

August 2022



KENT, SURREY, SUSSEX NEONATAL NETWORK

Welcome to our latest edition of the quarterly newsletter. We look forward to sharing all our latest news and success stories. If you have any content that you would like to be included in our next newsletter, please contact us on medwayft.kssneonatalodn@nhs.net



The neonatal transport teams have all received Ant Neuro Cerebral Function monitors for their rigs. These have been provided by the network and will help to monitor and diagnose HIE babies on our Special Care Units.

Developmental Care

The network funded multi-disciplinary places for FINE developmental care training days, these were well attended in May/June. The Family and Infant Neurodevelopmental Education (FINE) programme is a unique educational pathway in family-centred developmental care that is suitable for all disciplines in any neonatal setting. FINE offers high quality training in this approach which supports and improves the outcomes for babies and families in neonatal care.

On 18/7/2022 we held a Bliss support session for the units in the network who have paid to progress with the Bliss Baby Charter. The session was facilitated by Holly Sullivan, programme lead for the Bliss baby charter. Holly talked through the Baby charter and told us about some of the wider work at Bliss. There was a celebration of achievements across the network, with parent feedback highlighted from the accredited units, and areas of strength seen in the audits from the units that are progressing. There are currently only 13 units across the country that are accredited and KSS have 4 of these so well done everyone!!

A member of the KSS Parent advisory group joined the session and was able to give feedback on ideas and questions asked from a parent perspective.

If you were unable to join us, the session was recorded, copy and paste the link below into your browser to watch it back.

https://nhs-my.sharepoint.com/:v/g/person/annafrancis_nhs_net/ESld72qj4t5MlloQggQQlvwBhp2VI8lkr sJEnLu-awa4uQ

Update from Care Co-ordinators

The KSS neonatal ODN care co-ordinators are really excited to be delivering 'mock up' folders of the parent card concept we have been developing to all the units across the network.

The initial aim of the project was to develop a 'Parent Passport' that could be used across the KSS network. The group reviewed a collection of passports from across the network and from other regions but struggled to find a template that met everyone's needs, and in particular, what parents told us they would want or use for a variety of reasons. Feedback from staff and families was that these are often not effective, with reasons given mostly focusing around them being too big, including irrelevant information, too overwhelming for families, and often unopened, lost or at home.

Luckily we saw this tweet from Liverpool Women's Hospital! The KSS passport group agreed enthusiastically to adopt the parent card concept, and to explore further development of the idea.



Family Integrated Care places families at the centre of their baby's neonatal care. Families should be supported to be the primary care givers, the card format enables them to take the lead, and do this at their own pace. Parents often report being overwhelmed with information, not really knowing what to ask, and what they can do for their baby. The parent card format enables families to select the information they need, applicable to their neonatal journey and explore care giving activities and resources available to support.

This visual concept serves as a prompt for families and the whole multi-disciplinary neonatal team to discuss and initiate different steps. As families add cards to the folder, this will create an individual bespoke keepsake that documents the families' neonatal journey.

The eventual aim would be to have QR codes and links to resources on the reverse of the cards to support families and staff to work in partnership. The aim is for the format to be adopted by all neonatal units across Kent, Surrey, and Sussex. This will mean that the cards will travel with the family if they have care in another unit. This will help ensure consistency, avoid duplication and reduce parental stress. The folder/journal can continue to be added to in the next unit.

Neonatal Nurse recruitment video

Across the South East ODN's we have recently commissioned a recruitment video as part of our workforce strategy. The video was launched to coincide with the #Be a Neonatal Nurse campaign and has been shared by the NNA and also via our Twitter platform.

Watch it [here](#)

KSS ODN has subscribed to the Florence Nightingale Foundation and is now a member for the next 12 months.

This give all nurses in our network access to the following

1. Leadership Support Service provides a psychological safe space for staff to explore professional and personal challenges. Our facilitators create a secure and confidential environment for staff of all levels to come together, to decompress and reflect on leadership challenges.
2. Leadership development programmes and scholarships
3. Access to Writing Successful Scholarship Applications
4. Access to free webinars and networking events
5. A limited number of places at the Florence nightingale commemoration Service at Westminster Abbey

For more information follow this [link](#)



Kent, Surrey, Sussex
NEONATAL NETWORK

Infant feeding working group

Nurturing positive feeding experiences

Passionate about infant feeding? Want to be involved in a network wide strategy for improving feeding experiences for infants and their families?

We're looking to form a working group to focus on 'nurturing positive feeding experiences' across all units with KSS neonatal ODN. This will facilitate developing resources, policies and tools for both families and staff.

Who are we looking for?

Parents

Infant feeding leads

Neonatal MDT (medical, SLT, Dietitian, Nursing)

Current projects recruiting to:

- Donor milk guidelines and SOP
- NGT feeding/weaning at home
- Buccal Colostrum

Register your interest via:
kate.jones96@nhs.net

New SIM Training Research post: starting September

Professor Rabe at Brighton has secured funding for a multi-professional SIM training fellowship which will be done by their research midwife Emily Marler. Emily will get funding to do the PGCert in Sim training course and will have 2 days protected time to do the course and MDT SIM training across KSS and TVW ODN's

The grant scheme requires a topic for the candidate to work on: They have chosen BAPM Optimisation pathway and the candidate will need to develop SIM scenarios suitable for MDT teaching. Emily will be working closely with the network educators and links in LMNS.



Missed a GIRFT webinar? Links to previous recordings are compiled below:

[Read more](#)

Webinar archive

Select the webinar to view the recording (YouTube private link)

2022

July 2022

14th July - GIRFT's neonatology webinar series – session 2: [Workforce and the way forward \(neonatology\)](#)

7th July - GIRFT's neonatology webinar series – session 1: [The findings and recommendations from the GIRFT neonatology national report.](#)

Education



We are pleased to share that KSS ODN Education team has many exciting ongoing and upcoming projects to support staff education within the network

As an ODN we were able to support staff with their UNICEF BFI train the trainer and Family and Infant neurodevelopmental course (level 1). At least one member of staff from each unit was able to attend this course.

We are successfully finishing our Second cohort of INFuSE (Interprofessional Neonatal fundamental south East) and set to start our Third cohort end of September, 22. This programme aims to support Nurses, Midwives and Allied health care professionals to develop Knowledge and understanding of neonatal care. Feedback we have received has been positive for this programme.

We have STAR workshop in collaboration with Health Education England, We are investigating on how to introduce and enhance the role of nurse associates across perinatal services in South East region. Some of the initial Findings we have, are looking very promising and soon we will be able to share the outcomes.

Last but not the least we have our Annual Education day on 7TH October. It's a hybrid day, Participants can join us Face to face or virtually. We really hope it to be an informative and inspiring day for all planning to attend

PREM 7

7 steps towards a safer premature birth



Find out more at:
[southeastclinicalnetworks.nhs.uk/PREM7](https://www.southeastclinicalnetworks.nhs.uk/PREM7)

PREM 7 is supported by:
National Patient Safety
Improvement Programme
Maternity
and Neonatal

The South East Maternity Team is pleased to be launching our PREM 7 project.

The aim of this perinatal project is to improve outcomes for babies in the South East Region. Based on best practise, these seven interventions will have a significant & positive impact on reducing brain injury and mortality rates amongst babies born prematurely. The project is being led by the South East Maternity team with close participation from both ODNs in Kent, Surrey and Sussex and Thames Valley and Wessex and the MatNeo teams in Kent, Surrey and Sussex, Wessex and Oxford.

In the Kent Surrey and Sussex area, our lead Ursula Clarke and her team will be working with the 9 trusts in the area to support improvement activities related to these seven interventions. Contact ursula.clarke@nhs.net

To support this work, the SE regional team has allocated some funding, via the MatNeo Teams and ODNs, to work with leads identified within each trusts.

Next steps:

- Laminated posters (as below) will be distributed to all trusts
- Learning & Sharing events will be developed over the next 6 months for the individual elements of PREM 7
- Learning resources will be collated and uploaded onto the PREM 7 Page of the website (link below)

For more information, please visit our website:
<https://www.southeastclinicalnetworks.nhs.uk/prem7/> where more resources will be uploaded.

Updates across the Network

Conquest Hospital: Congratulations again to Conquest Hospital, the first SCU in the country to receive their Bliss accreditation.



Frimley: Another huge well done to Frimley for receiving their Platinum accreditation.



Royal Surrey: The neonatal team have been successful at obtaining funding for a year for neonatal outreach, which will include community visits by nursery nurses, a high risk clinic and development with Badgernet on their Ficare app, to eventually allow parents to input data from home. They hope to have the visits and clinic up and running by November 2022. The unit passed all but 1 BFI stage 2 requirement. They are training the nurses and doing an internal audit which was agreed with BFI so should be accredited in the next month or so.

With regards to Bliss, they are going for gold on the 24th August 2022.

East Kent: The outreach team at WHH/QEQM are piloting a hybrid outreach model. To date they have held three clinics in Dover and they have gone really well. The feedback from the families who had been visited at home previously and had then come to the clinics every week were happy with the model. They have only done it in one area at the moment and are bringing the Dover and Folkestone families into Buckland Hospital. To date there have been no DNAs and parent feedback is very positive. Having adopted this model it has really helped to make the service more efficient and enabled them to give support to more families. The team feel that a mixture of home visits and clinic will work really well and allow them to offer an individualised service to families. They also feel it will give them the opportunity to cluster higher risk babies into one clinic where a Consultant/SLT/Physio can see them as a one stop shop to prevent them having to attend multiple appointments if they need things sorting out quickly in between their normal medical/AHP clinic appointments. The team feel it is really important to be able to have both options to offer parents equity and choice and to individualise care to the baby and their family

Brighton: Brighton and PRH would really like to highlight the successful implementation of parent led ward rounds, the expansion of these from SCBU to HDU, and how much the team involved has grown and the parents keenness to be involved.

Alongside this they now have live and published our new welcome book, that not only informs parents of information about the unit, but more specific information surrounding care of the neonate at various stages, developmental care, a core list of terminology and advice to assist with parent led ward rounds. It also contains some useful information about the surrounding area.


They have also now created space in a few areas on TMBU and a board at PRH for a theme of the week, and a place to celebrate specific national/international celebrations such kangaroo care week, Communication, world breastfeeding week etc.

Medway:



This week is World Breastfeeding Week and the team in NICU hosted a celebration (kindly supported by the Oliver Fisher Special Care Baby Trust) for current patients and staff to raise awareness of the importance of breastfeeding. The team also used the day to launch a new parent feeding support group for our NICU parents. We know that outcomes are improved when parents are treated as partners in care and therefore aim to support and encourage their involvement with their baby's care at all times.

Shared Learning:

Summary of incident:	Root cause identified:	Good practice identified:
<p>2 day old baby discharged home establishing breast feeds. Dad went to give baby a syringe of colostrum but did not realise the purple end of the syringe was a cap. Pushed plunger to dispense colostrum and cap flew off into baby's mouth. Cap swallowed by baby causing oesophageal obstruction. Brought to the Emergency Department, moved immediately into resus and rapidly transferred to theatre for removal of foreign body with multiple teams present as location of cap unknown. Cap removed in theatre. Good recovery post-operatively with normal feeding and observations. Discharged home.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accidental aspiration of purple cap from colostrum syringe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baby managed appropriately within ED and theatres. Quick response by the teams to the attendance. Quick response by the infant feeding team at PAH following the incident being reported
Areas for improvement:	Learning points for sharing:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colostrum kits sticker amended. Patient information leaflets amended to include caveat about the lids. Maternity service changed colostrum collecting syringes. Incident reported to Trust Clinical Engineering Team who will report to the company. 	
Important safety information		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infant feeding syringes have a free-fastening lid which must be removed before giving expressed colostrum or milk to your baby. Always keep syringes and lids away from babies and children. 		

Template designed by Surrey Heartlands L

Case Review LESSONS LEARNT

Summary of incident:	Root cause identified:	Good practice identified:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Term baby admitted at 1630 to WHH NICU (21 hrs of age) with 1 episode of bilious vomiting. Assessed my WHH and treatment given AXR – Abnormal gas pattern Consultant review 1800 ?Volvulus / Sepsis Accepted by Evelina surgeons at 1900 Surrey NTS (lead team) contacted 1936 Surrey NTS discussed with Kent NTS (late team) Sussex team (night team) contacted at 2000, despatched 2025 Arrived at WHH 2235 Arrived at St. Thomas' 0130 Theatre 0400 – Volvulus – entire small bowel ischaemic, 35cm viable, all else resected. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12 hours from admission to NICU / abnormal AXR to going to theatre. NTS referral pathway not followed by referring unit – caused delay in obtaining a team and preventing usual conference call occurring. 6 hours from initial contact with NTS to arrival at surgical centre (Brighton – WHH – St Thomas' is 143 miles – 4 hours, plus stabilisation and preparation of all (sterile) fluids as not ready when Sussex team arrived at WHH). 5 hrs from despatch to arrival at surgical centre – how could this be reduced? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate admission and clinical management from referring unit NTS teams discussed referral with Consultant on call Sussex NTS despatched (well) within 60 mins in accordance with Local (and National) Time Critical guideline. Bilious vomiting is a Local Time Critical condition. Sussex registrar assessed baby on arrival and was appropriately concerned about volvulus. Fluids prepared and transferred baby safely and swiftly. Excellent communication between Sussex NTS registrar and parents.
Areas for improvement:	Learning points for sharing:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure all units within KSS are aware of correct referral process for emergency transfers. Improvement in communication and sharing of clinical information between referring units and NTS. Referring units to have fluids prepared prior to NTS team arrival for all Time Critical transfers NTS teams to ask targeted questions when being referred a baby with bilious vomiting to ensure appropriate triage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Targeted questions proforma for NTS teams when taking referrals for bilious vomiting – Louise Watts to create draft proforma. All babies requiring emergency transfer to be referred to EBS (regardless of whether a receiving cot has been located or not) as soon as a transfer is deemed necessary, as this will trigger NTS to despatch, a conference call between clinicians and cot locating (if required). Sharing of clinical information including lactate, Hb, blood gases, radiological findings, and concerns regarding potential volvulus for all babies with bilious vomiting to allow for appropriate decision making. NTS to continue to treat all bilious vomiting referrals as local time critical and continue to despatch within 60 minutes of referral as per local and national time critical guideline. Transport teams to discuss and use blue lights for bilious vomiting referrals to reduce travelling times. There are learning points for all teams involved in this transfer. 	

BAPM Supports Neonatal Leave and Pay Bill

BAPM joins with Bliss to strongly support the Neonatal Care (Leave and Pay) Bill to make things easier for families at this incredibly difficult time in their lives. The Bill passed Second Reading and received Government support. If this bill becomes law, parents will be able to spend more time on the unit with their baby without having to choose between providing the best care for their baby and earning a living.

[More details](#)

New report highlights the Contribution of Newborn Health to Child Mortality across England

National Child Mortality Database (NCMD) has released a new report 'The Contribution of Newborn Health to Child Mortality across England'.

This report draws on data from the National Child Mortality Database (NCMD) to investigate how illness around the time of birth affects the health of children up to the age of 10, and to draw out learning and recommendations for service providers and policymakers.

[More details](#)

Prefilled syringes of NICU intubation drugs

The Neonatal and Paediatric Pharmacy Group (NPPG) is currently undertaking some background work to understand which neonatal centres currently use pre-filled syringes for their intubation drugs. Please complete the short survey below which will take less than 5 minutes to complete.

[View survey](#)

BAPM Events

Optimising Care for Women Experiencing Preterm Birth

This webinar is being jointly hosted by BAPM and the British Intrapartum Care Society (BICS). Speakers include Sarah Bates, Andrew Shennan, Manju Chandiramani, Tracey Kay and Julie-Clare Becher. The event is chaired by Louise Page, BICS President.

This webinar is free to attend. Register in advance.

Tuesday 20 September, 6:00-7:30pm

[Book now](#)

BAPM Annual Conference 2022

The Early Bird deadline for this year's Annual Conference is fast approaching. Get your ticket before **31 July** to take advantage of this discounted rate.

The full programme will be announced this week!

[More details](#)

Neonatal Update 2022

The Neonatal Update is an annual event, recognised for including contributions from a wide range of world-leading scientists and clinical researchers, some with no direct involvement in newborn care. This year it will be a hybrid event held at BMA House in London and online.

Date: 28 November

[More details](#)

5th International Family Integrated Care Conference

Registration is now open for the 5th International Family Integrated Conference.

Date: 21 November to 22 November

[More details](#)

Upcoming Network dates for your diary:

Clinical Governance – Thursday 6th October 2022 10.00-12.30

Holiday Inn London – Gatwick Airport

Clinical Forum – Thursday 6th October 2022 13.30-16.00

Holiday Inn London – Gatwick Airport

KSS Neonatal Network Education Day – Friday 7th October 2022 (More details to follow)

Holiday Inn London – Gatwick Airport

If you are attending either the Clinical Governance or Clinical Forum, please specify on your acceptance whether this will be in person, or via Teams.



London Neonatal
Operational Delivery Network

Supporting the neonatal journey with Allied Health & Psychological Professionals

OCT
05

**Supporting the neonatal
journey with AHPs &
Psychological Professionals**

by London Neonatal Operational Delivery
Network

Free

Join us for this free all day event!

About this event

The NCCR and GIRFT reviews have tasked trusts to develop AHP and Psychological provision.

AHP and psychological provision ensures that an infant's journey and the experiences of families and staff are well supported, mitigate the impact of admission and prevent further impacts associated with premature birth.

This event offers neonatal units the chance to think about the key issues involved in developing equitable care across London for infants and families and appropriate support for staff teams. It will cover both the challenges and the opportunities of better provision and help units on their journey towards an embedded MDT working in the best interests of all.

A free of charge face to face event being held at
Governor's Hall, St. Thomas' Hospital, Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7EH.

Programme for the day....

09.00	Coffee and networking
09.15	Introduction from the AHP and Psychology team in the London Neonatal ODN
09.45	Welcome from the London Neonatal ODN's Network Director Suzy Sweeney
10am	Working at regional level Grenville Fox – ODN Clinical Director Zeshan Rawn – ODN Senior Information Manager
10.30	Break and poster time
11.00	What do AHPs and Psychology bring?
12.00	How AHPs & Psychology support the other NCCR and regional objectives
12.30	Lunch
13.15	Experiences of AHPs and Psych around London
13.30	Sharing the ODN's initial benchmarking/scoping data
14.45	Break and poster time
15.00	AHP and Psychology findings from the GIRFT
15.30	Models of care including financing of roles and practical implementation Next steps – our process for moving forward the work and how units can engage with this
16.30	Panel and questions
17.00	Close

Date and time

Wed, 5 October 2022
09:00 – 17:00 BST

Location

Governor's Hall, St Thomas' Hospital
Westminster Bridge Road
London
SE1 7EH
[View map](#)