
Paediatric Intensive Care Audit Network

The year ahead

With a new year rapidly approaching, PICANet will be facing the perennial challenges of putting together the 2006 data for the annual report. Your support in this endeavour is appreciated; we plan to freeze a validated data set by March 16th. Also, in the New Year, we hope to appoint a Research Nurse in Leicester and a Database Manager in Leeds. Both these posts will mean we can undertake agreed visits and more support will be available across the UK.



A festive holiday to one and all and no doubt we will be in touch in 2007!!



Greetings from Tricia, Liz, Roger, Krish & Angie

PICANet goes GB wide

We are pleased to announce that funding has been agreed for Wales and Scotland to be part of PICANet during 2007. As well as data from Edinburgh, we will also be receiving data from The Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Glasgow, thereby covering the entire Scottish population. The fact that our GB population coverage is now complete is an achievement for PICANet and will provide a sound benchmark for all the information we produce.

IT News

PICANet server update

The new central server is in the final stages of testing at Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust. This means that units can transmit data via NHSnet soon.



To do this, however, we need to change the server address held locally in the PICANet software. Roger Parslow will send you a utility which will make this change, together with the necessary instructions and a new password.

In the meantime, please continue to use the option to export the data to a folder and send the

encrypted files via email to Roger Parslow AND Angie Willshaw (r.c.parslow@leeds.ac.uk; a.willshaw@leeds.ac.uk).

We will let you know when you can start using the export via NHSnet option again. If you have any queries, please contact Roger or Krish.

Validation reports

Hopefully, we will be producing validation reports from the new server soon and normal service should be resumed! We aim to send your unit a report at least once a month, but if you would prefer more frequent reports, please let us know and we can arrange for this.

PICS Annual Meeting 2006

The PICS annual scientific meeting was held in Glasgow on 16-17th November. It was notable that PICANet has become a valuable source of information for the PIC community and a strong collaborator with the PICS study group.

Informatics

It was heartening to see a number of presentations on the use and development of clinical information systems in PICU, at the PICS Annual Meeting in Glasgow. During the conference, preliminary results from the pan Thames Health Informatics Group (PHiG) Survey were presented at the PICS Study Group (PICS SG) session and received with interest.

The survey is to be expanded across all UK sites as a PICS SG study, in order to establish current levels of information technology use and availability. Data on PICU computerisation is sparse and a survey of this nature will establish a baseline understanding of facilities available to clinical and administrative users. The survey is intended to inform strategic planning and research and development in this field for the future.

All PICANet units will be contacted soon; unit leads are encouraged to participate in the survey, the results of which will be presented at the PICS SG meeting in March 2007.

Those with an interest in any aspect of health informatics, who want to develop their own research interests or work with colleagues on an informatics study, are encouraged to contact K Thiru (thiruk1@gosh.nhs.uk) or P Ramnarayan (RamnaP@gosh.nhs.uk). For PICU-related Commissioning/Informatics issues please contact S Rowe on stuart.rowe@hf-pct.nhs.uk

PICANet National Report

It's almost that time of year again when we ask that each unit ensures that they have submitted all of their data for 2006. We would ask that all data for 2006 is submitted to us by the end of January 2007, with validation being completed by the end of February. This is crucial for PICANet, as the data needs to be processed in time to deliver the National Report.



We would like to thank units for sending in their data regularly via email over the past few months and would also like to ask that this effort is maintained during the next couple of months, in the build up to the year's end.

Date for your Diary

After reviewing the feedback from the **Annual Meeting** in June 2006, we felt that the time had come to hold the next meeting in a more northerly location, and where better than Leeds?

- **The venue:** **Leeds University Business School**
- **The date:** **Wednesday 4th July 2007**

So, keep this date free! This falls on the week following the ESPNIC Congress (see below) so there should be plenty to talk about!

ESPNIC 5th World Congress on Paediatric Critical Care

The European Society of Paediatric and Neonatal Intensive Care (ESPNIC) is to hold its 5th World Congress on Paediatric Critical Care in Geneva between 24th-28th June 2007.

The deadline for the submission of abstracts is 31st December 2006 (see www.pcc2007.com for details).

PICANet Meeting Dates

The next meeting of the Clinical Advisory Group: Thursday 1st March 2007

The next meeting of the Steering Group: Autumn 2007

If you would like an issue to be raised at either forum, please contact one of the group representatives or a PICANet team member.

Information and Data Requests

The more a data set is 'used', the better its quality becomes. As always, PICANet welcomes and encourages requests for information. "The only perfect data set is one that is never used"!

If there is any information or data that you feel PICANet could supply, to help you with your research or reports, please download and submit the Research Request Forms from the website or contact Angie Willshaw. You can find an up-to-date list of such research requests on the PICANet website.

Can we remind you that we are unable to supply any patient identifiable data in line with the Data Protection Act (1998). This also pertains to individuals who can be identified by virtue of belonging to small subgroups, for example those with a rare diagnosis. For advice on this and other issues, please contact Roger Parslow.



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