
South West Audit of Critically Ill Children (SWACIC)



June 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 in the autumn. 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 last October, 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.

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. 7 hospitals have already claimed for this year, leaving another 7 yet to claim. 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.

VALIDATION EXERCISE

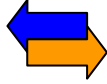
There are a number of hospitals who still need to complete their validations for 2007. This exercise needs to be performed annually with a neighbouring hospital. (Please contact Carol for your list of patients). Once completed, the results can then be analysed. One aspect the validation exercise repeatedly highlights is the problem of under-reporting.

MEETINGS

The most recent meeting of **Audit Nurses** was held on Friday 29th February 2008 in Bristol. Following discussion regarding the Paediatric Critical Care Minimum dataset, both ITU and Ward forms have been changed to come in line with this data collection. Please make sure you have copies of the most up-to-date forms when completing. Copies of the meeting minutes and new forms are available from Carol. There will be an opportunity to discuss the use of the new forms and to feedback at the

next Audit Nurse meeting which will be held in Exeter on Friday 26th September 2008. **All audit nurses (or a representative) to attend if possible***

MEETINGS and COURSES.



The next meeting of **SWAPIT** (South West Association of Paediatric Intensive Therapy) will take 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 second **Paediatric High Dependency** nursing course took place in March 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

September 2008 sees the publication of "Nursing the highly dependent child or infant" a 'must-have' for nurses working in this specialty!

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



The next **SPLAT** (Simulated Paediatric Life Support And

Transport) courses will take place in June and October 2008 with booking also being taken for 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 4 nurse places available on each course. – places fill up rapidly so contact PICU office for details.

RETRIEVAL OUTREACH ROADSHOWS

Many hospitals have now had their retrieval roadshow for 2008 but there are still a few yet to go! 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. It may also be possible to arrange to bring the "SIM baby" to the roadshows in conjunction with scenario teaching. 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 3 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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Carol Maskrey- Regional PICU Audit Co-ordinator
PICU Consultants Office, Royal Hospital for Children, c/o 2 St Michael's Hill, Bristol. BS2 8BJ.
Tel: 0117 342 8843
Fax: 0117 342 8910
Mobile: 0771 569 1120
email :carol.maskrey@ubht.nhs.uk
From 16th June 2008:
carol.maskrey@UH Bristol.nhs.uk

****PLEASE NOTE:****

UBHT have now been granted Trust Foundation status: As a result, the suffix for external email will be:
FirstName.Surname@UH Bristol.nhs.uk

This will be effective from 16th June 2008