
Paediatric Intensive Care Audit Network

The year ahead

2007 will no doubt be a year of change and progress for PICANet. There are many new developments in which we are involved, and there will be several opportunities to meet with and listen to those of you who are involved in paediatric intensive care.

The move for PICANet to the Healthcare Commission's National Clinical Audit & Patients' Outcomes Programme is progressing, after positive responses from a consultation with all PICANet contributors, the Steering Group and the Clinical Advisory Group. This will place PICANet, as a recognised national audit programme, under the umbrella of the Healthcare Commission.

New PICANet staff

We are pleased to have recruited our new Database Manager, Thomas Fleming. Tom will start work at the end of March and will be based in Leeds.

As well as managing the day-to-day processing of your data, Tom will be involved in implementing changes on the server associated with the introduction of the new Paediatric Critical Care Minimum Dataset (PCC MDS). He will also be developing enhanced reporting modules that will give you more routine information on patient flows. In the longer term, we hope to develop a more sophisticated system of data entry and reporting, based on web technology. The aim is to give units a flexible reporting tool for their own data, with the ability to download aggregated national data for comparison.

IT News

PICANet server update

The new central server, housed within Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust, has finally completed its testing stage and we are now connecting to it on a daily basis. This means that units will be able to transmit data via NHSnet,



once you have received the necessary update to your software.

We will send you the updated software, instructions and new password in March.

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.

Informatics

Health Informatics is now an integral part of health service development. Progress is being made by the pan Thames Health Informatics Group (PHiG) to develop regional health informatics in a more coherent fashion. A national informatics group is also taking shape.

Progress on developments, and discussions on future plans, will be presented at an informatics session at PICS SG on the 22nd March (Session IV, 9.30 am) in Cambridge.

A national survey of Clinical Information Systems is to be conducted to establish a fuller picture of informatics developments in PICU. All unit Leads are requested to respond to the survey. We will feed back results at the PICANet Annual Meeting (see below).

In addition, recent discussions with [Connecting for Health](#), (the group entrusted with taking forward the national strategy for information technology) reveals that moves are afoot to establish a subset of codes for use in PICU. This will rely on the [Systematised Nomenclature of Medicine \(SNOMED\)](#). There is a call for clinical input into this development. Those with an interest in these, or any other, developments in health informatics 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

The response to the deadlines for submitting 2006 admissions was fantastic this year, as everyone made great efforts to send in their data. We would like to thank unit staff for their hard work and cooperation in doing this. The dataset has now been frozen and we are about to start work on assembling the National Report.

There will be a change this year to the way in which we present the data. After some consideration, it was agreed that the report might be more accessible and useful to you if we made it available exclusively via the internet. In this way, figures and tables can be downloaded and utilised individually.

This method also represents a more economical and environmentally sound approach, as considerable savings will be made on the natural resources used. We hope that you will find this a useful progression.

Annual Meeting in Leeds

Invites to the PICANet Annual Meeting have now been sent out to all PICANet units and are also being sent to various other interested parties. Attendance is free of charge.

The meeting is being held at the University of Leeds' Business School on Wednesday, 4th July 2007. This is a larger venue than last year, so we can accommodate more attendees. To keep an eye on numbers, we are asking that each unit send in two names to begin with, along with two reserves. Hopefully there should be plenty of room for all those who want to come along, but we will keep you informed.

The programme has yet to be finalised, but we anticipate an 11.30-12.00 start, with the hour previous to this being set aside for arrivals and coffee. A buffet lunch will also be provided.

We hope that this will be an interesting day and will demonstrate how PICANet is moving on and becoming a vital resource to the paediatric intensive care community. It is also a great opportunity to meet up and share your views with your colleagues.

Car parking spaces are quite limited at the venue itself, so we recommend train travel wherever possible.

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.

PICANet has had two abstracts accepted at Geneva (one oral presentation and one poster) and data from PICANet has been used in a further three successful collaborative abstract submissions (1 oral, 2 poster). Krish Thiru is a co-author on an abstract accepted for poster presentation, relating to health informatics in PIC.

Update on PCC-MDS

The data set change notice (DSCN) has not yet been issued (it had been posted on the ISB website and then withdrawn). As far as we know, this is due to a minor complication that should be resolved soon. We are working on a new version of our software to incorporate the new data and give units the facility to export this in a suitable format for their trusts to use in any PbR submission. The enhanced dataset will also be returned to PICANet, as it contains more detailed information on daily activity.

PICANet Meeting Dates

The next meeting of the Clinical Advisory Group: September 2007 (TBA)

The next meeting of the Steering Group: Autumn 2007 (TBA)

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.

We would like to 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.



PICANet Contact Details



Website: www.picanet.org.uk

Email: picanet@leeds.ac.uk



Patricia McKinney

Roger Parslow

Thomas Fleming

Angie Willshaw

PICANet

Paediatric Epidemiology Group

Centre for Epidemiology & Biostatistics

The Leeds Institute of Genetics, Health
& Therapeutics

University of Leeds

30 Hyde Terrace

Leeds LS2 9LN

p.a.mckinney@leeds.ac.uk

☎ 0113 343 4843

r.c.parslow@leeds.ac.uk

☎ 0113 343 4856

a.willshaw@leeds.ac.uk

☎ 0113 343 8125



Elizabeth Draper

PICANet

Department of Health Sciences

University of Leicester

22 -28 Princess Road West

Leicester LE1 6TP

msn@leicester.ac.uk

☎ 0116 252 3200



Krish Thiru

Pan Thames Co-ordinator PICANet

Cardiorespiratory and Critical Care Division

Room 8086, Level 8 – Nurses Home

Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children

Great Ormond Street

London WC1 3JH

thiruk1@gosh.nhs.uk

☎ 020 7762 6713