

Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year

We would like to wish all our Colleagues across the Newborn Network and beyond a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



NEWBORN TRANSPORT SERVICE

The Newly formed Joint **NEWBORN TRANSPORT SERVICE** with the Southern West Midland Newborn Network has been in operation since September with:

Amrit Dhillon & Alyson Skinner - Neonatal Consultants

Jackie Harrison - Transport Nurse Consultant

Debbie Tompkins and Catherine Rutherford - ANNP's

There is a dedicated mobile number to arrange transfers:
07929 053730.

All the remaining ANNP and Transport Nurse Posts have recently been recruited into, all will be in post by April.

A formal launch event is being planned to be held on the 18 January in the Clinical Education Centre, Russell's Hall Hospital, Dudley - Information has gone to each unit about this.

Congratulations to:

Walsall Manor Hospital

Who have gained Full Accreditation in UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative

University Hospital of North Staffordshire

Won second place in the Neonatal Unit Team BLISS Awards.

UNIT DESIGNATION UPDATE

A West Midlands Specialised Commissioners (WMSC) Designation Sub Group was formed to review the 3 newborn network's proposed designations across the West Midlands. The SSBC Newborn Network's proposed unit designations were approved at a meeting of the WMSCG at the end of July. This will form the basis for formal public consultation the process and timeframe for which will be developed and agreed with the necessary authorities during 2007.

New Members of the Network Team

Please welcome to the Network Team:

Nina Spofforth Maternity Network Project Manager from November 2006.

Mob Tel: 07770 620838

E-mail: ninaspofforth@nhs.net



Nina Spofforth

For more information please visit our website at:

www.newbornnetworks.org.uk/staffs

If you have any comments about the network or would like to get involved please contact a member of the Network Team on 01782 626185.

Network Groups

Thank you to all the Chairs of the Groups and sub group members for all your hard work over the past year.

Guidelines Group - Ruth Moore

RD&A Group - Dr Sanjeev Deshpande

Workforce Development Group - Clare Steggle

Breastfeeding Group - Liz Jones

Equipment Group - Dr Babu Kumararatne

Transport Group - Dr Alyson Skinner

A Follow Up group was set up in November, please contact Dr Andy Spencer if you would like to get involved



UK BABY FRIENDLY INITIATIVE



BLISS

What's coming up?

January 2007

9th - Team Development Study Day

10th - Guidelines Group

11th - Breastfeeding Group

18th - NTS Launch

24th - RD&A Group
Workforce Development Group

25th - Team Development Study Day

If you would like any further information on future network meetings or events please either visit the website or contact a member of the Network Team.



Network Team Development Programme

This programme is offered with the specific aim of creating a network that works as a team, both within units and between units. There are still places available on the forthcoming days which are free for all network staff to attend. Please ask your Unit Manager or Practice Educator for more details.

Guidelines Group Request for Help

The guidelines group is currently reviewing and updating the original network guidelines published in 2005 and writing some new ones on identified additional topics. If anyone is interested in either reviewing and updating existing guidelines or writing some of the new ones please contact Sarah Carnwell for further information asap.

Thank you to those of you who recently completed and returned a questionnaire regarding network guideline use. The responses will inform the development of the second edition due to be published in August 2007.

Breastfeeding Group News

The Group continues to make a strong commitment to education. Two Network breastfeeding study days were well attended and evaluated this year, and additional study days will be held in the New Year. The Group submitted a successful bid for additional milk expression equipment to Network. This will help to ensure an equitable provision of milk expression equipment for units across the Network. In addition, the Group in conjunction with Dr. Spencer, UCL, a speech and language therapist and an ex-BBC film maker submitted a project proposal for the BLISS Innovation Award. Although, the project was short listed, it did not obtain the award. However, BLISS is keen to support the proposal through a different revenue stream if sponsorship can be obtained.

Liz Jones is leading the Network Research on an evaluation of breastfeeding support across the Network with input from each of the six neonatal units. All staff are encouraged to support this first network wide research project. Please contact her for further information on 01782 552439 or

e-mail: Elizabeth.Jones@uhns.nhs.uk

Elizabeth Jones, Chair – Breastfeeding Group

Network Survey of Staff Opinion

Many thanks to those of you who completed and returned a questionnaire. Responses to the survey will inform future developments in the network. A report will be presented to the network board and will be made available to all on the website.

Quiet Time

Stafford have introduced a quiet time between the hours of 1400 and 1600hrs which is proving to be very beneficial to tired mothers and working towards developmental care for the babies. A charity has made some lovely incubator covers that dim the light over the incubator for babies that need more observation but can be swiftly removed if need be.



TRAINING AND EDUCATION

The first year of training has been a big success, there have been several opportunities within the network for nursing staff to attend study days and courses both inside and outside the network! With the help of the Network, Mid Staffs Special Care Baby Unit has sent their first Advanced Neonatal Nurse Practitioner student to Southampton and the Neonatal Unit at UHNS sent a member of staff to complete ANNP training at UCLan

Evaluations for Network Study days have been excellent including Developmental Care, Bereavement, Cardiac Care, Ventilation and Team Development Days. There will be a rolling programme of the Developmental Care, Bereavement, and Cardiac Care Study days to enable as many members of the network staff to attend and then we can reassess the needs of the network next year.

There will be a training needs analysis exercise taking place in the New Year to identify priorities for Network training next year. This will be an opportunity to voice your thoughts as to what you feel are priorities for training.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those that have supported the Network study days either as speakers or attendees, without your support they would not have been a success!

Lynsey Ward, Practice Educator – Black Country