

Open Invitation to the Network Annual General Meeting

Thursday 4th September 12 – 1 pm

Room A, Telford Education Centre, Princess Royal Hospital, Telford, TF1 6TF.

**Results from the First Cross Network Research Study – Liz Jones
& Findings from the Network Guidelines User Survey – Kerri Sallis**

Network Foundation Nurses

The 2nd cohort of the Staffordshire, Shropshire & Black Country Newborn Network's Foundation in Neonatal Nursing Programme graduated on 30 April 2008. The six month programme was developed by the network to attract newly registered nurses into the field of neonatal nursing. During the programme the staff nurses, complete both clinical and theoretical assessments and undertake supervised neonatal nursing care in a variety of units within the network.

This 2nd cohort have published a poster "Supporting Parents of Special Babies" containing useful information for parents about support they can access, a copy of the poster has been given to each of the neonatal units to be displayed within the network.

The programme is facilitated by the two network practice educators Lynsey Ward and Jo Cookson who are very grateful to the clinical staff in each of the neonatal units in the network as they provide invaluable support and guidance during the clinical allocations and also teach on the study days in the programme.



Pictured from left to right: Jon Crockett, Joanne Basford, Sarah Parkes and Rachel Edge

Network Standards Assessment Web Based Tool

A training and stakeholder feedback event was held on the 30th April 2008 where staff in the network were given a demonstration of the Network Standards Assessment Web Based Tool. Staff who attended also had the opportunity to use the system and provide feedback to enable further development.



Good News:

Congratulations to Jo and Lynsey, Network Practice Educators on their weddings. Jo is now Mrs Cookson and Lynsey is now Mrs Clarke.

Congratulations to Sarah and Lee on their anticipated new bundle of joy, ETA late December 2008.

The long standing GMC case against Andy Spencer and his colleagues has been dismissed as there was insufficient credible evidence to support any of the charges. Andy looks forward to getting back to his role as Lead Clinician for the Network.

What's coming up?

July 2007

16th – RD&A and Workforce Meetings

17th – Manners Neonatal Meeting, WMPI

18th – Joint Transport Group Meeting and Extraordinary Transport Meeting

23rd – Guidelines Group Meeting
BadgerNet Neonatal System Demo

September 2007

4th – Network Board Meeting & AGM

8th – Equipment Group Meeting

11th – Breastfeeding Meeting

18th – Resuscitation Group Meeting

25th – Maternity Tri-Network Event

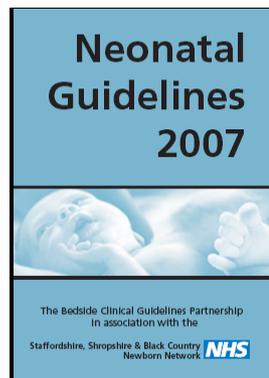


We have moved again our new address is the:

Staffordshire, Shropshire and Black Country
Newborn Network
University Hospital of North Staffordshire
Ground Floor, Maternity (South) Building
Newcastle Road
Stoke on Trent
ST4 6QG
Our telephone number is 01782 553390

Results of the Guidelines User Survey 2008

Many thanks to all the staff from each neonatal unit who completed and returned the Guidelines User Survey questionnaire in Spring 2008. A total of 110 completed questionnaires were received, giving a 22% response rate, similar to that of the previous survey and not dissimilar to response rates received in other studies of this type of self administered questionnaire. The results are to be presented at the Network AGM and the full report will be available on the website after the event.



Quad Network Research Study Day

Following the successful first Tri-Network Research Study Day held last November, a second study day is being planned to be held on Friday 28th November. A flyer will be circulated with further details.

Quad Network Event

The Quad Network Event held on the 31st January at Drayton Manor Park was extremely successful. The programme had an interesting mix of topics and speakers including one of our own parent representatives, Julie Ebrey pictured below. The event was well supported by delegates and exhibitors. The next Quad Network Event "Midlands Matters" is being organised for the end of January 2009.



Follow Up Group Update

Two successful Bayley Assessment Training workshops were held following which the first Bayley assessments of the babies born in 2006 have now commenced. The group continue to develop and finalise a parent information leaflet, the dataset for recording the results and the letters to parents regarding the outcome of the assessment. Many thanks to our parent representatives for their assistance with this.

Resuscitation Group Update

A new Group has been set up to look at resuscitation in the network. The group have met twice to date and have set the following objectives:

- Standardisation of resuscitation equipment
- To increase the opportunities for all neonatal and maternity staff to access NLS resuscitation training within the network
- Standardisation of resuscitation documentation

If anyone is interested in getting involved please contact the Chair of the Group, Dave Roden at the University Hospital of North Staffordshire.

Parent Experience Survey

Following the pilot completed in 2007, a continuous process has been commenced to collect parent experiences from each of the units in the Network. The pilot report is available on the website and reports from the continuous process will be added as they are available.

Equipment Group Update

The network would like to thank Peter Cogings, Dave Roden and Kishor Tewary for facilitating the evaluation and purchase of an ultrasound scan machine for the neonatal unit at Stafford, using funding from the network. The network would also like to thank the telemedicine sub group who have recently facilitated a successful trial telemedicine connection and are writing a business case to request funding for this development from the network.

Breastfeeding Group Update

The data collection for the cross network research into the Impact of Pre-term Breastfeeding Information has now been completed and the results from the research are being presented at the Network AGM. A successful Network Breastfeeding Study was held in January and the Breastfeeding Group are discussing when to hold the next one. The Group have successfully negotiated with Medela funding for a member of staff to undertake the International Lactation Consultants Board Exam, a flyer has been circulated to each unit regarding this.



Congratulations to Walsall, Stoke, Shrewsbury and New Cross for successfully obtaining a Medela Swing breast pump in this years BLISS Neonatal Equipment Giveaway.

Joint Transport Group Update

Following the successful commissioning round additional funding for the Newborn Transport Service was obtained to increase the staffing and to have dedicated ambulance provision. The new posts are currently being recruited into and work is underway to formally tender for the ambulance provision. A stakeholder event is being held on Friday 18th July where further details about these developments and an opportunity for stakeholders to discuss any issues regarding the Newborn Transport Service will be available.



Network Education and Training

Many thanks to Peter Keen, Tim Cottle and Jo Cookson for holding a network CPAP training day on the 1st April at New Cross Hospital. Further network equipment training days are being planned and will be advertised when available. A successful developmental care study day was held on the 14th May facilitated by the network educators. A study day was also held on the 14th May for community staff facilitated by Julia Greenaway at Russell's Hall, further days will be held in the future. A pre-term nutrition study day for the network was held on the 21st May in conjunction with the neonatal programme being run at Keele University. The network funded seven nurses from across the network to attend the June Perinatal Medicine 2008 Conference in Harrogate. The network will be funding up to two nurses from each neonatal unit to attend the Reason Conference at Warwick University on the 8th and 9th September, names are required before the 21st July if you wish to attend please contact your unit manager. The network has also identified a small amount of funding for each unit to use towards external conferences, this can be accessed through the unit manager.

Network Education Audit 2008

Many thanks to all the staff from each neonatal unit who completed the second network education audit in February 2008. A total of 81 completed questionnaires were received, giving a 32% response rate. Russell's Hall won a £40 book voucher for having the best response rate. Of the respondents over 2/3rds had attended a network study day. The topics identified from the audit are going to be included in the programme of study days held in the network over the next two years.

Additional Investment in Neonatal Services

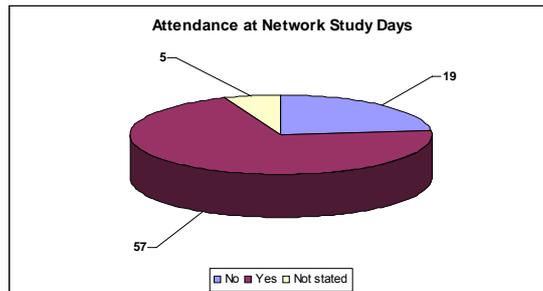
A fruitful commissioning round has resulted in £1.7 million of additional investment in neonatal services across the West Midlands to further develop the Newborn Transport Services and to increase cot capacity through additional neonatal nurse posts. Our network has recommended to commissioners a proposal to:

- recurrently fund new neonatal nurse posts
- provide non recurrent funding for another network foundation in neonatal nursing programme
- provide non recurrent funding of £33,000 to fund back fill salaries to support nurses to be released to attend training and CPD.

This significant investment has been achieved through the network and would not have been possible for individual Trusts to gain a similar level of additional funding.

Nursing Time Spent Audit

The provision of quality-assured nursing care is a key factor in optimising outcomes for ill neonates and is linked to the quantity and quality of nursing staff available for neonatal care. A network audit led by Dr Tilly Pillay with support from Denise Kirby, ANNP has been designed in an attempt to quantify current neonatal nursing care provision within the Network. The findings from the audit will provide evidence to be used in commissioning of neonatal nursing workforce when appropriate and may suggest recommendations for improvements in delivery of neonatal care provision. A project nurse has been appointed and the audit will commence in September. The project nurse will be spending approximately two weeks in each neonatal unit recording nursing care using a standard proforma.



Network Audit Competition

Congratulations to Fiona Chambers winner of the first Network Audit Competition she has now converted her presentation on the "Utility of Chest X-ray to Assess Position of Nasogastric Tubes in Neonates" into a publication (letter to the Editor) in the Journal of Neonatal Nursing due to be published later this year. The next Audit Competition is being planned further details to follow, please think about any audits happening in your unit or across the network that could be submitted for presentation at the event. Book vouchers are awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes.

Maternity Network Update

The Project Plan 2008 is progressing well with the various Maternity Network groups at different stages of development, including Workforce, Dataset and IUT Research groups. The Guidelines group held its first meet at the beginning of July to plan the publication of obstetric guidelines. The recent interdistrict audit, hosted by New Cross Hospital in Wolverhampton, was extremely successful with five of the six network units taking part. This annual event has inspired the creation of the Audit group which hopes to publish common audits happening around the area.

Maternity Trinetwork Event 25th September 2008

Venue: Warwickshire Health & Racquets Club

For more information contact

ninaspofforth@nhs.net or call 07770620838

For more information please visit our newly updated 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 Tel: 01782 553390