

How to motivate clinicians to do research

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For most clinicians, delivering healthcare is their full-time job and doing research is something extra

Doing clinical research is difficult

- Obtaining funding
- Getting research and governance approvals
- Recruiting participants
- Following Good Clinical Practice for research
- Complying with data protection regulations
- Coping with missing data and study attrition
- Analysing data and writing papers

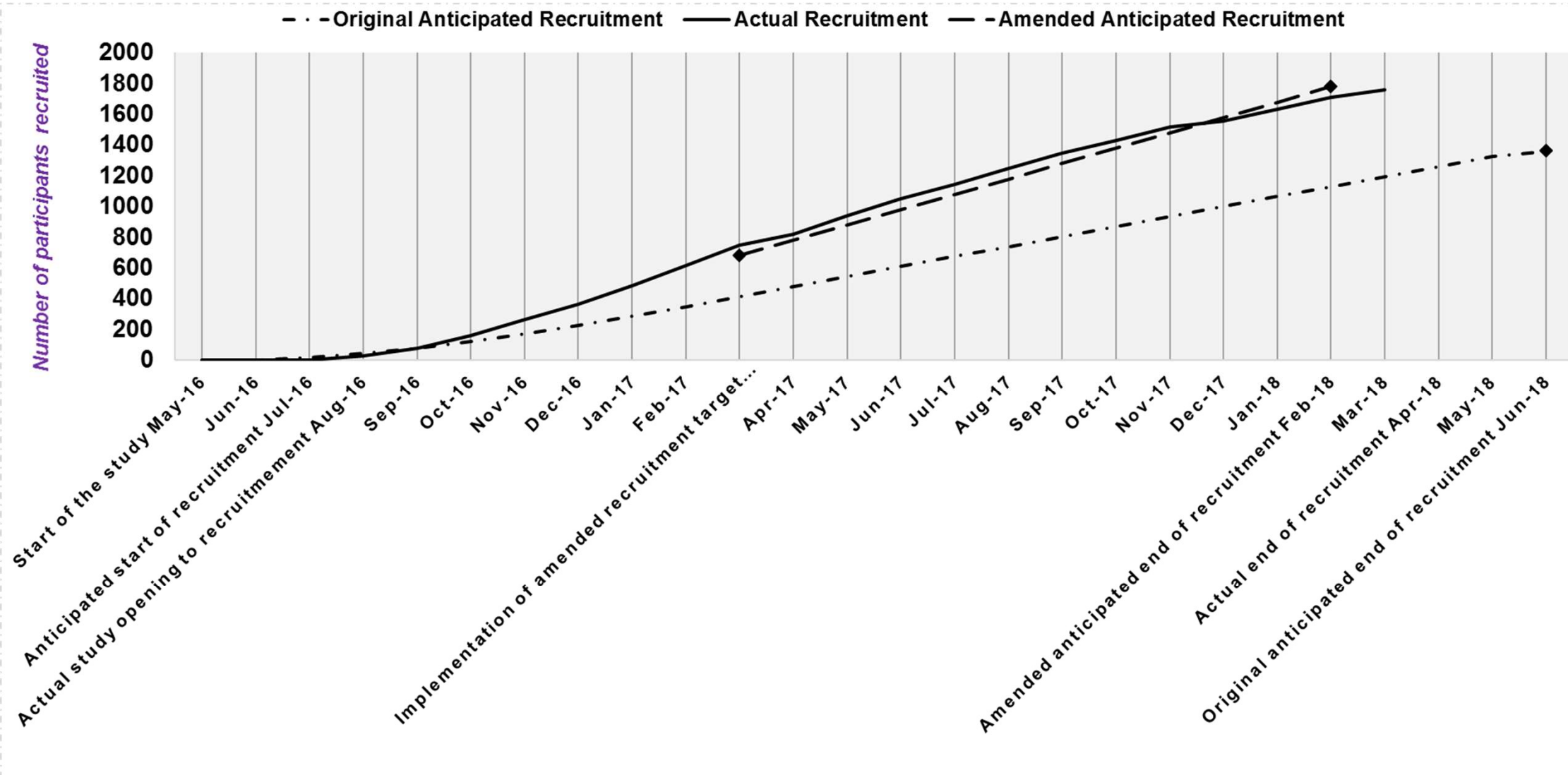
Barriers to clinicians undertaking research

- Lack of time
- Lack of resources
- Lack of infrastructure
- Lack of incentives
- Lack of recognition
- Lack of experience
- Lack of training
- Lack of confidence

Things that can help

- Engage colleagues in the design of the study
- Ensure that the study is not too onerous (for either the participant or the clinician)
- Ensure the study fits in with existing clinical pathways
- Minimise the burden of data collection
- Provide (encouraging) feedback on performance
- Use or create a network of researchers for mutual support
- Offer rewards – financial or intellectual (authorship, conference attendance)

PiPS2 study – a study that went well



PiPS2 study

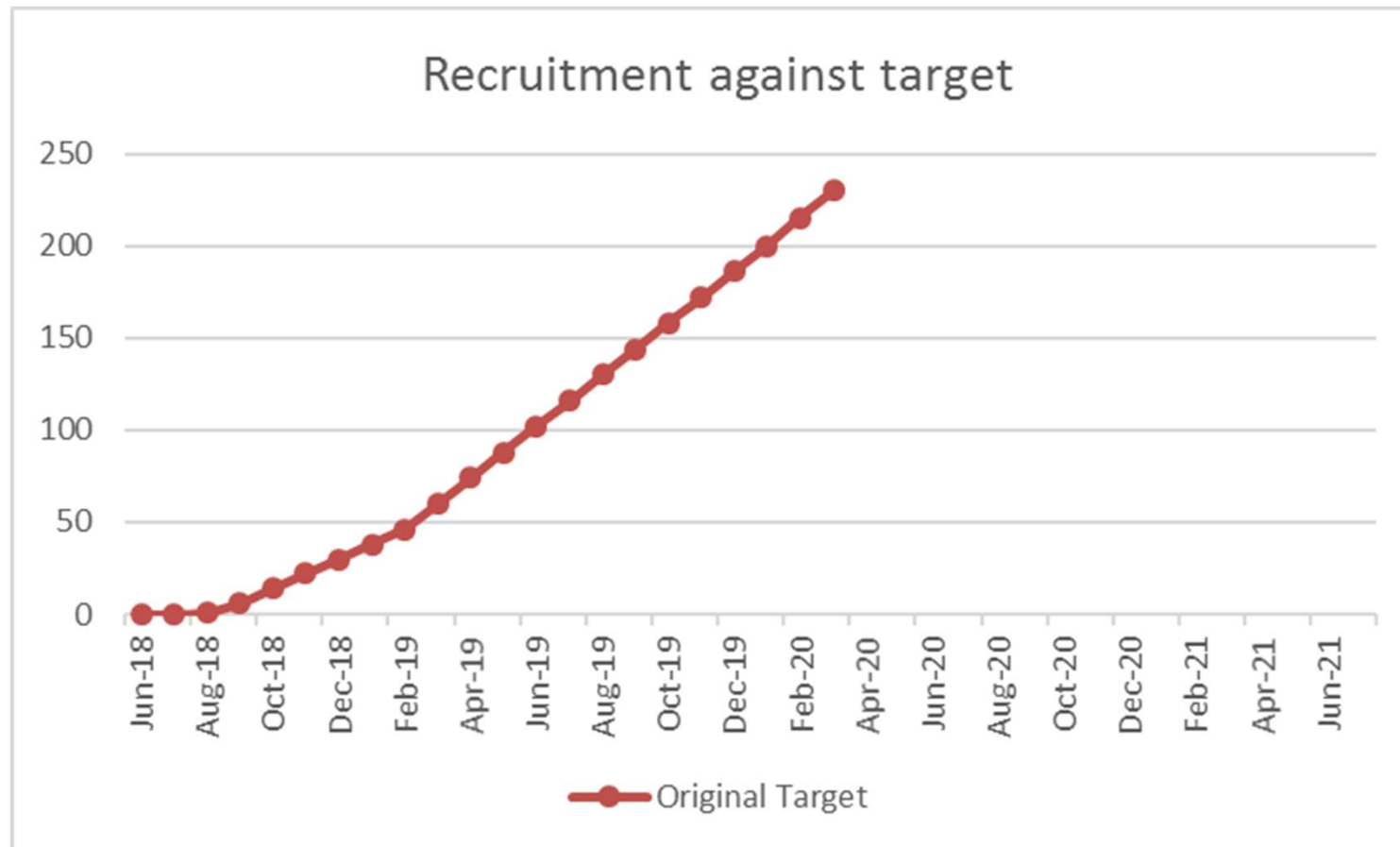
Barriers

- Mostly full-time clinicians
- Mostly hospices with no research infrastructure

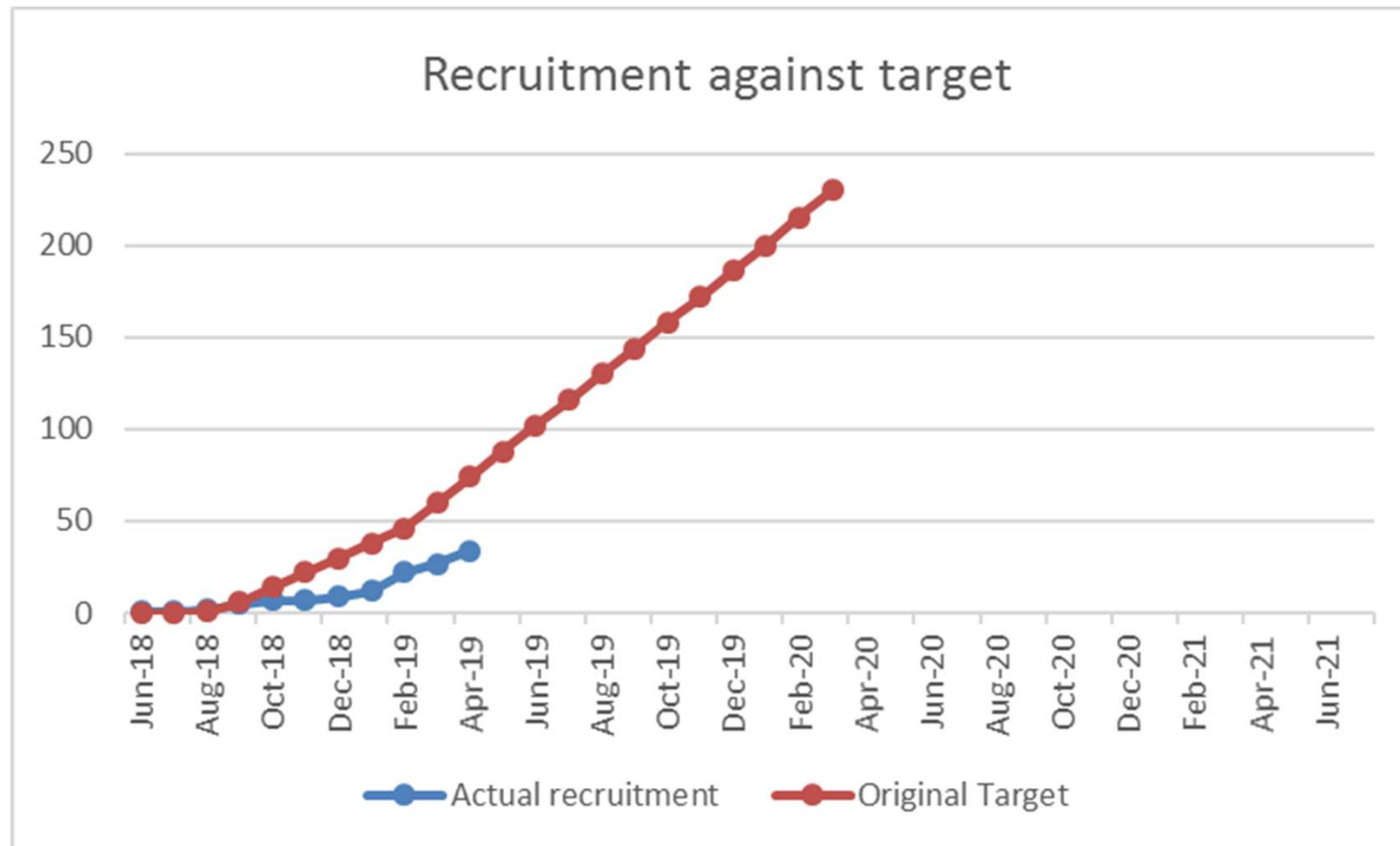
Facilitators

- Observational study
- Endorsed by National Research body
- Recruitment recognized and acknowledged by peers
- Clinicians regarded research question as important and relevant
- Close monitoring
- Simple study design
- Minimal data collection burden
- Small fee per participant for accrual
- Newsletter to promote friendly competition
- Authorship

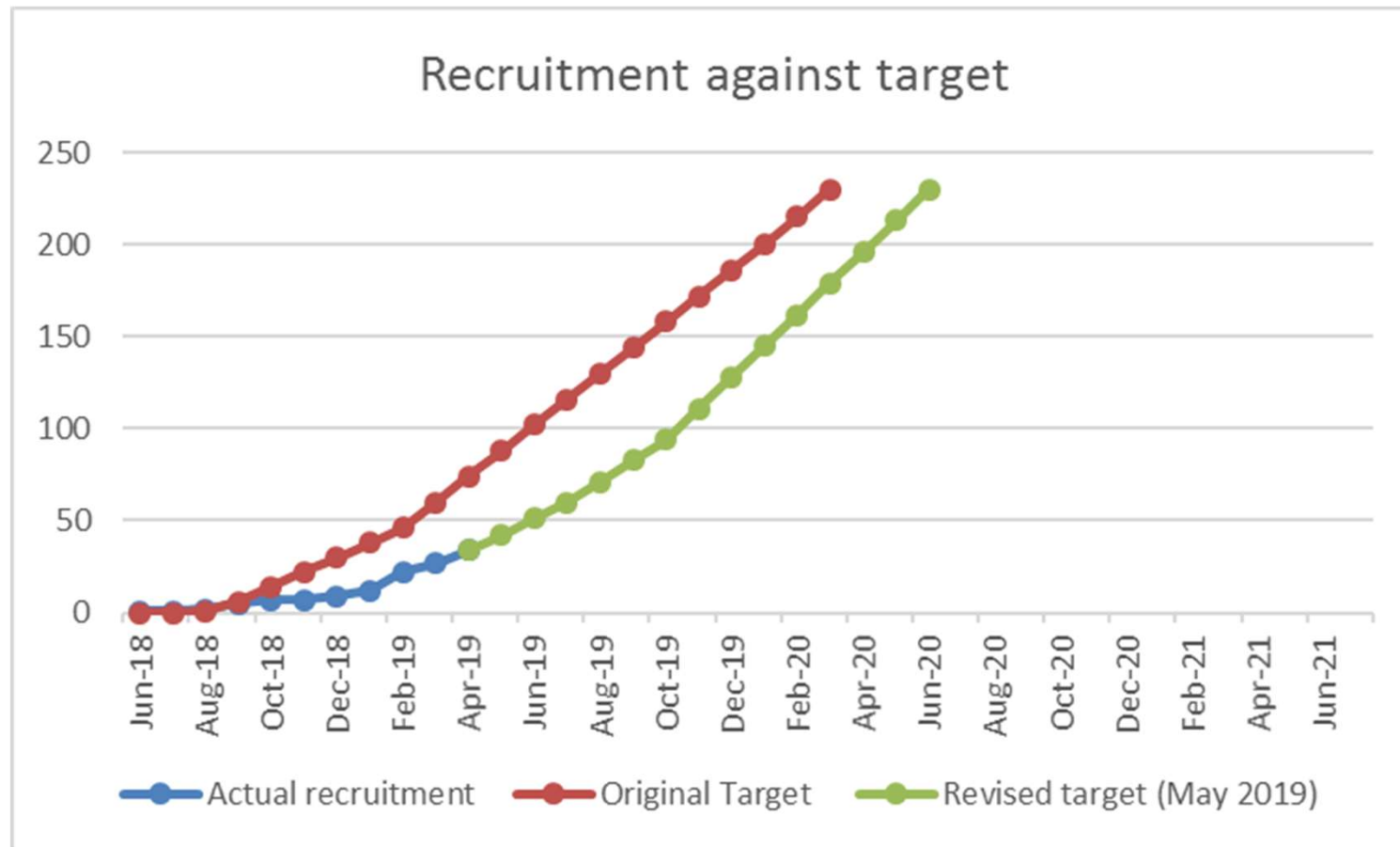
MePFAC – a study with more challenges



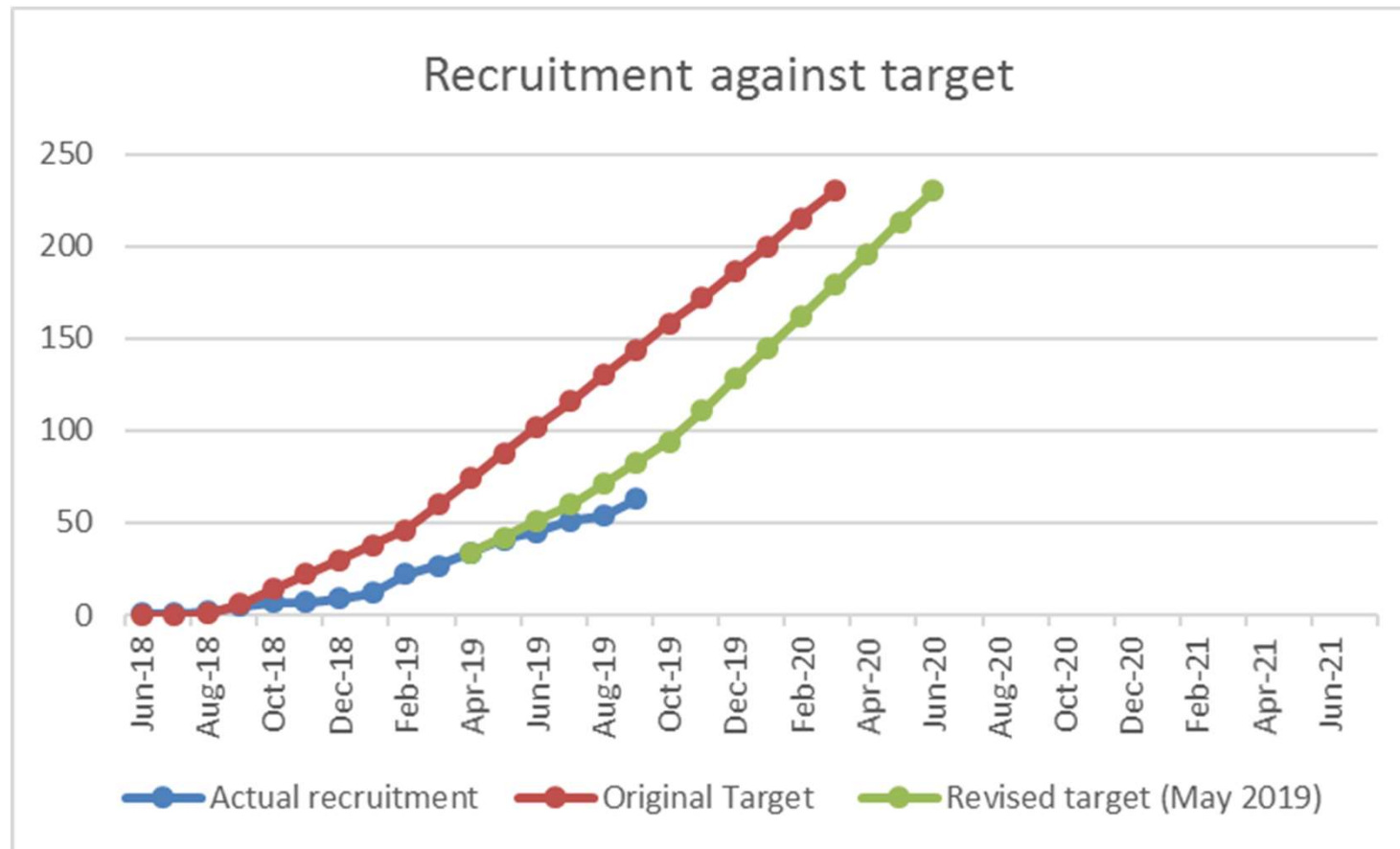
MePFAC— a study with more challenges



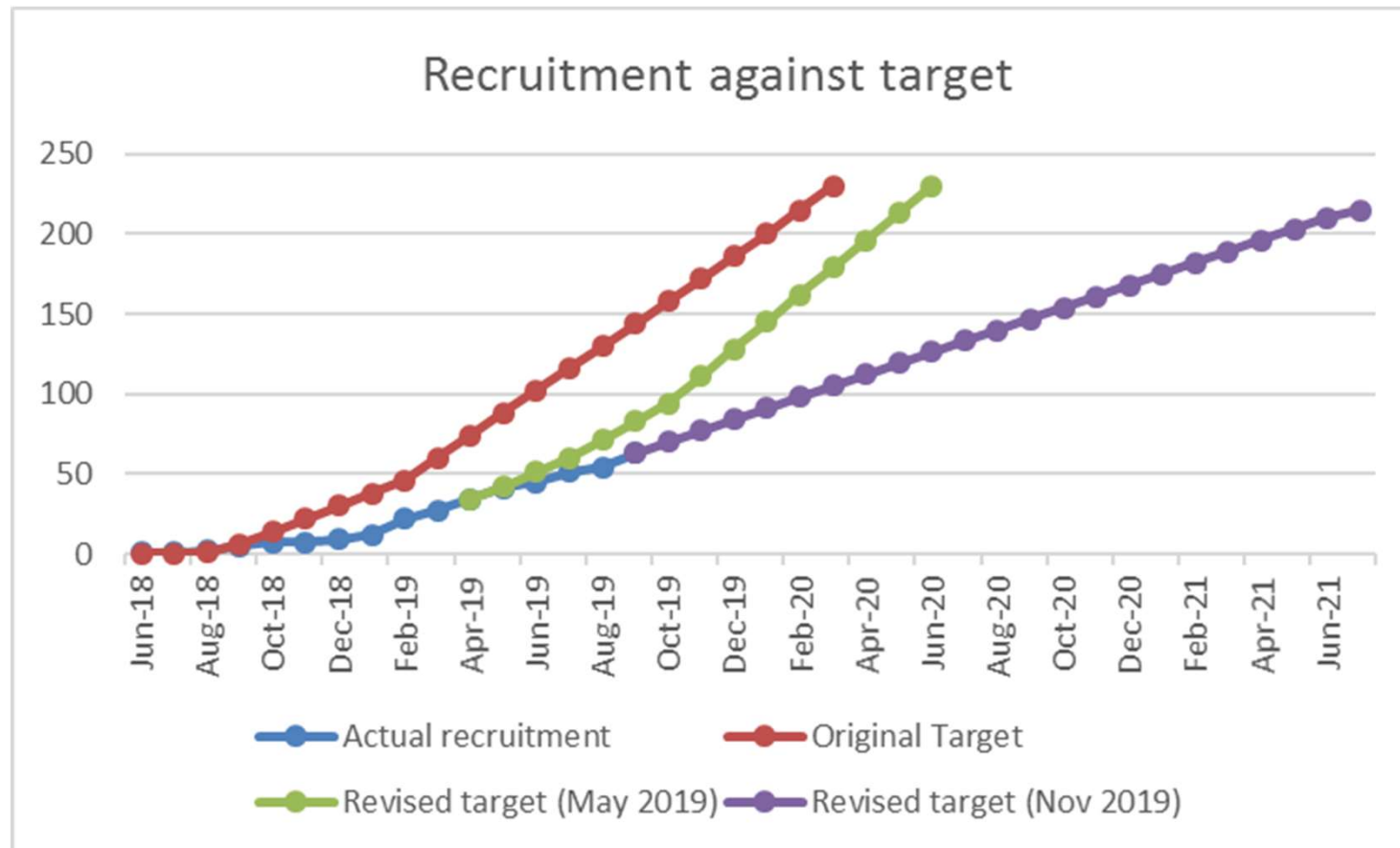
MePFAC— a study with more challenges



MePFAC– a study with more challenges



MePFAC – a study with more challenges



MePFAC study

Barriers

- Randomised controlled trial
- Difficulty with finding experienced PI
- Even harder to find cover for leave
- Limited access to research nurse support
- Burdensome regulatory requirements
- Additional workload
- Restrictive inclusion and exclusion criteria
- Low level recruitment leads to lack of positive feedback

Facilitators

- Endorsed by National Research body
- Recruitment recognized and acknowledged by peers
- Clinicians regarded research question as important and relevant
- Small fee per participant for accrual
- Regular teleconferences

Conclusions

- Clinical research is difficult
- Clinicians do not necessarily see research as a core responsibility
- Researchers need to make it easy, enjoyable and rewarding for clinicians to participate in research