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UK Biobank Eye & Vision Consortium: October 2013

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: Report on International Advisory Board Meeting by Dr Tim Sprosen,
University of Oxford

Progress update

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Resurvey in 20,000 participants

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This was completed recently and includes participants repeating the entire baseline visit, including the eye measurements. The average time since the baseline visit is around 3-4 years and the data are available to view in the Data Showcase on the website.

Accelerometry

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Triaxial wrist-worn activity monitors that are worn for 7 days have just begun being sent to participants. The target is 100,000 participants and the data should be available in the next couple of years.

Bioassays

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Laboratory analysis has just commenced on a standard panel of 40 biomarkers from blood and urine samples from all 500,000 participants. The data will be available in the next couple of years.

MRI pilot

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A pilot study is funded and will start early next year to do MRI scans (brain/heart/abdomen), whole-body iDXA and 3D carotid-ultrasound on 2-4,000 pilots. If feasible, the main study will then scan 100,000 participants making it the largest population imaging study ever undertaken.

Genotyping

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Funding has been secured to genotype all 500,000 participants using a specially designed Affymetrix 'UK Biobank chip' that includes 800,000 SNPs. The data will be available around 2015.

Linkage to Hospitalisation (HES) data

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The data showcase already includes longitudinal follow-up data for death and cancer and by the end of this year will include HES data. The hospital data will initially include the years 2006-11 and all data will be coded (ICD9-10), including eye data.

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