

## *UK PICU Staffing Study*

*The impact of changing workforce patterns in UK paediatric intensive care services  
on staff practice and patient outcomes*

**NEWSLETTER 9 (April 2008)**

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# **FINAL NEWSLETTER!**

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## **PHASE 3 – UPDATE**

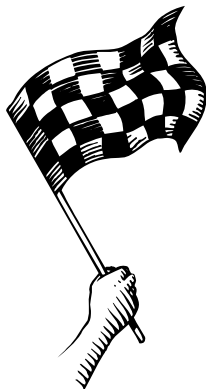
**Phase 3 was the final 12-month prospective phase of the study.** During this stage, we collected data on: probable ventilator associated pneumonia (VAP); a simple, twice-daily staff/patient log; and undertook an anonymous postal survey of PICU staff views and well-being.

### *Staff Survey*

The final reminder questionnaires were posted in November 2007 and all responses received have now been entered and analysed. Fifty-seven percent (57%) of staff completed and posted back the questionnaire to the study centre. Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete a questionnaire. The staff survey is producing interesting results and we will be publishing the results in due course.

### *VAP and Workload Logs*

The collection of probable ventilator associated pneumonia (VAP) data and the workload logs finished on 29<sup>th</sup> February 2008. Some units are now in the final stages of ‘mopping-up’ any outstanding data collection and this should be completed shortly. A big thank you to our research link-nurses for collecting this important data over the course of 2007-8.



## **PICANET DATA**

Ventilator associated pneumonia (VAP) is an important outcome of this study. In addition to the prospective collection of VAP, other patient process and outcomes such as length of stay will be analysed using routinely collected PICANet data. The outcome data from PICANet should cover the same time period as the VAP data collection (March 2007- February 2008). **It would therefore be very much appreciated if units would submit their PICANet data up to 29<sup>th</sup> February 2008 as soon as possible.** This will enable the final analysis of patient outcomes to begin.

## **RESULTS**

Following data collection and analysis, a summary report will be submitted to the project funders (National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Service Delivery and Organisation (SDO) Programme) in August 2008. The summary results of the study will then be circulated to all participating PICUs and all UK PICUs.

We also plan to submit the main study results for peer reviewed publication. No unit or individual member of staff will be identified in any published material.

## **Finally...**

Thank you very much for taking part in this study. We are very grateful to everyone who has been involved and appreciate the time that was spent collecting data.

**If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact** Dr Janet Tucker, Senior Researcher, Dugald Baird Centre, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen Maternity Hospital, Cornhill Road, Aberdeen AB25 2ZL, Tel 01224 553875, Fax 01224 553708, Email [j.s.tucker@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:j.s.tucker@abdn.ac.uk)

For more information about the project please see under “research projects” on the PICANet website at <http://www.picanet.org.uk/>