

# EAST OF ENGLAND PAEDIATRIC CRITICAL CARE ODN

## Newsletter

Welcome to the East of England Paediatric Critical Care ODN December newsletter



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## FEATURED ARTICLES

### Updates

- ODN Team Updates

# LIZ LANGHAM-DIRECTOR

I would like to start by saying a huge thank you for your support this year. I think it is fair to say that this year has been challenging with the work programmes and day to day working. However as a paediatric team you have continued to support the PCC and SIC ODN's to continue to achieve our aims.

There is a huge focus on elective recovery and working together with the elective recovery team it feels that we may be making some headway with raising the profile of paediatric surgery. We have successfully produced the, tonsillectomy best practice, the testicular torsion and foreign body guidelines which could not have happened without your support. We have also started our service review visits which at last sees the ODN team coming out to meet with the surgical teams around the region, something which we are looking forward to and hope that you find these visits useful.

The PACU course has been really well received and has been noted nationally as evidence of excellent practice lead by the ODN, this is something we are very proud of.

The PCC ODN continue to develop the work around level 2 high dependency and the successful implementation of 4 new beds in region has been well received. We are looking to develop more beds but also working with the level 2 units to develop practice.

The education work continues to grow across both PCC and SIC and continues to support the continued development of the workforce across EOE. We are confident as we go into this winter that the networking and communication is stronger than before and the voice of paediatrics is being heard at a regional and national level.

We continue to be challenged around workforce and capacity however there is a focus on how we can best support these things going forward. It has been a busy year but the working together and support has been great

I hope you all have a fantastic Christmas and new year and look forward to working with you over the coming 12months.

Liz XX



# 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 Neonatal and Surgery in Children ODN's. Collaboratively working to deliver high quality care to our babies, children and their families





Well another year is coming to an end. The ODNs have continued to grow and develop. We have welcomed Naomi to the team to support with our education programme. Sadly we say goodbye to Lauren and Amie and I would like to thank them for the huge contribution they have made.

We are interviewing for the LTV post in December and hope to advertise for a project manager in the new year. I have taken on the Senior Lead Nurse role for PCC and SiC.

Our surgery in children network is flourishing under Damian's leadership and we have started our service reviews for surgery which will continue into 2024. Nationally, the PCC ODN group are setting up some work groups for 2024 to focus on the key network priorities with the intention of ensuring more consistency across the country.

We are seeing winter across the region hitting hard with most units very busy. We hope that you all manage to get some time off with your friends and family over the festive period.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the work of the ODNs in 2023 and we look forward to working with you all next year!

Have a very happy Christmas and a peaceful new year.

Alison





# FRANCESCA WRIGHT-EDUCATION LEAD NURSE

## NAOMI ROWELL-PDN LEAD

Well, this is a busy time of year for everyone isn't it?!

We have been busy here at the ODN wrapping up the final HDU Level 1 course with our candidates from across the region from our Autumn cohort. It has been great to get out and meet lots of wonderful nurses across the region for skills days and OSCEs and see first-hand the hard work and dedication that goes into looking after sick children across the region, particularly at this seasonally busy time of year. It is also lovely to see many staff confidently looking after children requiring Level 1 and 2 HDU care across the region by trained, excellent staff, meaning that those children can be looked after closer to home. This makes such an impact on both the children and their families.

We tried something new this autumn by running some Nurses Skills 'n' drills simulation days in conjunction with PANDR, the regional retrieval team. These were very well attended and we spent the day facilitating participants to take part in some stabilisation simulations in small groups followed by debrief, teaching and skills stations. We covered respiratory, seizure, cardiac (prostin) and peripheral inotropes scenarios, all of which seemed well received and we had a fun and productive day of learning. We hope to repeat these in 2024 so please do look out for the booking form and dates when they become available



# FRANCESCA WRIGHT-EDUCATION LEAD NURSE

## NAOMI ROWELL-PDN LEAD

We also took part in some local PANDR/ ODN stabilisation training at Southend which involved a multidisciplinary team enjoying an afternoon of teaching and simulation aimed at stabilising a sick child with sepsis – a fantastic learning opportunity organised locally with support from PANDR and ourselves.

We've been putting our heads together to make sure we have a great plan for education in 2024, so please look out for the Programme from the Network and book yourselves and your staff onto our events. One to mention is the Cardiac study day rescheduled from September to 8th March 2024. Additionally we hope to be able to have more face to face events in 2024 after reviewing lots of feedback from our 2023 programme. Good news that we all want to be in the same room together to promote learning!

Lastly please let us know how we can support you better and meet your needs regionally. We have been able to support several hospitals throughout the region with bespoke training days, simulation and skills afternoons so please let us know how we can help you by completing the Education Request Form available on the website and we will get in touch to arrange the details with you.

A huge thankyou to all the PDNs out there who continue to welcome us to work with them and their staff to promote education throughout the region, and to all who work tirelessly to improve standards of care for all our children in the East of England.

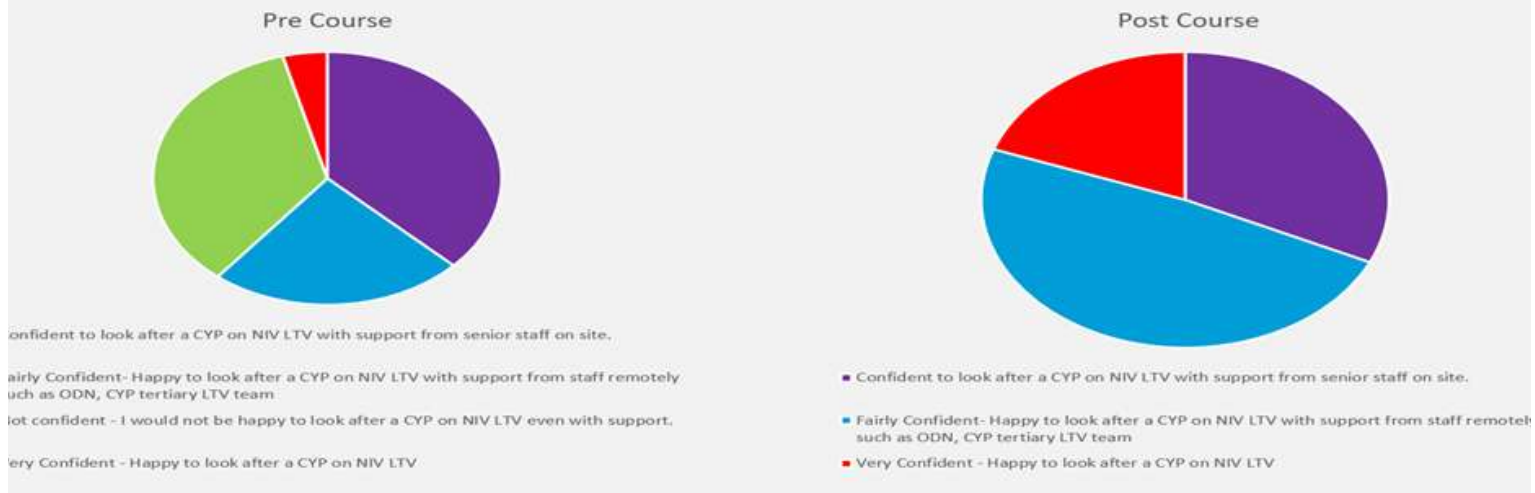
Wishing you all a calm Christmas (!) and a happy new year.

# AMIE COLE-LTV LEAD NURSE

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all!

I hope you are all well and the winter pressures are being kind to you all!!!! I know you are all very busy and under a lot of pressure and I have really appreciated your continued support in continuing with the Long Term ventilation education within your areas. I have been out to most of you to provide the LTV study day and I have been out to do patient specific training with some of you, which was a new approach, I hope you have found useful. We have definitely seen an improvement in the discharge process with so many more DGH's being in a better position to take the CYP as a step down from the tertiary centre and when they are coming in acutely unwell. Thanks to your staff who have attended the study day and completed the pre and post course questionnaire, I have been able to capture the improvement in confidence and knowledge.

## Confidence in caring for a child on Non-Invasive (NIV) Long Term Ventilation (LTV).



## Confidence in caring for a child on Invasive (Tracheostomy) LTV



# AMIE COLE–LTV LEAD NURSE

You should all be aware by now, that there is a paediatric long term ventilation guideline for you all to use when looking after a CYP on LTV either non-invasively or by a tracheostomy. The LTV and Tracheostomy competency booklets are also out and available on the website for you to use within your trust. There is a guidance with both of these to help the assessor sign staff off, if you need any support with this please contact me or one of the ODN PCC education team.

Both are available to download from the ODN website: [LTV Guideline and Competencies](#)

I am also in the late stages of developing a paediatric LTV and Tracheostomy E-learning package for you all to use. We will let you know when this is available and how best to use for your trust.

There is still a lot of work that needs to be continued in the development of pathways and documentation of LTV patients to make the CYP's journey from hospital to home so much better. As you are probably all aware I am leaving this role, my last day will be the 7th January. The job is currently out for advert along with the clinical lead for LTV, once in post I am sure the service will continue to develop with your help to support families with a child on LTV.

I would just like to say, thank you so much to everyone I have worked with both in the ODN team and the DGH's across the East of England. I have learnt a lot and I hope I have helped you all in some way. I am sure I will see many of you as paths always seem to cross within paediatrics.

Merry Christmas

Amie Cole



# EAST OF ENGLAND SURGERY IN CHILDREN ODN

## Newsletter

Welcome to the East of England Surgery in Children ODN December newsletter



East of England  
Surgery in  
Children  
Operational Delivery Network

Collaborative working to deliver high quality care to our children and their families

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## FEATURED ARTICLES

### updates

- ODN Team Updates

# MILIND KULKARNI-LEAD CLINICIAN

Dear all,

Thank you for your hard work and support to the network. We all work hard in individual patches to improve the surgical care for children but most of the time the work remains unnoticed.

In our recently started unit visits, it was evident that despite all the obstacles and complexities of the system, individual professionals are still very enthusiastic and passionate about the service they provide. Our national meetings are taking shape and we had our first face to face meeting last month. Our maturation journey is quite comparable to many other ODNs. Our regional team was visited by National GIRFT team to discuss our performance. Lot of hard work from Damian Griffiths and Eniko went in Preparing our data sets and information. Our performance is satisfactory and above the bar in certain areas.

Over the last year we have three regional and one national guidelines in place and few more in pipeline. The trauma and orthopaedics regional meeting organised by Anish Sanghrajka took place in November which is first of our face-to-face speciality meeting. Pranav Kukreja and Jessica Bewick have delivered the airway course which was well received. Jessica is working hard to support the trusts to try and bring the ENT waiting lists down which is a key issue for us as the region ( also an on in other regional and nationally). Damian has done an excellent job of delivering the current clinical pathways which we intend to check during or visits. Eniko has done an excellent job in developing the dashboard with regional team. Francesca has been instrumental in getting the guidelines over the finish line and continues to provide the educational support to the nursing teams.

Looking back at the year a lot has been achieved but there still remains a lot. Over first half of next year we will be focusing on the unit visits and look forward to meeting many of you in your own environment. We also intend to review the neonatal surgical work and pathways.

Once again thank you for all your hard work and look forward to your support in the new year.

Wish you all some rest and a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Kind Regards

MSK

## JESSICA BEWICK-ENT LEAD CLINICIAN

We continue to be busy in paediatric ENT with several active projects. The third EPAR course was held in November with a great faculty and enjoyable day for all delegates. A repeat course is planned for 2023, date to be confirmed. A working group of ENT surgeons and audiologists met this autumn with the aim of developing a regional guideline to streamline the investigation of childhood hearing loss. There is much variation in practice across the region and the priority is to expand genetic testing where appropriate for all children in the East of England. It is currently limited to children falling under specific centres whose staff are trained in genetic consenting. Please do get in touch if you would like to be involved in this work.

The big focus within the ENT network is on tackling the ever growing elective outpatient and inpatient waiting lists. There has been a great deal of interest from the CYP elective recover group to develop novel solutions to this issue. We have run a Task and finish group to identify solutions and incentives for elective recovery work. The findings of this will be presented to ICB CYP leads in early 2024. If you would like for your unit to be able to be a part of this in the future, please do get in touch [Jessica.bewick3@nhs.net](mailto:Jessica.bewick3@nhs.net) . With the elective admitted waiting list at close to 4000 children we need a regional effort to improve surgical capacity in 2024.

# DAMIAN GRIFFITHS-LEAD NURSE

With a number of competing priorities over the past few months, which you are all experiencing, I am most looking forward to the upcoming Service Review visits and meeting teams face to face. This will bring us up to May 2024 culminating in a face to face celebration event (news to follow).

This gives a real opportunity to review the GIRFT action plans for the ODN and the regional/local priorities feeding in to the 24/25 work plan after reviewing this year.

While there are numerous working groups across multiple specialities taking place in the background, I want to thank the working group members for the dedication and commitment in advancing staff education, support for colleagues across the network, learning and transforming the care for babies, children, young people and families. Despite the significant pressures and strain on the system we are fortunate to have a large group of passionate and dedicated professionals driving quality services at every level. With exciting developments such as the roll out of the POA course in 2024 and the accreditation of the PACU course the education team have pulled out all the stops and continue to enhance workforce education across the region with dedicated network colleagues sharing experience and skills to upskill the workforce.

The SiC newsletter has been sent to all units and will continue every 2-3 months with a speciality focus and I hope this is helping to streamline our communication.

We truly value your continued input, expertise and collaboration and look forward to closely working together in 2024 and beyond. Wishing you a very happy new year.

Damian