

North West & North Wales Paediatric Critical Care Network Newsletter

Issue 1

1st July 2010

Contents

1

Welcome

2

Network structure

3

Editorial

5

Network goals
Education

7

Resources
Contact information

Welcome

Welcome to the first edition of the North West & North Wales Paediatric Critical Care Network's E-Brief. The purpose of this newsletter is to introduce the North West & North Wales Paediatric Critical Care Network and to share with you information about the network, as well as update you on relevant learning/ training opportunities and guidelines.

It has been developed primarily to inform and update colleagues in Tertiary Centres and District General Hospital Trusts, PCT's and Service Networks across the North West, North Wales, Isle of Man and neighbouring areas

North West and North Wales Paediatric Critical Care Network Structure and Membership

A recent allocation of a small time limited resource (through North West Specialised Commissioning until Jan 2011) to help support the North West and North Wales paediatric network has offered the network an exciting opportunity to help structure and refocus the networks future work programme. The network has now become a formalised 'Managed clinical Network' with an agreed 'terms of reference' and proposed dedicated work programme.



Left to right: Sam (chair), Louise (administrative support), Andrea (manager) Andy (lead nurse) – your core team.

What is a 'Managed Clinical Network'?

"linked groups of health professionals and organisations from primary, secondary and tertiary care working in a coordinated manner, unconstrained by existing professional and existing [organisational] boundaries to ensure equitable provision of high quality, clinically effective services."

(The Scottish Office
Department of Health -1999)

offer an opportunity to improve the delivery of care to children within the region.

Communication is an essential part of the work programme and this bi-monthly newsletter will help provide a useful update on paediatric critical care network activity across the North West, North Wales and neighbouring areas.

A **Core network** and a **wider network** have been established. The core network meets on a bi-monthly basis and three wider meetings will take place throughout the year. The aim of the wider meeting is to feedback network progress from the core group, share views, learn lessons and to offer an opportunity for active wider participation across the region.

Aims of the Network

- To provide a 'managed clinical network' for the provision of care for the critically ill child.
- To provide clinical leadership to the network
- To make recommendations to Commissioners to ensure high quality care and effective service provision

This newly formed network builds on the work carried out by the previous DGH/interface group, and seeks to involve all hospitals providing acute care to critically ill children. The input of information, as well as suggestions, through the network from the regional DGH's and the Tertiary Children's Hospitals should



Editorial

R Smith and team

This new formalised managed clinical network started of as a special interest group – the northwest and north Wales paediatric critical care DGH / Lead centre interface – a team of motivated individuals that recognized the need for better communication between the lead centres and referring hospitals – a group that has been established for 10 years, and unique in its inception. The present network aims to build on the foundation of the interface group, and the core principles of maintaining effective lines of communication, as well as providing educational resource remain key. The allocation of managerial support dedicated to the network will hopefully streamline delivery, and despite the lack of funding available for the network, we hope to influence practice within referral hospitals as well as influence planning of paediatric intensive care delivery for the region. It aims to reflect the needs of all paediatricians

It is about influencing practice...PICU delivery ...guidelines to support the care of the acutely ill child in DGH's....unified transport guidelines...provision of study days and courses...highlighting resources within the region...improving the pathway of the critically ill child in the region.

(continued)

and nurses who care children within acute and HDU settings within the DGH. The network will aim to influence managers (via various routes) to ensure provision of appropriate services. Direction towards appropriate training courses will be undertaken and in some cases education days and specific courses will be provided.

Unified guidelines agreed by the network will help to reduce variation in practice and thereby reduce opportunities for error. Included within the network although with separate funding is the newly formed NW2TS – the regional paediatric intensive care retrieval service, and the network supports the development of this service. Unified transport protocols are already being drawn up, including the adaptation

of guidelines drawn up in district hospitals governing the transfer of children by the DGH team to the intensive care unit. With the increasing complexity of cases, and regionalisation of care, the need to be able to adequately resuscitate and transfer a child in optimal condition has never been more, and these guidelines when released will be one more step in helping achieve this.

In addition to this the network has embarked on an audit of out of hospital cardiac arrests in the region - information gathered will describe practice and outcome in our region and help to inform clinical care pathways for these children.

One of the key roles is to widen the scope and degree of communication

with the general paediatricians and nursing staff within the region and to this end there are three wider general meetings per year where all interested paediatricians / nursing representatives from the 32 hospitals within the region are invited. These meetings in addition to discussion of relevant issues also incorporate an hour educational session covering various topics and are approved for CPD.

There is much to be done, and with your engagement, we step closer to improving care to the most vulnerable and often challenging patients in our care, and perhaps we will be as one described below...

*We are here to add what we can to, not to get what we can from life...
Sir William Osler.*

Network goals:

- o Better liaison and communication leading to better representation of all hospitals in the region as regards their roles in the management of the seriously ill child and in recognising the work they do in HDU.
- o To provide support and education to all those involved in the care of the seriously ill child.
- o Review and audit/research services and what has been done in order to plan the way ahead and to use those audits to influence the commissioning groups.
- o Three guidelines per year.
- o Web based teaching, guidelines, information and probably a blogging site.
- o The e brief to act as information and as an article of influence
- o NW2TS (North West and North Wales Transport Service). Will develop its infrastructure and personnel whilst at the same time produce unified guidelines in order to provide a coherent standard of care.
- o Common emergency formulary including infusions are to be produced.
- o To inform people of important developments both in the clinical arena and in organisational arenas that may or will affect service.
- o To support HDU provision in the DGHs - an increasing problem as what is provided does not appear to be fully recognised and therefore not paid for.
- o Working with the CYPN looking at HDU capacity for Greater Manchester and convening a team to investigate and report on HDU capacity in the new organisational format as dictated by the Making it Better programme.
- o Out of hospital cardiac arrests – an audit being conducted by Adam Armitage at Tameside General

Educational session: Key points from the group A streptococcal disease presentation by Kate Parkins (consultant paediatric intensivist) and Enitan Carol (consultant in paediatric infectious disease)

- o We have a significant number of cases in the Northwest
- o PAIN - in what looks like relatively benign cellulitis is the clue.
- o Get help from the surgeons and the microbiologist
- o Treat aggressively, consider early surgical debridement and clindamycin
- o The disease has a latent period and then lets rip. Very similar to Meningococcal disease in the infant less than a year of age.
- o Recent or pre-existing Chickenpox confers a 60X increased risk.
- o If further deterioration consider immunoglobulin

The conventional definition of management is getting work done through people, but real management is developing people through work."

— Agha Hasan Abedi

The network is now managed by Andrea Hughes Andrea.hughes@nwsct.nhs.uk (NW children's programme manager) and supported by Louise Little Louise.little@nwsct.nhs.uk

(NW Children's project support) though NWSCT. Roz Jones has managed and supported the networks over the years as an additional part to her role. Roz will now concentrate solely on her own role as NW Specialised Commissioner for Children's tertiary services at NWSCT and will remain the lead commissioner for paediatric critical care services and an avid and fundamental member of the network.

Andrea Hughes manages a number of children's tertiary networks and will be the main communicator

between the relevant interdependent networks e.g. North West and North Wales Long Term Ventilation Network. Andrea will also report on the networks behalf into the North West Tertiary Children's Strategy Group which is made up of senior representation from both tertiary children's hospitals, Primary care trust Commissioners, Children's networks e.g. Greater Manchester 'Making it Better' and NHS North West. This will ensure two way communications between the commissioners, trusts, PCT's and the network to drive the paediatric critical care work programme forward and to highlight the importance and relevance of the network.

The art of medicine cannot be inherited, nor can it be copied from books...Paracelsus

Educational programmes and resources

Upcoming meetings:

North West and North Wales Paediatric Critical Care Seminar: 21st July 2010

The seminar will focus on 2 major areas: respiratory disease with particular emphasis on severe asthma and H1N1. The afternoon will examine issues of childhood death in the region with presentations from mortality audit groups, the SUDC response team as well as the coroner discussing assumptions and pitfalls in childhood death. This meeting is free of charge but with invitation only. Please contact Louise Little for details.

Paediatric Intensive Care Society (UK) Annual meeting: September 15th to 17th 2010

This annual meeting will comprise of 2 days of talks by experts in their fields, as well as one day of workshops and master classes – held at the Midland Hotel in Manchester. Programme available on the internet. It is of interest to all those involved in critical care including colleagues in adult critical care. <http://www.picsconference.co.uk/>

Educational resources:

www.crashcall.net - a web based calculator for common resuscitation and stabilization drugs, fluid as well as endotracheal tube sizes. Free access.

Contact information

Louise Little network administrator: louise.little@nwsct.nhs.uk

Andrea Hughes network manager: andrea.hughes@nwsct.nhs.uk

Andy Darbyshire lead nurse: andy.darbyshire@alderhey.nhs.uk

Mahil Samuel (Sam) lead clinician and chair: mahil.samuel@cmft.nhs.uk

Rupert Smith lead editor: rupert.smith@pat.nhs.uk

Next issue: Structure of the network and relationships
 Clinical updates & Guidelines
 Web presence....the next step.... And more!