Baby born under 28 weeks' gestation admitted to the Neonatal Unit
↓
Check eligibility
↓
Discuss study with parents, using the patient information sheet
↓
Obtain written consent and study randomisation number
↓
Take blood from mother for TT4, FT4, TT3, FT3, TSH, TPO, TRAB, cortisol
↓
Prescribe thyroxine/placebo from Pharmacy at 8mcg/kg birth weight/day until 32 weeks CGA.
↓
Obtain bloods for TT4, FT4, TT3, FT3, TSH, early morning cortisol and ACTH level to coincide with routine bloods before commencing treatment
↓
Obtain salivary cortisol (100microlitres) at 0:00, 15:00, 21:00 before commencing treatment
↓
Measure infants head circumference, lower leg length (knemometry), weight before commencing treatment
↓
Obtain bloods for TT4, FT4, TT3, FT3, TSH, early morning cortisol and ACTH level to coincide with routine bloods on Day 14
↓
Obtain salivary cortisol (100microlitres) at 0:00, 15:00, 21:00 on Day 14
↓
Measure infants head circumference, lower leg length (knemometry), weight on Day 14
↓
Discuss brain MRI scanning with parents at a time when the infant is clinically stable
↓
Obtain written consent for MRI scanning
↓
Obtain bloods for TT4, FT4, TT3, FT3, TSH to coincide with routine bloods on Day 21
↓
Measure infants head circumference, lower leg length (knemometry), weight on Day 21
↓
Obtain bloods for TT4, FT4, TT3, FT3, TSH, early morning cortisol and ACTH level to coincide with routine bloods on Day 28
↓
Obtain salivary cortisol (100microlitres) 0:00, 15:00, 21:00 on Day 28
↓
Measure infant’s head circumference, lower leg length (knemometry), weight on Day 28
↓
Obtain bloods for TT4, FT4, TT3, FT3, TSH, early morning cortisol and ACTH level to coincide with routine bloods at 36 Weeks CGA
↓
Obtain salivary cortisol (100microlitres) at 0:00, 15:00, 21:00 at 36 Weeks CGA
↓
Measure infant’s head circumference, lower leg length (knemometry), weight at 36 Weeks CGA
↓
Measure width of subarachnoid space using cranial ultrasound at 36 Weeks CGA
↓
Measure thyroid gland size at 36 Weeks CGA
↓
Brain MRI scan at if consent obtained at term equivalent