



South West Audit of Critically Ill Children (SWACIC)

December 2008

WELCOME!

Welcome to this edition of the South West Audit of Critically Ill Children's newsletter. The audit of all children meeting critical illness criteria has now been underway in the South West for nearly 8 years providing us with an accurate outline of service provision for sick children in our region. Work is currently in progress to produce the 7th Annual regional report which should be available at the end of this year. Electronic or hard copies of past reports are obtainable from Carol Maskrey. Individual hospital reports will soon be produced – please request a copy for your hospital if you do not receive one.

REMEMBER Data collection has been ongoing since **November 2000** hence there is now a *significant amount* of information about YOUR hospital activity regarding critically ill children which could provide you with the hard data you need for future service provision!!

Please let Carol Maskrey know your specific requirements and bespoke presentations or mini reports can be produced for you.

BACKGROUND

The South West Commissioning Group continue to support the ongoing audit of children admitted to Intensive Care Units and to include children who meet

agreed HDU criteria but do not necessarily receive “dedicated” intensive care. Funds are annually made available to ensure there is a salaried audit nurse in each of our regional hospitals.

With the advent of the Paediatric Critical Care Minimum Dataset which became mandatory in England in October 2007, SWACIC has dovetailed their data collection to work in parallel with this Department of Health initiative. This should enable many DGHs to quantify their HDU/ITU provision once Payment-by-Results is operational. For the DoH document see link below:

<http://www.connectingforhealth.nhs.uk/dscn/dscn2007/DS-CN%2001-2007%20V3.pdf?searchterm=paediatric+critical+care>

The audit has allowed future decisions regarding PICU and HDU national strategy to be based on accurate information and enhancing future service provision for all critically ill children. The audit also forms part of a national dataset in the future to enable inter-regional comparison.

ANNUAL REPORT 2008

The regional report for this year is on the “brink” of publication! As soon as it has been signed-off it will be distributed to all! Hopefully by Christmas (this year!) It will of course be

available on the PICU website in PDF format:

www.swretrieval.nhs.uk

Your feedback and comments are welcome – this is YOUR report.....

AUDIT NURSE FUNDING 2008/9

Funding for audit nurses has been finalised for 2008/9 at the current level of 0.15 wte Band 5 nurse. An invoice for £3889 needs to be raised by each hospital, directly with UBHT finance dept. All hospitals except Swindon and Yeovil have claimed for this year. A reminder to managers that these funds are not only to facilitate nurse time but also to attend related meetings and participation in validation exercises.

GOVERNANCE ISSUES

Following an inspection by the Audit Commission, SWACIC are required to tighten-up the data return process. With immediate effect, all completed hard-copy forms are to be sent via Royal Mail “Special Delivery”. Data can also be submitted by NHS.net email to carolmaskrey@nhs.net This is the most secure and preferred method of data transfer but is reliant on all audit nurses obtaining an NHS.net email address. Some nurses have been experiencing difficulties in securing this with their Trusts despite the fact that all NHS employees are entitled to NHS mail. Carol will be writing to all

Governance Leads in your Trusts to ask for their help in facilitating this in their hospitals. This is an essential *requirement* for secure data-transfer, not a luxury!

More information can be obtained from:

<https://www.nhs.net>

TRANSPORT FORMS

In order to provide an audit trail of critically ill child transfers being undertaken by DGH teams, a form is available for use. It is an A3 triplicate form detailing transfer details, parameters, critical incidents etc. The vision is this form will be used by ICU, Emergency Depts and HDUs transferring sick children for tertiary care, where PICU retrieval teams are NOT involved. Examples would be the head-injured child, burns, surgical emergencies etc – any child where there is a speed-of-transfer component or the retrieval team is not available. Can you make sure your staff and departments are aware of this form if they are not already? These forms have proved invaluable where they have existed in the past in contributing to projects such as head injury transfer times, estimating absence of highly qualified staff etc. Copies of the form can be posted to you by Carol.

VALIDATION EXERCISE

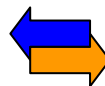
There are a number of hospitals who still need to complete their validations for 2007 and 2008. This exercise needs to be performed annually with a neighbouring hospital. If you have not yet completed validations for 2007, these can be performed

simultaneously with this year's. (Please contact Carol for your list of patients).

MEETINGS

The most recent meeting of **Audit Nurses** was held on Friday 26th September 2008 in Exeter. Following the introduction of new forms to incorporate the Paediatric Critical Care Minimum dataset, most hospitals seem to be collecting this data without too many problems. Please make sure you have the most up-to-date forms when completing. Meeting minutes and new forms are available from Carol. Data return was also discussed (see Governance) and for the majority of nurses they did not foresee any difficulties with either special delivery or NHS.net transfer. A web-based form for data entry will hopefully be available on the PICU website soon. The next Audit Nurse meeting will be held in Bristol on Friday 27th February 2009. ***All audit nurses (or a representative) to attend if possible***

MEETINGS and COURSES.



A very successful and well-attended meeting of **SWAPIT** (South West Association of Paediatric Intensive Therapy) took place on Friday 17th October 2008 in Bath. This meeting is open to all disciplines caring for children around the region. The day usually includes some clinical presentations as well as regional discussion. Membership is encouraged from anyone involved in the care of children. Meetings are held bi-annually with a regional meeting held in the

summer and a winter meeting in Bristol. Minutes and membership details are available from **0117 342 8843**.

The next SWAPIT meeting will be held on **May 1st 2009** in Swindon.

HDU COURSE



The third **Paediatric High Dependency** nursing course took place in September this year. This popular 8 day course runs bi-annually between Bristol and Plymouth and is available to nurses caring for (or potentially caring for), sick children. The next available places are for the Bristol course in March 2009

!! OUT NOW !!

“Nursing the Highly Dependent Child or Infant” is a ‘must-have’ book for nurses working in this specialty!

Details on the above from Caroline Haines, Bev Cejer or Neil Bloxham.

SPLAT 2009



The next **SPLAT** (Simulated Paediatric Life Support And Transport) courses will take place in March 2009. This one day course is based in the Simulator Centre and involves the practical aspects of stabilising the critically ill child. There are 20 medical and 8 nurse places available on each course. – places fill up rapidly so contact PICU office for details.

PICS 2008 and 2009 A hugely successful Annual meeting of the PICS (Paediatric Intensive Care

Critical Care Christmas Fun!

See if you can find all words listed below in the grid – up, down or diagonally...

(No prizes – just personal satisfaction!)

Society) and the APA (Association of Paediatric Anaesthetists) was held in Holland House Hotel in Cardiff last week. Next year's meeting will be held in Cambridge on 2nd, 3rd and 4th September 2009. More information from:

<http://www.ukpics.org.uk>

RETRIEVAL OUTREACH ROADSHOWS

If your hospital has not had a Roadshow for a year or more, please book early! 2 members of the PICU retrieval team +/- one of the PICU consultants and the SWACIC co-ordinator visit for half a day to discuss individual retrievals, regional policies and disseminate any tertiary issues. These days have included teaching from PICU staff on specific conditions such as: DKA management, meningococcal disease, bronchiolitis etc. If your hospital would like the teaching, a whole day is normally required.

For more information and to book a roadshow call: **0117 342 8843**.



PICANet

PICANet is a national body who have been collecting data on all children admitted to PICUs in the UK. They have just received agreement for continued funding from the Health Quality Improvement Partnership. They have also enabled all PICUs to collect the paediatric critical care minimum dataset by issuing software. SWACIC have been submitting data to PICANet regarding our children admitted to general intensive care units for the last 4 years. You can request individual

data analysis and download their Annual report directly from PICANet.

Web address:
www.picanet.org.uk

For SWACIC audit forms/annual reports/PICU referrals/advice/guidelines/ drug calculator and much, much more! Look up the PICU web-site:

www.swretrieval.nhs.uk

****PLEASE NOTE:****

UBHT have now been granted Trust Foundation status: As a result, the suffix for external email will be:

FirstName.Surname@UHBristol.nhs.uk

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

CONTACT:

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TRANSDUCER
INTRAOSSEOUS
BOLUS
SYRINGE
AMBULANCE
NEEDLE
PENINSULA
INFUSION
COLLOID
DEPENDENCY
CRITICAL
PACU
CARE
PICU
PEW
PHDU
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