

National Clinical Audit and Patient Outcomes Programme

Project Summary

National Neonatal Audit Programme (NNAP)

Purpose

The key aims of this audit are to:

- assess whether babies requiring neonatal care receive consistent care across England and Wales in relation to the audit questions
- identify areas for improvement in neonatal units in relation to delivery and outcomes of care
- provide a mechanism for ensuring consistent high quality care in neonatal services.

Methodology

A fully managed audit collection tool is provided by Clevermed Ltd, via the neonatal.net. They also receive and merge data from units using The Neonatal Survey (TNS) and Maternal and Neonatal Electronic Recording System (MANNERS) on a quarterly basis. Analysis of raw data is carried out annually by the Neonatal Data Analysis Unit (NDAU). The NNAP project team analyse the data for quality and completeness on a quarterly basis.

Key quality indicators

- Long term health outcomes at 2 years post term
- Family orientated approach
 - breast feeding rates at discharge from NNUs
 - early consultation with parents
 - care within own neonatal network
 - low NNU admission rates for mature babies
- Prompt clinical care
 - early checking of vital signs
 - early administration of surfactant.

Data collection schedule

Data is collected as part of the electronic daily care recording for each baby in units using the neonatal.net; a quarterly download of NNAP data items from the TNS and MANNERS systems is received.

Is the audit process or outcome focused?

The audit consists of 8 audits of process, and the two-year follow-up questionnaire is outcome focused.

Who is involved in the audit?

The audit is run from the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) Science and Research Department and the Project Board includes representatives from the RCPCH, BAPM, The Neonatal Society, NDAU and HQIP.

Who are the main stakeholders?

Stakeholders in the audit include:

- General public
- Patients
- NICU teams
- Neonatal Networks
- Strategic Health Authorities/PCTs
- Trusts
- National Speciality Associations (e.g. BAPM, The Neonatal Society)
- Charities (e.g. BLISS, SANDS, Birthchoice UK)

Date of the next Annual Report and outline content

The Annual Report covering 2008 data is available in hard copy and on-line (via www.rcpch.ac.uk/nnap) from late August/early September 2009.

The outline content is:

- Introduction
- Methodology (target population, audit questions, site recruitment, data collection, data quality & completeness)
- Results (report from NDAU)
- Audit developments in 2008 (refinements to neonatal.net, changes to dataset, move to open reporting, two year outcomes questionnaire, changes in practice, extension of audit to Wales and Scotland)
- Future plans (review of audit questions and standards, extension to Northern Ireland, Neonatal Task Force and commissioning, developing a future role and strategy for NNAP).

More information: www.rcpch.ac.uk/nnap