



21-03-19

Dear colleague,

From the 1st of April 2019 we will start recruiting children with myopia for possible participation in a multi-centre trial funded by NIHR comparing low dose atropine eye-drops (0.01%) with placebo.

The **inclusion criteria** are:

- Age 6-12 years
- Myopia of -0.5D or greater (spherical equivalent refractive error) in both eyes
- No other ocular morbidities (i.e., good vision with correction)

I would be very grateful if you could tell parents about this study. In brief, children will need to use drops daily for 2 years... Allocation is 2:1 (twice as many children will have atropine than placebo).

Children will need to have a research visit at NI Clinical Research Facility (NICRF) in Belfast every 6 months, for 2 years. They will continue to attend your practice for prescription glasses

We will pay a small fee of £20 per child recruited in the trial to the referring optometrist.

If parents want to have more information, and arrange directly an appointment for further discussion with the research team, they can phone the NICRF office at: [028 9504 0342](tel:02895040342)

They can also contact me directly via e-mail: a.azuara-blanco@qub.ac.uk

If you have any questions please give me a ring (e-mail or direct office phone: 02890971655)

Thank you

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'A. Azuara-Blanco'.

Augusto Azuara-Blanco

Cc. Prof. Kathryn Saunders
Dr. Ruth Hogg