

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

PICANet recommend

- 1 That high quality clinical audit data on children receiving intensive care in England, Wales and Scotland should continue to be collected to optimise the delivery of care, to facilitate future planning, permit ongoing audit and describe the epidemiology of critically ill children.
- 2 Complete coverage of the UK to incorporate data from the PICU in Northern Ireland to enable the diversity of clinical practice to be characterised at a national level.
- 3 That optimal outcome measures are developed for paediatric intensive care to facilitate the improvement of professional practice and quality of PIC services.
- 4 That links with the clinical community and professional organisations, such as the Paediatric Intensive Care Society Study Group, continue to be strengthened and expanded via collaborative audit and research using the PICANet dataset.
- 5 That links with PIC commissioners are enhanced to facilitate the planning of PIC services.
- 6 The PICANet dataset should be used for future calibration of risk-adjustment algorithms in paediatric intensive care.
- 7 That Trusts provide support for the collection of child status at 30 days following discharge from PIC especially in those trusts with little or no follow-up data.
- 8 That Trusts share their experiences of the collection of NHS numbers to improve this data collection to a level in excess of 95%.
- 9 Continued efforts to capture complete national data on children admitted to adult intensive care units.
- 10 Further investigation of the differences in risk adjusted mortality and the prevalence of paediatric intensive care and invasive ventilation by Strategic Health Authorities and Primary Care Organisations to determine which factors might explain this variation.
- 11 Further exploration of the patterns of admission for individual children, as one of the key functions of PICANet is to investigate patterns of re-admission to PICUs for children across the UK.
- 12 International collaborations should be established to enable the development of large-scale audit comparisons between countries that will inform clinical practice.