

# 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)

## LIZ LANGHAM-DIRECTOR



Another very busy year with both challenges and achievements. We finished our 3 year cycle of peer reviews, something which I get a huge amount of pleasure from. Seeing how proud you all are of your services is such an honour, looking at the huge improvement everyone has made and continues to plan is great.

This year has seen the focus on neonatal care intensify and often not in a good way. Understanding what we can learn from the Letby case to ensure that services are safe for babies and families will be challenging, without taking away the vast amount of really positive work which is continuing. Family engagement and the move to coproduction continues to be a focus for the ODN, and the work being undertaken by the ODN team in conjunction with yourselves will only continue to bring us closer to this being a reality. There are challenging times ahead particularly with funding but as a region I have no doubt we will continue to look at innovation, the 10 year plan is likely to focus on community care so enhancing our outreach teams and what is possible hopefully will be a focus.

Matthew James will be leaving the ODN at the end of December so I want to take this opportunity to say thank you to him for his support for the network and the ODN.

I want to say I continue to enjoy working with you all and hope you all have a great time at Christmas and have the opportunity to share time with your families.



thank you



GOODBYE

# MATTHEW JAMES-LEAD CLINICIAN



We have finished the year by completing all the PEER reviews. It has been such a pleasure to revisit and to see the improvements of all the units have made in all aspects of care, but it was also great to see the focus on parent experience all units now have. In November we ran a very successful neonatal conference which showcased many of the great projects that have been undertaken in units throughout the East of England. I have to thank Kelly Hart for all the organisation which helped make it such a great day.

As you all know I am stepping down as the East of England ODN medical lead. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with you all. I am extremely proud of the progress we have made over this time, despite having to cope with a covid pandemic. I have seen the improvement in care, staffing and parent experience in all units. This has been led by the great passion by the medical, nursing and OHP leads which has helped drive this change. I also have really appreciated excellent input of the Parent Advisory Group, and they have given us the parent view which has helped us improve the parent experience which is so important and something we need to continue to focus on for the future. A special thanks for Liz and Claire for all their help and support.

I hope you all have time to spend with your families over Christmas. I wish you all the best for the future, thank-you for all your hard work, kindness and help.

Best wishes

Matthew James





Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all, I hope all of you get to spend some quality time with your families over the festive period.

Firstly I would like to thank all of you for your continued hard work over the last year. In particular I would like to thank all of the Lead Nurse for their compliance in completing the neonatal nursing workforce data 'work book' every quarter – you excel yourselves every time with prompt submissions. There has been a focus on the standardisation of QIS training over the last 12 months which culminated in the release last week of the QIS Standardisation document. This has been a long time in the making, I am pleased we will eventually see some 'standardisation' in QIS education from our providers. NHSE have recently released some funding to support the implementation of this piece of work, although it is not yet clear how we will monitor compliance – I am sure more information will follow.

Recently we have been offered the opportunity for our nursing colleagues to apply for 'free' PNA places, please do access this training opportunity. The National Lead nurse Workforce and Education group will focus on how developing a role descriptor to support this role and how we can develop communities of practice that will offer a forum to discuss common themes and offer support.

I have made a number of unit visits over the last year alongside the recent Peer Reviews, as always I have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to see services at close hand. I never fail to be impressed by your dedication to fantastic care and in particular to the support you offer families.

I shall look forward to 2025 and wish you all a very Happy New Year.

# KATIE CULLUM-LEAD NURSE FOR QI & INNOVATION



As 2024 draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on some key milestones and express my heartfelt gratitude to all those who have supported our collective work across the region this year.

First, I want to extend a sincere thank you to our neonatal governance leads for their collaboration in creating the monthly exception reporting form. This has been an important step forward, and while there is still work to be done, we look forward to aligning this process with the soon to be released Perinatal Quality Oversight model.

A huge thank you also to all the teams involved in launching the Little Journey app across our three tertiary centres. This initiative has already made a positive impact on supporting families, and I was honoured to present this work at the BAPM Conference in Sheffield earlier this year. I'm excited to share that I have also been invited to speak about this project at the ESPGHAN Annual Meeting in Helsinki next year.

I would like to express my gratitude to everyone who contributed to the Preterm Counselling Workshop earlier this year. This collaborative effort was truly inspiring, and I am pleased to share that we will recommence these workshops in 2025, hopefully supported by our new East of England Obstetric Lead.

Looking ahead to 2025, I am eager to work closely with provider teams, LMNS colleagues, the MRT, and commissioners as we explore the implementation of the OPEL Framework to strengthen our regional systems.

A special thank you to all the external PMRT reviewers, whose input has been an invaluable asset in ensuring robust and impartial governance across the region.

I'd also like to acknowledge the hard work of our maternity and neonatal teams and SUV partners in developing the Transitional Care Guideline and Parent Information Leaflet. Next steps for this project are outlined in the end of project report, and an accompanying audit has been produced to guide future improvements.

# KATIE CULLUM—LEAD NURSE FOR QI & INNOVATION

I am delighted that the BAPM Framework for Newborn Pulse Oximetry Screening has now been published, and it was a privilege to contribute to this national guideline. I will review our East of England guidance to ensure it aligns fully with this new framework.

Additionally, I am currently contributing to the development of the BAPM Neonatal Mortality Governance Framework, which we hope to circulate in the early part of next year.

Finally, if anyone has Quality Improvement (QI) work they would like to share, please do get in touch. As a member of the BAPM Quality Steering Group, I can support you in using the BAPM QI template to publish work on their website and showcase the fantastic progress being made across our region.

Wishing everyone a peaceful and joyful holiday season and a Happy New Year. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication throughout 2024—I look forward to continuing our work together in 2025.

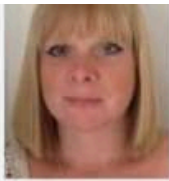
Warm regards,

Katie Cullum

Lead Nurse-Innovation and Quality Improvement, East of England Neonatal ODN



# JULIA COOPER-LEAD CARE COORDINATOR



**Julia Cooper**  
Lead Care Coordinator

- Mid and South Essex (Chelmsford, Basildon, Southend)
- Norfolk and Waveney (Norfolk and Norwich, James Paget, QE – Kings

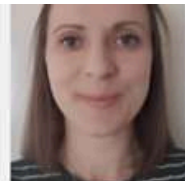


**Paula Peirce**  
Care Coordinator

- Herts and West Essex (Harlow, Lister, Watford)
- Cambridge & Peterborough (Cambridge, Peterborough,



**Danish Donal**  
Administrator



**Kelly Phizacklea**  
Family Engagement Lead



**Nina Vieira**  
Care Coordinator

- BLMK (Bedford, Luton and Milton Keynes)
- ESNEFT (Ipswich, Colchester, West Suffolk)

This year has been a dynamic and eventful one for the Care Coordinator team (CCt), marked by significant changes and new beginnings. We bid farewell to Jemima Morroll, who has moved on to an exciting role at Anglian Water in Employee Relations. Jemima's contributions to the team were invaluable, and we wish her all the best in her future endeavours.

At the same time, we are delighted to welcome Danish Donal as our new Administrator. Danish brings two years of administrative experience in the legal field, coupled with a postgraduate degree in International Business Management. We are confident Danish will play a vital role in supporting the team and enhancing our operations.

As always, the CCt remain committed to delivering excellence and adapting to new challenges. Here is to another successful chapter for the team

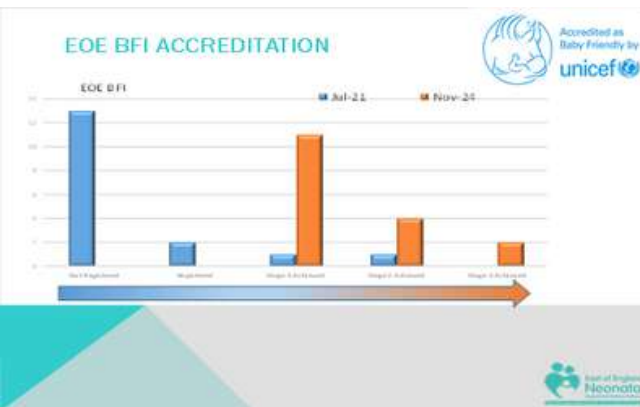
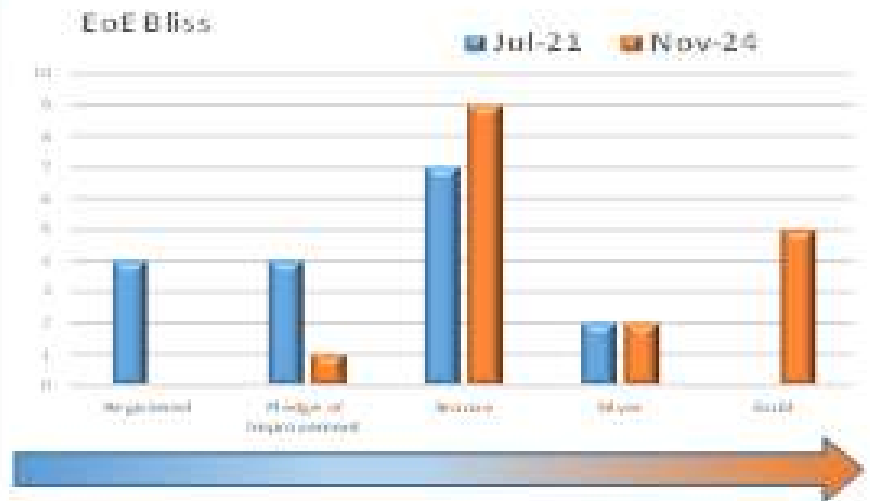




# JULIA COOPER-LEAD CARE COORDINATOR

It is great to see all units benchmarked to the BAPM Framework with some notable examples of how individually and regionally units are continuing to strive towards stage 3 BFI. Congratulations to all units that have moved forward with their Bliss and BFI journeys this year.

## TOOLS FOR FICARE – BLISS BABY CHARTER



A total of 21 units in England have achieved Bliss gold status, in which East of England have 5 - quarter of a country! This accomplishment underscores the region's commitment to supporting the highest standards and serve as a shining example Nationally.

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 tools allow benchmarking and comparison of performance across different units.

# JULIA COOPER-LEAD CARE COORDINATOR

## REPATRIATION

In February, the EoE Repatriation QI project was launched. This project started following the BAPM Repatriation Framework for Practice, delayed repatriation data and family feedback.

The Repatriation Link Nurse Role was fulfilled within each unit, and each have been fundamental on this project, not only on identifying babies that meet criteria to move closer to home but also, to reduce trauma and anxiety associated with transfer, and improve communication. The Repatriation Link Nurses have been involved in all processes, such as auditing, feedback and documentation used.

We have been amazed to watch them grow individually and as a group. This growth with the team has been felt not only at the face-to-face days dedicated to them, but also on capacity meetings, Teams meetings, on the WhatsApp group and presenting live on study days.

There is a Repatriation Medics/ANNPs webinar, to enhance involvement and collaborative working, on February 26th, 2025.

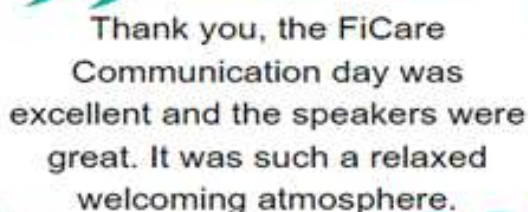
PaNDR has been involved with this project and have attended the Face-to-Face days along with the capacity meetings. This has been translated as improved communication and better patient flow.

# JULIA COOPER-LEAD CARE COORDINATOR

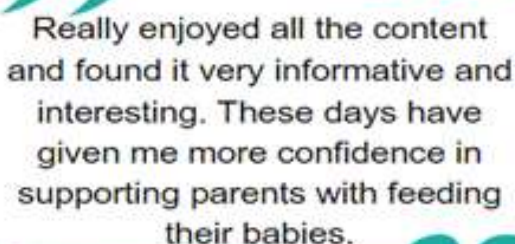
## Education

Our commitment to professional development was evident through the numerous Study Days we hosted. These included FiCare Introduction, Study Days and Infant Feeding Study Days. The feedback from these sessions was excellent, and we are eager to offer more Study Days in 2025, supporting continuous learning and improvement within our teams.

We facilitated face to face networking events focusing on the collaboration of multi disciplinary teams highlighting the value of Allied Professionals and families. This has included bringing together unit Family care leads, and Feeding Leads to accelerate implementation of FiCare. We are role modelling the embedding of family voice throughout our events by ensuring we hear directly from those with lived experience. We are also proud to say we saw a huge growth in digital engagement and peer support.



Thank you, the FiCare Communication day was excellent and the speakers were great. It was such a relaxed welcoming atmosphere.



Really enjoyed all the content and found it very informative and interesting. These days have given me more confidence in supporting parents with feeding their babies.

# JULIA COOPER-LEAD CARE COORDINATOR

As a dedicated Care Coordinator Team (CCt), we organized numerous impactful meetings and study days throughout the year. These events received overwhelmingly positive feedback, with participants praising the insightful content, engaging discussions, and practical value they brought to their roles. Such responses highlight the success of our efforts in fostering collaboration and professional development across key areas.

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 Leads	27th February	Ms Teams
Fi care & Feeding Leads Forum	25th March	Rosie 2a & 2b
SLT & Feeding Leads	6th may	Deakin Center
Neonatal Outreach Meeting	2nd july	Rosie 2a & 2b
Repatriation Leads	23rd September	Rosie 2a & 2b



# JULIA COOPER-LEAD CARE COORDINATOR

Conference  
Presentations  
&  
Celebrations



COINN Denmark 2024



# JULIA COOPER-LEAD CARE COORDINATOR

More recently we celebrated the FiCare and Feeding Advisor Day on November 14th. 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 25th march at CUH.

We are currently engaged in numerous exciting projects, including the Repatriation Quality Improvement. This initiative aims to ensure smooth, efficient and standardised repatriation across the East of England (EoE).

As we reflect on the achievements of 2024, we are filled with pride and gratitude for the commitment, engagement and dedication seen around the region. The initiatives and projects we have undertaken lay a strong foundation for continued excellence and innovation. We look forward to another year of growth, collaboration, and improved outcomes for the babies and families we serve. All of this wouldn't be possible without the hard work you all do, thank you.





# KELLY PHIZACKLEA-FAMILY ENGAGEMENT LEAD NURSE



2024 has been my first year in post and it has been a brilliant year! Thank you to all the stakeholders that have welcomed working in collaboration with me. Over the year I have developed positive working relationships with the Maternity and Neonatal Voice Partnerships (MNVPs), and continue to support them with integrating neonatal service user voice.

We have hosted various virtual listening events focussing on outreach, transitional care, and themes relating to our #ThinkNeonatal event. We also hosted our six in-person Share and Improve network wide listening events and will be establishing working groups to design and deliver service improvements following the feedback received. Hopefully, you should have all received the events report, if not, please do contact me at [k.phizacklea@nhs.net](mailto:k.phizacklea@nhs.net).



# ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS & PSYCHOLOGY TEAM



As 2024 draws to a close the team ask “where did that year go?” and take a little time to reflect on what has been achieved this year. It has been a busy one with the development and completion of lots of new projects (both network and national) alongside embedding support structures and learning opportunities for the growing team of AHPPs within the network.

We ran our second annual AHPP conference in the spring and delivered the Complex Feeding study day in June; both of which were very successful and evaluated well, and are looking forward to the #thinkneonatal event at the end of November. All members of the team have also contributed to other training and learning events, including national and network study days. We have provided regular standardised QIS training to our HEIs and continue to provide learning for our network AHP teams through regular community of practice forums, signposting to education events and resources and 1:1 supervision sessions.

Lots of work has focused on the development of resources for the network, including guidance for milk kitchen management, oral feeding, neurodevelopmental follow-up, vitamin and iron supplementation and an overhaul and update of the network enteral feeding and developmental care guidelines.

Project involvement has been both local and national - regional projects have included baby wearing and slings, feeding readiness assessment and the new parent portal.

We are now looking forward to 2025 and have lots of exciting things planned for education, resources and continued AHPP team support, and will be welcoming a new member to the team early in the year when Lynne Radbone, our network dietitian retires on 31st December.

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 2025.

Rachel, Jane, Laura, Rebecca & Lynne

EOE ODN AHP and Psychology Team





# NIGEL GOODING—LEAD PHARMACIST



This has been my first year ‘officially’ working with and supporting the Neonatal ODN and our neonatal units.

It has been a privilege to work with so many different professionals who provide outstanding care and want to continue to improve the care that is provided for our babies and parents /carers. I have seen some excellent examples of practice around medicines management on the peer reviews I was involved in this year.

When I started in post it was important to identify the current position of the East of England network with regards to medicines and pharmacy provision. I distributed a survey to pharmacists in each of our units asking for data around the themes of pharmacy workforce and activities, technology (EPMA and smart pumps), use of the regional IV monographs and training requirements.

Compared with national standards, our pharmacy workforce is significantly below the expected level, with a deficit of almost 12 WTE pharmacists across the region, against a requirement of 17.7 WTE. I have started work on preparing a template business case that can be adapted by Trusts to help support the requirement to increase pharmacy establishment.

With regards to technology, it is good to see many Trusts have implemented EPMA (Electronic Prescription and Medication Administration), including neonatal units. However there are some units that have highlighted their EPMA system does not fulfil all their prescribing requirements.

I prepared a Supporting Statement from the ODN to assist neonatal units having discussions with their Trusts about EPMA systems and specific neonatal requirements to ensure that the system procured meets the needs of all patients in the Trust and not just adult patients. I am very happy to be involved in supporting any of those discussions that you have with your Trusts.

## NIGEL GOODING—LEAD PHARMACIST

Much of my time has been spent updating regional neonatal IV monographs and I have a rolling plan for how the monographs are reviewed. The majority of neonatal units are using these monographs and I have had discussions with the couple of Trusts that have not yet implemented them yet to see how they could be introduced.

Earlier in the year I surveyed monograph users and the feedback was generally very good and this work was presented at the Neonatal and Paediatric Pharmacist Group conference in November.

I am pleased to be working closely with the pharmacy teams across the region and set up a WhatsApp group, which has been very active over the last year and a chance for pharmacists working alone to connect with other colleagues in the region. We have a pharmacist study day planned during 2025.

At a national level I support the BAPM/NPPG drug safety group, where various discussions have taken place on how medicines recommendations from the GIRFT report can be implemented. This has supported the work around the neonatal infusion concentrations that have been included in the national infusion standardisation framework. We are expecting this framework to be published soon and then I will be looking to work with you all in 2025 to introduce this framework into our practice across the region. I recently presented at the BAPM conference on use of smart infusion pumps and use of the infusion framework.

I have enjoyed meeting many of you this year and am looking forward to working with you all in 2025. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can help in any way regarding any aspects of medicines use in neonates.

I wish you all a lovely Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

# WENDY ROGERS-NEUROPROTECTION LEAD NURSE



2024 is nearly over, where has the Year gone!

We have seen our government change hands and an end to the nurses and doctors strikes. Personally, I supported the need to make this standpoint, but it did put pressure on events that were over and above the normal working commitments.

Meeting up for the Baby Brain Protection group has proved difficult with the demands on everyone's time. Saying this, we have made progress.

The Neuroprotection follow-up guideline will be out to the region for comment soon.

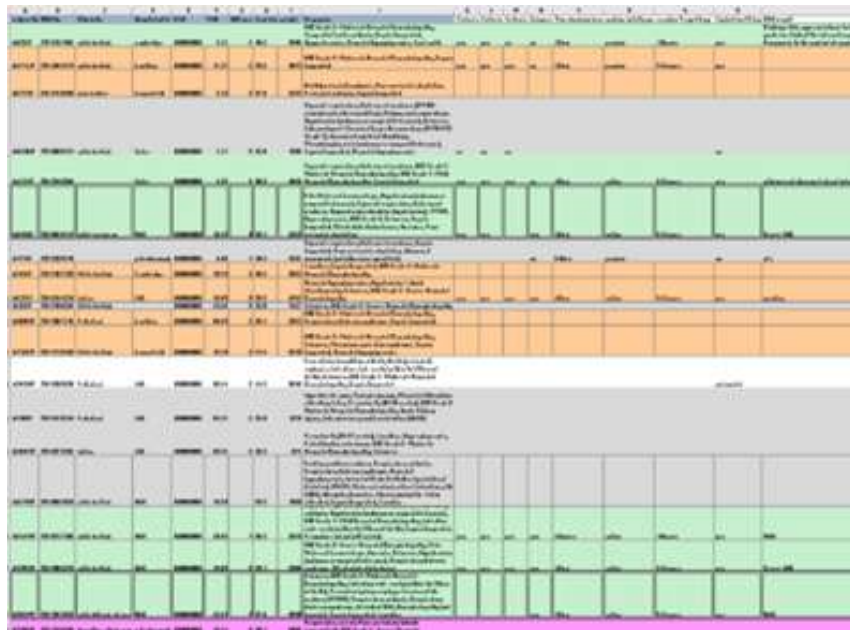
The Imaging guideline is underway and should be ready for regional comments in the New Year.

The Reducing IVH guideline will hopefully be ratified at December COG. There will be a poster and training package to go with this guidance, to help implement around the region.

We plan to hold a meeting earlier next year with all the members of the baby brain protection group to discuss how we wish to move forward, to keep the group sustainable and futureproof.



# WENDY ROGERS-NEUROPROTECTION LEAD NURSE



## Data collection

Earlier this year we had discussed the information we collected for HIE and obtained your feedback on what you thought was relevant to collect. This was in an effort to ensure what we collected had a purpose and to minimise the time needed by our link workers to collect this information on my behalf. I am now able to remove those babies that were ultimately not HIE. Hopefully we can identify those babies with poor MRI results in the future to see how they are developing.

2023 had a total of 55 babies cooled, excluding RIP. We are currently looking like we will be below this figure by the end of this year. There were a total of 60 babies cooled in 2022. That means we have seen a downward trend for the last 3 years. That is fantastic news for our babies.

	2023 Up to October	2024 Up to October
Total cooled	47 48 inclusive of RIP	39 44 inclusive of RIP
RIP	1	5



**LASTLY, I WOULD LIKE TO WISH EVERY ONE OF YOU, A  
VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR**







Hello Everyone,

I am Sankara Narayanan, Neonatal Consultant at Watford General Hospital.

I would like to introduce myself as the new Medical Education Lead for EoE ODN. I am very excited to take on this role. It is a 'first' of its kind in the network.

In this role, I am hoping to develop a comprehensive education strategy tailored to meet the needs of all our medical staff, from consultants to trainees alongside nursing and AHP workforce. Our primary focus will be creating an inclusive and equitable educational program that considers the diverse neonatal care settings within a large network.

The education strategy and programme should reflect the needs of frontline workforce. I will be sending a short survey to crowdsource opinion from medical workforce across the region. Your views are essential in designing a program that truly aligns with our collective needs and aspirations.

Looking forward to working with you all.

# TERESA BERRY – PRACTICE DEVELOPMENT LEAD NURSE



Well that's another year almost done! What a whirlwind of a year it's been. We have had a full calendar of events this year which has been great and regional education has kept me very busy!

We have aimed to provide at least one educational event for all roles working within neonates and the feedback for most of these events has been amazing. Please do complete any post course or post event feedback forms, I read every single comment and try to adapt future study days utilising the feedback we receive. Here is an example of some of the feedback we have received this year.

**Study Day Feedback**

East of England Neonatal  
Specialist Skills Network

"Excellent workshops, really well organised, lovely venue, thank you"

"Found the day really good would strongly recommend"

"All sessions were informative and practical"

"Very informative"

"Amazing day. Looking forwards to more study days"

"I feel much more confident about my approach to neonatal emergencies, thank you"

"Lots of talk through needed more time for practice"

"I really enjoyed the day, I have not got much experience so found the day very beneficial"

"Learn a lot"

"All the sessions had some new information for me to learn and I will put into practice"

"It would have been great if we had some chance to practice more in each workshop"

**Study Day Feedback**

East of England Neonatal  
Specialist Skills Network

"Overall a great day, well thought out, interactive and engaging"

"I found the whole day really good and at the right level"

"Was nice to refresh things and go over the new practice policy"

"It was excellent, keep us the good work"

"Please organise more nursing skills days, I believe it was very beneficial to neonatal nurses"

"The parent session helped a lot with parent perspective"

"Every topic was excellent"

"I'll take a lot back from today"

"No changes needed"

"All sessions were delivered well and great lunch too!"

"The day was so well organized, great workshops and great venue"

"Having the practical side of the study day was brilliant"



We put a lot of thought into our study days and use a range of faculty from across the region (and further afield!) to try and give you the best possible learning experience. I would like to say a HUGE 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.

Are you particularly passionate about a specific neonatal topic? Would you like to share your knowledge with others? Please get in contact ([Teresa.berry3@nhs.net](mailto:Teresa.berry3@nhs.net)) as I am always looking for facilitators to help me to deliver these study days.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to shout out to our lovely sponsors who continue to support our educational events which helps us keep the costs down and allow us to use venues that give us great lunches!! Our sponsors often provide equipment for us to use on the study days to make the experience even better too, so a massive thank you to all of them for their support in 2024.



# TERESA BERRY–PRACTICE DEVELOPMENT LEAD NURSE

We have a huge list of education events upcoming in 2025 so please make sure to visit our website and sign up, attend and refresh your knowledge or learn something new. 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 2025.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year  
Teresa x





# SAYEED HAQ-PROJECT MANAGER



Meet the PM!

That is the PM (the project manager) for the Neonatal ODN. Not the guy in No.10!

Apart from the abbreviated form of our job titles, the only thing we share is that we are relatively new in our jobs.

My name is Sayeed Haq. In April this year, I joined the Neonatal ODN in my first network role. Prior to this, I had worked for various Trusts managing an array of projects. However, this position has brought me back to neonatal care, where not so long ago I was a parent with a premature baby in the NICU.

Returning to the world of tiny babies, has been interesting and eye-opening. Neonatal care has come such a long way, even in the five years since my youngest son was in NICU. I have discovered through reading and discussions with colleagues about the many changes and improvements that have been made and are being made.

As part of my learning, I have had to get to know a seemingly endless list of abbreviations and acronyms! Having already worked in the NHS and in education before that, this was no surprise!

Nevertheless, it has opened my eyes to how much work and expertise is required for an area of healthcare that has unfortunately had negative reports in the media recently.

# SAYEED HAQ-PROJECT MANAGER

My role is to see through to completion many of the projects, which were initiated as result of the numerous reviews and recommendations.

In case you haven't come across a project manager before and are wondering what one does, you may be familiar with some of the following examples.

You may have had a new building, car park or annex constructed at your Trust. Or are going through a major digital transformation such as switching to EPMA, EPIC or any one of several Trust wide I.T systems being introduced. On a smaller scale, perhaps you have had a wedding planned or been to a sports event.

In the examples above, someone has to agree the scope, the milestones, plan all the steps and resources needed all within limited time and budget to achieve the goal. Record and track of all this. They have to build (as well as maintain) relationships with the key stakeholders. Listen to their needs and concerns. It is not easy, but someone must keep all parties on track (think about the happy couple getting married and their families)!

That person is the project manager. From Major construction and I.T projects to special events, it is the PM who does all this and more.

As the neonatal ODN PM, I help senior leaders and teams to plan some of the projects that will bring positive change and improvements.

Since starting with the ODN, I have been working on a variety of projects including improving exception reporting to the network, the online parent portal, the locants system as well as others.

Thus, I have already gotten to know colleagues across not just the neonatal network but also the paediatric and surgical (children) networks.

Over the coming months, I am sure that I will meet many more of the teams and staff across the East of England. Whether virtually or face-to-face, I look forward to meeting you all and planning future projects together that bring the best care possible to the babies and families in our region.

Lastly, wedding planning is not included!

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. Our membership has grown rapidly over the past year and we now have 30 members, with a diversity of experiences.

Throughout this year, 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 we would like to say a big thank you for making their experience enjoyable. PAG members have been part of multiple workstreams within the ODN throughout 2024 including; transitional care, neurodevelopmental care, antenatal pre-term counselling, repatriation, parent portal 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, and co-facilitated our event #ThinkNeonatal. This event was specifically aimed at services that support neonatal families outside of the neonatal unit (i.e. maternity, health visiting, primary care, etc), to raise awareness and understanding of the long-term impact of having a baby cared for on a neonatal unit.

As neonatal parents, we felt it was essential that we provided evidence to the House of Lords Pre-term birth committee and were pleased to see this published as part of the review. We also supported a review of the pre-registration child nursing curriculum for the University of Hertfordshire, ensuring a neonatal perspective was included.

We have received many requests from neonatal units and researchers requesting input from neonatal parents for a variety of research projects. We are mindful of PAG members time, but we do always appreciate people wanting to work in collaboration with neonatal families.

Finally, we provided an in-person summer celebration to show our appreciation for our PAG members. We had a lovely day visiting a farm and it was wonderful to see the children all playing together.



# 2025 EDUCATION EVENTS



## East of England Neonatal, Paediatric Critical Care & Surgery in Children ODN's Joint Study Days



Healthy Leadership  
8 sessions per cohort  
Suitable for band 6's & above  
Microsoft Teams  
Free



Educator's Study Day  
8th May  
Addenbrookes Hospital  
Free



Transition of Care  
10th September  
Microsoft Teams  
Free



## East of England Neonatal ODN Virtual Study Days



Cardiac  
19th March  
MS Teams

2 Day Infant Feeding Course  
20th & 21st May  
or  
29th & 30th September  
MS Teams



Neuroprotection  
6th June  
MS Teams



Ventilation  
26th November  
MS Teams



The ODN administrative team are available for any queries please contact them at [add-tr.eooneonatalodn@nhs.net](mailto:add-tr.eooneonatalodn@nhs.net)



# 2025 EDUCATION EVENTS



## East of England Neonatal ODN Face-to-Face Study Days



Neonatal Medical Skills  
28th March  
Iceni Centre-Colchester Hospital  
£65.00 per person

Overseas Nurses  
3rd April  
The Belfry Hotel & Spa  
Cambourne  
Free



Neonatal Emergency Skills  
3rd July  
The Belfry Hotel & Spa  
Cambourne  
£50.00 per person

Nursing Skills  
9th October  
The Belfry Hotel & Spa  
Cambourne  
£50.00 per person



SCBU/HDU  
22nd October  
The Belfry Hotel & Spa  
Cambourne  
£50.00 per person



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# Happy Holidays

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

