboration opportunities with potential industry partners

Country Meetings

- The ISAR team met with collaborators from 21 countries.

To learn more about ISAR and our ongoing research, visit [our website](#).

OPRI PRESENTATIONS 2025

 Amsterdam, Netherlands


Extrafine beclometasone/formoterol is non-inferior to budesonide/formoterol as maintenance and reliever therapy (MART) for adult asthma patients and reduces inhaler-related greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions

Presenter: **Christine Jenkins**

- To assess whether Fostair MART (BDP/FF-MART) is non-inferior to Symbicort MART (BUD/FF-MART) for preventing exacerbations and achieving asthma control, and to explore the impact on inhaler-related carbon footprint.
- BDP/FF-MART was non-inferior to BUD/FF-MART for both exacerbation prevention and asthma control, while also reducing the overall carbon footprint from inhaler use.

[ABSTRACT](#)
[POSTER](#)

Long-term exacerbation trends before/after initiating triple therapy for uncontrolled asthma

Presenter: **Nicolas Roche**

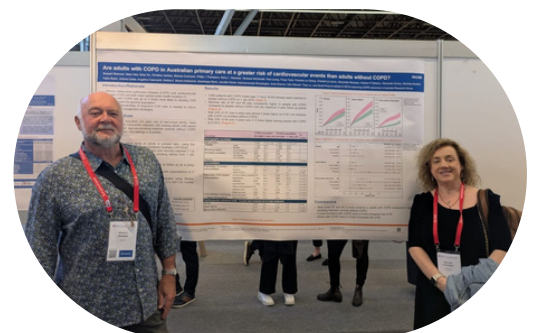
- To investigate whether stepping up from medium-strength ICS/LABA to medium-strength beclomethasone/formoterol/glycopyrronium (MS-BDP/FF/G) reduces long-term exacerbations in patients with uncontrolled asthma.
- MS-BDP/FF/G triple therapy was associated with a significant reduction in exacerbation rates, with more patients remaining exacerbation-free compared to the year before treatment.

[ABSTRACT](#)
[POSTER](#)

Are adults with COPD in Australian primary care at a greater risk of cardiovascular events than adults without COPD?

Presenter: **Russell Wiseman**

- To compare the risk of new-onset cardiovascular disease events (stroke, heart failure, myocardial infarction) in adults with and without COPD using long-term primary care data from Australia.
- Adults with COPD had a 2–3 times higher risk of developing CVD events compared to matched controls, highlighting the need for targeted prevention and management strategies in this population.


[ABSTRACT](#)
[POSTER](#)

OPRI PRESENTATIONS 2025

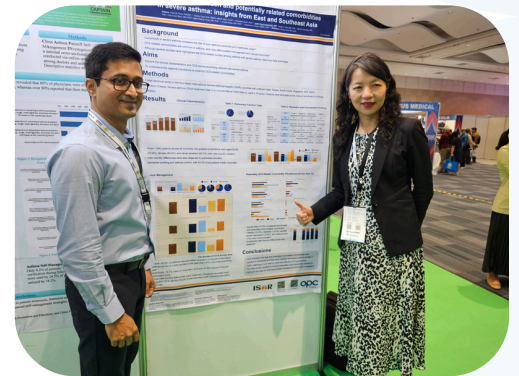
 **Manila, Philippines**



Corticosteroid burden and potentially related comorbidities in severe asthma: insights from East and Southeast Asia

Presenter: Joshi Sachin Ravindra

- To assess the burden of oral corticosteroid (OCS) use and the prevalence of potentially OCS-related comorbidities among severe asthma patients from four Asian countries in ISAR.
- Nearly half of Asian severe asthma patients required long-term or frequent OCS, with a high prevalence of OCS-related comorbidities such as obesity, diabetes, and anxiety/depression, underscoring the urgent need for OCS-stewardship programs in the region.



[ABSTRACT](#)

[POSTER](#)



British Thoracic Society

Winter Meeting 2025

The potential effect of Glucagon-Like Peptide 1 Receptor Agonists (GLP1s) on chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) exacerbations, a case control analyses

Presenter: Bernardino Alcázar

- To evaluate whether GLP-1 receptor agonists (GLP-1RAs), prescribed for type 2 diabetes, are associated with reduced exacerbations and improved respiratory outcomes in patients with comorbid COPD using real-world UK data.
- GLP-1RA therapy was linked to a significantly lower risk of COPD exacerbations, oral corticosteroid use, and respiratory hospitalisations, suggesting a potential protective respiratory effect that warrants confirmation in large-scale randomized trials.



[ABSTRACT](#)

[PRESENTATION](#)

 **London, England**

Clinical effectiveness of anti-inflammatory reliever therapies (AIR) for exacerbation prevention: a non-inferiority study

Presenter: Michael Crooks

- To investigate non-inferiority of beclometasone-formoterol (BDP-F) AIR compared with budesonide-formoterol (BUD-F) AIR for exacerbation prevention, and to compare oral corticosteroid (OCS) use and acute cardiovascular (CVD) events.
- BDP-F AIR is non-inferior to BUD-F AIR for exacerbation prevention, results in greater reductions in OCS use, and has comparable outcomes for acute CVD events.

[ABSTRACT](#)

[POSTER](#)

OPRI FACULTY NEWS

OPRI Welcomes John Busby, PhD, Head of Medical Epidemiology



[@John Busby on LinkedIn](#)

John joined OPRI UK in August 2025 as Head of Medical Epidemiology, leading the organisation's epidemiology team. Prior to this, he spent over 15 years in academia, most recently as a Senior Lecturer in Medical Statistics at Queen's University Belfast.

With a primary research focus on severe asthma, John has collaborated with **OPRI** for several years through various **ISAR** and **OPCRD** projects. Drawn by the opportunity to work alongside a talented team and access some of the world's richest respiratory datasets, he aims to provide strong epidemiological leadership to an already impressive and productive group.

John is also eager to expand his skill set and help translate **OPRI's** real-world data into meaningful improvements in patient outcomes.

CELEBRATING 5 YEARS OF IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENT!

Sophie Harriman, LL.B

Global Relations & Contracts Lead

Sophie joined OPRI five years ago as a commercial lawyer transitioning from boutique private practice. In her previous role, she supported great clients, but her involvement was often limited to specific matters. At **OPRI**, she has been part of the whole business — across **OPC**, **OPC Global**, and **OPC Australia** — seeing how everything connects and why each decision or contract term truly matters.

One of the most rewarding parts has been seeing the real-world impact of our research. It's inspiring to know our work helps improve lives and that our team plays a role in making that happen.

The variety has been a highlight — new collaborations, complex negotiations, and strategic projects — along with opportunities to attend conferences across Europe and the US, connecting with passionate colleagues and partners worldwide.

This role has challenged her, broadened her perspective, and, most importantly, allowed her to contribute to something genuinely meaningful.



[@Sophie Harriman on LinkedIn](#)

OPRI FACULTY NEWS

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENT!

Emma-Jane Loveridge, MSc

Chief Planning and Strategy Officer

Five years at **Optimum Patient Care (OPC)** and **Observational and Pragmatic Research Institute (OPRI)** and I am still standing and smiling. It has been a blur of data, deadlines, and the occasional existential debate about ISO clauses. But what a ride it has been!

One of my proudest achievements has been creating our governance and compliance framework, otherwise known as ‘the rulebook that keeps us sane’. From *DSPT* and *DTAC* to *ISO*, *EcoVadis*, *Carbon Disclosure Project*, and the *Good Business Charter*, it is our blueprint for doing the right thing.

So, five years in, what have I learned? That research and data is fun and the other half of the healthcare coin that I was missing in my 30-year healthcare career, acronyms never end, and the best ideas often start over coffee. OPC and OPRI is not just a workplace, it is where innovation meets humanity... and where you are as likely to be planning a charity challenge or a team treasure hunt as you are a strategy.



[@Emma-Jane Loveridge on LinkedIn](#)

William Henley, PhD

Senior Researcher

Over the past five years, it has been a privilege to work with the global team at **OPRI** and collaborators on a range of impactful projects that have the potential to improve the lives of patients. As a statistical methodologist, he particularly enjoy tackling the thorny challenges that arise when evaluating causal questions in real-world data.

A few highlights from his time with **OPRI** have included publication of evidence on the response to biologic therapy for severe asthma patients along a gradient of T2 involvement, utilising statistical methods he has developed to tackle unmeasured confounding in studies of dual and triple inhaler therapy and leading on the analysis of a cluster-randomised trial of a digital adherence support package for COPD.

On a personal note, participating in the *8th REG Summit* in *March 2023* provided an opportunity for a memorable road trip from a family holiday in Barcelona to the conference in Lisbon! He looks forward to continuing to play a role in the vision of using modern data science methods to generate robust evidence from real-world data to advance patient care.



[@William Henley on LinkedIn](#)

2025 PUBLICATIONS

OPCRD DATASOURCE

1. Francesca Gonnelli, et al. **Incidence and survival of Interstitial Lung Diseases in the UK from 2010 to 2019: real-world data from primary care.** ERJ Open Res. 2025. [Full Text](#)
2. Brooklyn Stanley, et al. **Predicting risk of morbidities associated with oral corticosteroid prescription for asthma.** J Allergy Clin Immunol. 2025. [Full Text](#)
3. Alan Kaplan, et al. **The real world impact of Glucagon-like peptide 1 receptor agonists on asthma control in people with obesity and high-risk asthma.** Adv Ther. 2025. [Full Text](#)
4. Katherine Hickman, et al. **PRagmatic EVALuation of an Improvement program for people Living with modifiable high-risk COPD (PREVAIL) vs usual care: protocol for a cluster randomized trial.** J COPD F. 2025. [Full Text](#)
5. Paul E. Pfeffer, et al. **Association of frequent short-acting beta-agonist inhaler prescriptions with acute cardiovascular events.** Prag Obs Res. 2025. [Full Text](#)

CPRD DATASOURCE

- Xiao Xu, et al. **Systemic corticosteroid dose-response effects in asthma: an observational cohort study.** ERJ Open Res. 2025. [Full Text](#)

ISAR DATASOURCE

1. Andréanne Côté, et al. **Poor agreement among asthma specialists on the choice and timing of initiation of a biologic treatment for severe asthma patients. (CHOIX BIO).** J Allergy Clin Immunol Pract. 2025. [Full Text](#)
1. Andréanne Côté, et al. **Poor agreement among asthma specialists on the choice and timing of initiation of a biologic treatment for severe asthma patients. (CHOIX BIO).** J Allergy Clin Immunol Pract. 2025. [Full Text](#)
3. Désirée Larenas-Linnemann, et al. **International Severe Asthma Registry (ISAR) – 2017-2024 Status and Progress Update.** Tuberc Respir Dis (Seoul). 2025. [Full Text](#)
4. Eileen Wang, et al. **Response to biologics along a gradient of T2-involvement in patients with severe asthma: a data-driven biomarker clustering approach (EMBER).** J Allergy Clin Immunol Pract. 2025. [Full Text](#)
5. Florence Schleich, et al. **Biomarker profile and disease burden associated with intermittent and long-term oral corticosteroid use in patients with severe asthma prior to biologic initiation in real-life (STAR).** World Allergy Organization J. 2025. [Full Text](#)
6. Mohsen Sadatsafavi, et al. **Prevention of Cardiovascular and Other Systemic Adverse Outcomes in Patients with Asthma Treated with Biologics (SOLAR II).** Am J Respir Crit Care Med. 2025. [Full Text](#)

2025 PUBLICATIONS

ISAR DATASOURCE

7. Mohsen Sadatsafavi, et al. **Reply to Liu et al., Zhou et al., and Dong et al.** Am J Respir Crit Care Med. 2025. [Full Text](#)
8. Trung N. Tran, et al. **Real-World Biologic Use Patterns in Severe Asthma, 2015–2021: the CLEAR Study.** Pragmat Obs Res. 2025. [Full Text](#)
9. Wenjia Chen, et al. **Impact of biologic initiation on oral corticosteroid use in the International Severe Asthma Registry and the Optimum Patient Care Research Database: a pooled analysis of real-world evidence (SOLAR I).** J Allergy Clin Immunol Pract. 2025. [Full Text](#)

OPCRDA DATASOURCE

1. John Blakey, et al, on behalf of the Australia Research Group. **A 21-practice evaluation of an asthma and COPD quality improvement program.** JAA. 2025. [Full Text](#)
2. Christine Jenkins, et al. **Patterns of Care in the Management of High-Risk COPD in Australia (2015-2019): An Observational Study for the CONQUEST Quality Improvement Program.** Lancet Reg Health West Pac. 2025. [Full Text](#)

CONQUEST DATASOURCE

- Alexander Evans, et al. **Practical Strategies for Achieving System Change in the US: Lessons and Insights from the CONQUEST Quality Improvement Program.** Prim Health Care Res Dev. 2025. [Full Text](#)

ICRA

- Tobin Joseph, et al. **Derivation and definitions of clinical study variables for multiple long term conditions in patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease: Protocol for a modified Delphi methods and consensus study on behalf of the International Cardiovascular and Respiratory Alliance.** Prag Obs Res. 2025. [Full Text](#)

PUBLICATIONS IN PRESS

- Laura Lim, et al. **Economic Burden of Asthma Multimorbidity in Singapore and the Shadow Costs of Air Quality and Steroid Use: Evidence from National Health Administrative Data (2012–2019).** WAOJ. [Accepted](#)

To learn more about our publications and ongoing work, visit [our Publications website](#).


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