



JOINT STATEMENT OF SUPPORT: BRITISH Trial: A National Priority for Improving Care in NICM

British Cardiovascular Society (BCS)

British Heart Rhythm Society (BHRS)

British Society for Heart Failure (BSH)

British Society of Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance (BSCMR)

The BCS, the BHRS, the BSH, and the BSCMR jointly recognise the importance of the BRITISH Trial and strongly support its successful completion.

BRITISH is a major British Heart Foundation-funded, UK-led clinical trial designed to determine whether cardiovascular magnetic resonance (CMR) can guide decisions regarding implantable cardioverter-defibrillator (ICD) therapy in patients with non-ischaemic cardiomyopathy (NICM). This is a long-standing and clinically significant question that directly impacts treatment decisions, resource use, patient experience, and future guideline development.

Current international guidelines acknowledge the uncertainty regarding ICD benefit in NICM, and the absence of definitive evidence supporting imaging-based risk stratification. BRITISH is uniquely positioned to address this gap and to generate high-quality, UK-derived evidence that may influence practice nationally and internationally.

Over 500 patients have now been randomised across participating centres, reflecting substantial effort from clinical and research teams. The study aims to recruit 1252 patients and is behind schedule, as such, continued and enhanced recruitment is essential to ensure the study reaches the required sample size and delivers conclusive results.

The four societies therefore jointly:

1. **Affirm the scientific importance** of the BRITISH Trial and its potential to shape future recommendations for ICD implantation in NICM.
2. **Encourage all centres** involved in the care of patients with NICM to:
 - o Actively identify eligible patients,
 - o Support recruitment processes within their local pathways.
3. **Highlight the value of national collaboration**, noting that the UK has an opportunity to demonstrate international leadership in device therapy and advanced cardiac imaging research.

The societies are fully supportive of BRITISH and encourage all centres to work with local research teams and the study investigators to help complete this important trial.



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