

EAST OF ENGLAND NEONATAL ODN

Newsletter

Welcome to the East of England Neonatal ODN December newsletter



Website & Twitter

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FEATURED ARTICLES

Updates

- ODN Team
- Parent Advisory Group (PAG)
- Bliss

Our Units

Unit stories and updates

I would like to say a huge well done and thank you to you all for the enormous amount of work and challenges you have managed this year. It has been busy with some real high and low points. It has been great to see how as teams you have continued to support each other and the families during some low points for neonatal care. Whilst a spotlight has been shone on neonatal care we can take this opportunity to continue improving services.

On a much more positive note we have continued to see development against the NCCR recommendations and this is particularly around the family engagement. Progress against both the BLISS and BFI has been amazing and continues to demonstrate your commitment to improve neonatal care. We are excited about our new patient engagement lead role which will support further improvement and more steps towards true co-production.

Our AHP colleagues continue to bring a wider more holistic view and the development of these roles in services is a very positive change.

As the NCCR transformation comes to an end we continue to look for areas of improvement within neonatal care whilst still focusing on the sustainability of the changes we have made and those which we are yet to complete.

Our service moves closer in practical terms I hope to maternity to support a more seamless perinatal service. Work within region continues to ensure the neonatal voice is heard.

There are many challenges ahead with changes in commissioning and more of a move to system working. Keeping the baby and family at the heart of what we do remains paramount.

I would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas and Happy new year and look forward to working with you all next year



LIZ LANGHAM-DIRECTOR

On the 14th of December we had our joint ODN Team day. A very productive working day with the East of England Paediatric Critical Care and Surgery in Children ODN's. Collaboratively working to deliver high quality care to our babies, children and their families



MATTHEW JAMES-LEAD CLINICIAN

I went to a caesarean section of a preterm baby last week and as the neonatal team were waiting for the baby to be born I reflected the number of people needed to keep mum and baby safe. There were 20 professionals, all having specific and important roles in order that everything goes safely and smoothly with the best outcome. To get the best and effective care we must all work together as a team. (Obstetrics, midwifery, theatre staff, neonatal nurses and neonatal medical team) .Each part is important and everyone role is valuable. If we lose this ability of team work things go wrong and we get a poorer outcome for our babies and families.

Over the last few months we have been busy undertaking the Peer reviews. It have been a pleasure to visit units and see the real progress units have made since our last visits. We continue to undertake the Peer reviews with a three year face to face review with a paper base review in the intervening years

We will be reviewing the Perinatal Mortality external review process in the New Year to ensure we have an effective process to enable each unit to have an external reviewer when they are undertaking their reviews..

NHS England have given additional funds to support units to achieve BAPM standards. A number of units have been given addition funds to help with Consultant and middle grade rotas which will help with achieving BAPM standards and neonatal care within those units.

I hope you are all able to have some time off over Christmas and the New Year. Thank-you so much for the high quality work and care you give, to enable the best outcomes for your babies and their families.

I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year

CLAIRE O'MARA-DEPUTY DIRECTOR/SENIOR LEAD NURSE

Here we are at the end of another year, it seems like only last month when I writing my last instalment for the Christmas newsletter.

For those of you who know me well I love this time of the year and I can't wait to get the Christmas trees (note plural) up and decorated. It was therefore great fun when we met for our regular Lead Nurse face to face meeting last week when we decorated the Christmas tree at the venue as our 'ice breaker' – not that we need an 'ice breaker' as we are such a friendly and supportive team.

The day was so well attended and I am sure you will all agree very interesting, we were very fortunate to have Karen Cameron Lead PNA for the EoE join us, giving you all the opportunity to ask questions about the role and its benefits, along with the inevitable challenges. Teresa also presented a proposal to provide a support package/learning opportunity for our international recruits which again generated lots of discussion and finally the day ended with glitter, gluing and sticking :) Thank you Rebecca for creating a fun session that I am sure benefitted us all.

I would say this year has been a particularly busy year for the ODN, I am conscious we have made many information requests to you all which I know results in added pressure, thank you to all of you for your timely returns and never ending compliance and support. It really does make our job easier – so thank you.

There has been great sadness this year with the trial of Lucy Letby that has shocked and upset all of us. I would like to say that all of you are doing a fantastic job and your determination to deliver the best possible care is commendable. We have seen some brilliant progress with the implementation of Neonatal BFI standards and BLISS all of which is making the neonatal journey so much better for our families and babies. This is not only thanks to you but also from the support of the ODN Care Coordinator team.

Teresa Berry joined us this year as Lead PDN her skills and expertise are serving you all well. We have also appointed Kelly Phizacklea into the new role of Family Engagement Lead and Nigel Gooding as ODN Lead Pharmacist – exciting time ahead.

On a final note I want to thank you all for your hard work and dedication, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

KATIE CULLUM-LEAD NURSE FOR QI & INNOVATION

Dear Neonatal Colleagues,

As we draw closer to the culmination of this year, I wish to extend my deepest appreciation to each one of you who has played an integral role in supporting our regional projects throughout the past twelve months. Recognising the considerable effort invested by local teams in ensuring the successful implementation of various initiatives, I am truly grateful for your unwavering dedication.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all for the commendable hard work you have contributed. The significance of the changes implemented cannot be overstated; these developments profoundly impact the lives of our neonates and their families.

Thank you for your relentless commitment and contributions towards our shared goal of enhancing the wellbeing and care of our neonatal population and their families.

Here are the latest updates on Neonatal Workstreams:

1. Preterm Counselling Workshop:

- Due to recent strikes, the Preterm Counselling Workshop initially scheduled for November has been postponed until March 22nd. We apologise for any inconvenience caused and appreciate your understanding. There are still 14 spaces available for consultants, trainees, ANNP, and obstetric consultants/registrars on this new date. Please consider signing up; it promises to be a great day. This workshop is jointly hosted by the Maternity Regional Team and was originally developed in Oxford, recently presented at BAPM.

East of England
Preterm Antenatal Counselling Workshop
Date 22nd March, 09:00-17:30, Belfy Hotel, Cambourne





This full day workshop, facilitated by consultants, obstetricians, parent partners, and clinical psychologists from the EoE, aims to:

- Review the BAPM framework of perinatal management of extreme preterm birth and putting it into practice
- Look at a suggested structure for antenatal counselling for extreme preterm birth with provided examples
- Give the opportunity to practice preterm antenatal counselling in role play scenario with actors

Booking forms can be found at:



Midwives fee £50, ANNP'S Paediatric/ Neonatal Consultant/ Medical Staff+ Obstetricians fee £125



2. Transitional Care Focus:

- TC CoP Meeting: Our Transitional Care Community of Practice is scheduled to convene on January 10th. For those who missed the last meeting, an excellent QI presentation on implementing TCB testing on discharge for postnatal infants was shared. Please find the recording [here](#).
- Regional Guideline Development: A working group will meet on January 10th to start to develop a regional guideline for Transitional Care, covering admission through discharge. This aligns with the new TC framework by BAPM and includes new guidance on neonatal outreach.
- Regional Heat Map Creation: We're currently creating a regional heat map to visually demonstrate Transitional Care compliance across our network. This will be shared with LMNS boards.

3. Mortality Monitoring and Improvement:

- Network Mortality Meeting: Terms of Reference (TOR) have been updated for the Network Mortality Meeting. ODN will attend all tertiary centre Perinatal Mortality Reviews (PMRTs). Tertiary centres will present their mortality data using a new template at the network mortality meeting, sharing any learnings from the last quarter. Every death at an LNU or SCBU will be presented as before.
- Developing Regional SOP: A regional Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is under development to ensure the presence of an external reviewer at every PMRT. External reviewers will receive this SOP shortly, along with an invitation to discuss and make any necessary changes.
- Neonatal Mortality Review Process Map: A process map for Neonatal Mortality Review has been created. Plans are in place for Wendy Matthews (Regional Chief Midwife) to share this with national teams, including the stillbirths review process.

4.Strengthening Governance:

- Neonatal Governance Leads: Nearly all Neonatal Governance leads are now in post. We've established weekly peer support group meetings to aid this new role. Our plan going forward involves less frequent yet more structured meetings. This will include a segment on local exception reporting and allocation of time for speakers/training based on agenda requests by neonatal governance leads.

Thank you for your dedication and hard work in driving these initiatives forward. I hope that during the holiday season, you all find some time to unwind and enjoy precious moments with your own families.

Warm regards,

Katie Cullum

Lead Nurse – Innovation and Quality Improvement | East of England Neonatal ODN

M: 07817435626

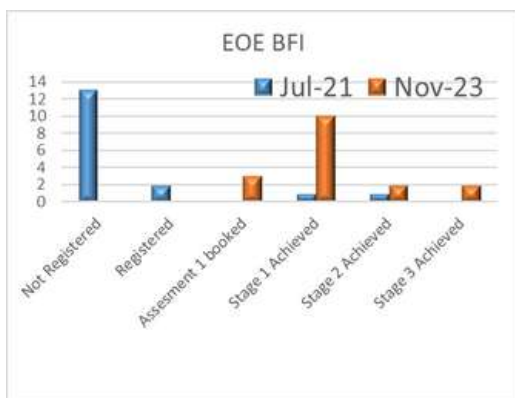
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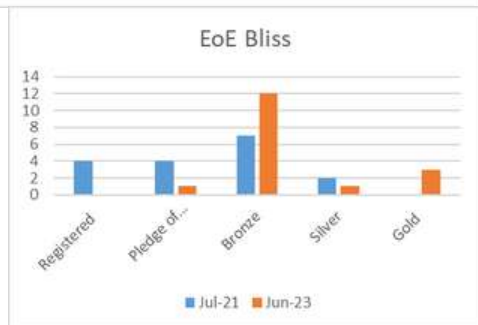
JULIA COOPER-LEAD CARE COORDINATOR



This year proved another busy one for the Care Coordinator team (CCt), with lots of changes, we said goodbye to Claudia as she is now Neonatal Matron at Cambridge University Hospital (CUH) and most recently welcomed Nina as Care Coordinator (CC) and Kelly Phizacklea as Family Engagement Lead (FEL). Exciting times ahead!



It is great to see all units Benchmarked to the BAPM Framework with some great examples of how individually and regionally units are striving to achieve FiCare. 2 units achieved Stage 3 this year for BFI, congratulations to Peterborough and Hinchingsbrooke. The Bliss Audit tool supports NICUs to identify areas of excellence, areas requiring attention, and develop targeted strategies to enhance the care provided to premature and sick new-borns. The tool allows benchmarking and comparison of performance across different units. Bliss had encountered some challenges which meant audits were on pause. We are pleased to announce they are reopen. Please submit as soon as you can to progress with bliss accreditation.



A fundamental part of our role is working collaboratively with the Parent Advisory Group (PAG), this year we updated the recruitment pack for PAG, making it easier to join. This along with Kelly's hard work meant PAG gained 10 new members this year, a great job! We updated the peer review packs for parents and developed a sibling resource which can be downloaded from the website. PAG joined us on all study and networking days to share the parent's voice, something which is invaluable. PAG have put on listening events and will continue to do so next year now Kelly is in her role as FEL. Kelly will also be involved in a very exciting and big project, the parent portal, more information to follow next year!

JULIA COOPER-LEAD CARE COORDINATOR

We were thrilled to host the National Care Coordinator Conference back in May. This conference brought Care Coordinators together from across the country to share their knowledge, experiences and best practice in how to support you all with FiCare. It was a fantastic opportunity for networking, learning and collaboration and to hear the parent voice.



National Care Coordinator Conference May 17th Feedback

Parent voices throughout the day meant the information was relevant and useful.

100%

of delegates would recommend the conference to a colleague

It was a fantastic day - A great chance to interact with other in similar roles and share ideas and practice. Thank you

Fantastic day, wealth of information and great presentations. Well done team

Thank you to the organisers. Your effort and dedication to putting this event together are admirable. Great day to celebrate our work as CCs.

JULIA COOPER-LEAD CARE COORDINATOR

Speaking of events, we held numerous study days this year, all with amazing feedback: FiCare Introduction, FiCare Communication and Infant Feeding. Next year we will be hosting a range of days, please see the table below for more information on all of our events, to book please fill out a booking form which can be found on the website.

Subject	Date	Face 2 Face (F2F) or Virtual (V)
Repatriation Link Nurse Training	11th January	(F2F) Hexagon Room, CUH
FiCare Introduction Study Day	5th March	(V)
FiCare & Feeding Advisor Day	11th March	(F2F) Rosie 2a & 2b, CUH
Neonatal Outreach Meeting	28th March	(F2F) Rosie 2a & 2b, CUH
Neonatal Outreach Meeting	19th June	(V)
Infant Feeding Study Day	22/23rd May	(V)
Neonatal Outreach Meeting	23rd Sept	(V)
Infant Feeding Study Day	1/2nd October	(V)
FiCare Introduction Study Day	14th November	(V)

More recently we celebrated the FiCare and Feeding Advisor Day on November 15th. This day was dedicated to recognising the hard work and dedication you all provide, sharing the challenges and successes in implementation. We hope you will join us again on March 11th at CUH.

Additionally, we are proud to share we have become the link for Neonatal Outreach and the ODN, with the first face to face meeting on the 28th March at CUH.

We are currently engaged in numerous exciting projects, including the Repatriation Quality Improvement. We hosted the first information event on 29th November and have a Link Nurse Training Day on January 11th at CUH. This initiative aims to ensure smooth, efficient and standardised repatriation across the East of England (EoE). A suggested Christmas present for your link nurse/ team is a mobile phone for them to use! Please send the phone numbers to Jemima.morroll@nhs.net as soon as you have them! Thank you!

JULIA COOPER-LEAD CARE COORDINATOR

Furthermore, we have been asking lead nurses (LNs) to fill out the accommodation scope monthly to benchmark the EoE and see where we can help. We now have 6 months' worth of data to get our teeth into, thank you to all units for their cooperation. These projects will greatly enhance the family experience.

We are proud of all the accomplishments and progress yourselves and we have made. We look forward to the following year ahead. Thank you for your continued support and dedication.



ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS & PSYCHOLOGY TEAM



As we reach the end of 2023 our team have been reflecting on the work and projects we've been involved in this year. We also look ahead to an exciting 2024 and already have a lot of ideas to bring into the new year.

There has been a lot of recruitment into brand new AHP and Psychological professional posts in the region this year. Next year will be about supporting these staff and units to continue to embed their AHP and Psychology services.

Planning has started for the next AHPP workshop day. This received rave reviews earlier this year and we will have a new case study for next year. So if you didn't join the last one (or even if you did and enjoyed it!) please do come along to the next one. This is just one of many exciting educational offerings next year that the AHPP team are either leading or contributing to. Have a look at the calendar to see what else will be coming up.

A number of new and updated guidelines have been produced this year with more expected next year, including the network enteral feeding guidelines/nutrition care pathway and those aimed at supporting neurodevelopmentally supportive care and feeding. We are looking for volunteers in the region to support these projects so if you would like to know more or are keen to be involved please do get in touch with us and we can tell you a bit more.

With that, we wish everyone a Merry Christmas, a Happy Hannukah and a happy New Year. We look forward to continuing to work with you all again in 2024.

EoE ODN AHP and Psychology Team



The end of 2023 is near, I am always surprised about how fast the year comes to an end and another starts.

It has been an eventful year with the Nursing and Doctors stikes, which has impacted on us all. Yet there is still so much work to celebrate and offer my thanks to all those who have continued to support my role as the Neuroprotection lead.

At the beginning of this year, I started to request the NCP1 forms, which has improved the quality of the data I receive. Thank you to my Neuroprotection Link nurses. I say this every year, but your commitment is very much appreciated. There is still some work needed around getting the data returned to me in a timely manner. Much of this has been around changes to the Link nurse post or no link in place, which is slowly resolving. Looking forward to receiving the missing data by the end of the year.

I think what we are most interested in, is whether we are cooling our babies within the recommended timeframe. Which has shown improvement.



Cooled babies

*% calculated on data available

*Total under 6 hours of age 77% (72% in 2022)

*44% reached target under 3 hours of age. (15% in 2022)

8% over 6 hours (20% on 2022)

4% did not reach target temp. (N/A in 2022)

44% of data currently missing (29% in 2022)- although I do expect this to improve by the end of the year



The Baby Brain Protection Group is beginning to gain momentum. The 3 workstreams are

Neurodevelopment: We are hard at work devising a guideline for best practice Neurodevelopmental follow-up, up to the age of 2 years. This is a large undertaking, which will include parent information leaflets, recommendations for multidisciplinary collaborative working and a crib sheet on setting up a first class follow-up clinic. Hopefully more on this soon.

Neuroimaging and Monitoring: We have undertaken an audit on MRIs, to discover the variations in practice across the region. With national guidance coming out soon, we hope to compare and align our services to meet the national recommendations. This data will also be used to help support the Repatriation QI project which will launch in February 24.

Neuroprotection: The Virtual study day, held in November, included updates on recently completed and ongoing research, as well as the opportunity to look at seizure detection on CFM and EEG; received excellent feedback. Our next Neuroprotection Study Day will be 20th June 2024, which will be face to face, to allow for practical workshops. For more details check out our ODN website in the new year.

2024: we aim to implement a small QI project to work on the Neonatal aspects of neuroprotection in line with the current PeriPrem initiative. I will be looking to set up a working group to include representation from all unit levels. The idea will be to look at implementing guidance around reducing intracranial bleeds in our at-risk population. This will combine / compliment the already excellent progress made with the PeriPrem care bundle. Look out for my email in the new year if you are interested in taking part.

All that is left is for me to do, is to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy new year!



TERESA BERRY – PRACTICE DEVELOPMENT LEAD NURSE



I can't quite believe we are at the end of 2023 already.....where has this year gone?!

I joined the ODN at the end of April so this is my first Christmas update

It was a very bumpy start for me with lots of IT issues which saw me on laptop number 3 in the first 6 months! It unfortunately meant I wasn't receiving emails that had been sent to me, apologies if your email was one of those.....I wasn't ignoring you I promise! I have my fingers crossed very tightly that this is all resolved now and hopefully the end of my IT issues and smooth sailing from here.

This year hasn't been an easy one in terms of finding venues and faculty for the study days as rooms the ODN have typically used in various trusts have been repurposed. This sadly meant that we had to cancel the Medical/Clinical Skills Day and also the Nursing Skills Day earlier this year. We also had to postpone the Cardiac Study Day due to industrial action!

Onwards and upwards though as we have secured a venue and rebooked the Medical/Clinical Skills Day for 1st March and have also rebooked the Cardiac Study Day for 8th March 2024.

I want to take this opportunity to say a massive thank you to everyone who has contributed and helped facilitate the ODN study days this year, it wouldn't be possible to run them without you. Also a huge shout out to our lovely sponsors who continue to support our educational events which helps us keep the costs down.

If you or any of your colleagues have an area of expertise in neonates or are you particularly passionate about a specific neonatal topic and would like to share your knowledge with others please do get in contact as I am always looking for facilitators to help me to deliver these study days.

Please see our website for more details of all our upcoming 2024 study days, we have some great days lined up for you all

I look forward to working with you all and seeing lots of you on our study days throughout 2024.



The Neonatal ODN Parent Advisory Group is a group of parents/carers who have all had a baby receive neonatal care in the East of England. The aim of the PAG is to ensure there is parent voice throughout all the ODN workstreams. We are always open to new members joining, therefore, please feel free to share PAG's details with families, or please get in touch to discuss further. We are particularly keen to hear from parents who had a baby on the neonatal unit at; West Suffolk, Ipswich, Kings Lynn, or Southend, as we currently do not have those units represented.

PAG members have been attending each of the peer reviews as part of the ODN visiting team. This opportunity enables PAG members to provide a fresh parent perspective by attending a neonatal unit they haven't been to before. They are also able to identify good practice that can be replicated throughout the region to reduce variation in family's experiences. All of the PAG members who have been on peer review visits to date have shared how welcomed and supported they were by the hospitals, so as PAG Chair I would like to say a big thank you for making their experience enjoyable.

PAG members are currently part of multiple workstreams within the ODN including; transitional care, neurodevelopmental care, antenatal pre-term counselling, repatriation, and baby-wearing.

We also continue to ensure parent voice is integrated in the ODN study days and events by sharing parent experiences at each session.

Please feel free to contact us at PAG at eooneonatalpag@gmail.com

Family Engagement Lead

I'm Kelly Phizacklea and I am the new Family Engagement Lead at the EoE Neonatal ODN. I have been involved in neonatal services since 2020 following my daughters 3.5 month stay in the neonatal intensive care unit due to having a major exomphalos, congenital scoliosis, and a ventricular septal defect. I have been Chair/Vice-Chair of the ODN neonatal PAG since it was established in September 2020 and I am also the Neonatal Service User Voice Representative for the NHSE Maternity and Neonatal Delivery Programme and NHSE Neonatal Critical Care Clinical Reference Group.

As the Neonatal ODN Family Engagement Lead, in addition to ensuring family voice is woven throughout the ODN workstreams, I am passionate about embedding neonatal family voice at a local level. To achieve this, it is essential that I collaborate with families, staff at a trust and LMNS level, MNVPs and VCSE organisations, to identify how I can support with the integration of neonatal family voice, therefore, units/LMNS staff, please do expect an email from me soon as I am very keen to meet with you all!

Email: k.phizacklea@nhs.net

Twitter: [@KellyPhizacklea](https://twitter.com/KellyPhizacklea)





Bliss Baby Charter

Audit submissions are now open so please do send your audits into Bliss to review.

Current status in East of England is:

Pledge of Improvement: 1

Bronze: 12

Silver: 1

Gold: 3

Webinars

The latest Bliss webinar for health professionals on 30 November focused on the role parents can play supporting their baby during procedures. You can watch back on the Bliss website: <https://www.bliss.org.uk/health-professionals/supporting-health-professionals/events/bliss-professional-events/bliss-webinars>

Information

Our booklet '[About neonatal care](#)' has been updated. Copies will soon be available on the [Bliss shop](#) as well as our '[Going home](#)' information booklet for parents.

Support

A reminder that our support team are here Monday-Friday to offer support, provide information and answer questions and queries that families might have about neonatal care. Simply signpost parents to email hello@bliss.org.uk

Bliss Journal

Sign up to receive Bliss' free newsletter for healthcare professionals. The Bliss Journal is sent monthly and you can sign up on the Bliss website: <https://www.bliss.org.uk/health-professionals/information-and-resources/healthcare-professionals-e-comms>

Chelsie Letts

Bliss Healthcare Engagement Programme Lead

MID AND SOUTH ESSEX NHS FOUNDATION TRUST



Mid and South Essex
NHS Foundation Trust

Warm welcome to Tracy Fox who has joined the MSE team as matron at Broomfield

Basildon Neonatal Transitional care team won a regional Baby lifeline MUM (Maternity unit Marvels) award which is here [Joanne, Oscar & Isla's Story | Baby Lifeline](#) and the team went to an awards evening and I went to a Downing street reception with the MSE CEO, basildon HOM and the midwife named



ODN CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND EDUCATION



Our 2024 calendar of events is available on the ODN website, please use the QR code for access



The ODN runs a variety of study days throughout the year.

- Virtual study days are held via Microsoft teams and are £20.00 per person for staff from within the East of England Network
- Face to face study days are £50.00 per person for staff from within the East of England Network
- Medical Skills Study day is charged at £65.00 per person for staff from within the East of England Network and is suitable for medical staff and ANNP's.

Our face to face study day's offer hands practical work stations

Please use the QR code below to enrol today



The ODN administrative team are available for any queries please contact them at add-tr.eooneonatalodn@nhs.net



HAPPY
holidays



The ODN team would like to wish you all happy holidays and thank you all for your continued hard work and support.



*Thank
you!*