

Reflections of a Trials Methodology Research Partnership (TMRP) PhD student on attending the ICTMC 2022 conference

I am Arabella Baker, a final year trials methodology PhD student at the University of Nottingham. I was looking forward to attending the International Clinical Trials Methodology Conference (ICTMC) held on 3—6 October at Harrogate. This was the first time I attended and presented at a conference and was excited to take part in this lively meeting, centred around the latest advances in trials methodology research.

I thoroughly enjoyed ICTMC – it was an unforgettable positive experience. The scientific programme was highly interesting, diverse and thought-provoking. It was great to hear about the fantastic research going on in all aspects of trials methodology worldwide, especially around outcomes research and recruitment. Being a TMRP student representative, I was particularly pleased that PhD students were also given the opportunity to showcase their research. It was impressive to see that 30 students received oral presentations and 30 had posters at this prestigious conference, which demonstrates that students are nurtured and supported in this community and are seen as important individuals who can add value to trials methodology. It was good to meet people in person and socialise, especially from the wider TMRP group. This conference enabled spontaneous conversations and brought together people, providing networking opportunities and bringing on potential collaborations in the future. The fact that I won the prize for Best Student Oral Presentation made this conference even more special and memorable for me. Congratulations to all fellow award winners. Until next time... ICTMC!