**Modelling the transition from neonatal to paediatric care: a data linkage study**

In this research project we will investigate what happens in the first two years of life to children who required neonatal care. Following birth around one in seven babies require admission to specialist neonatal care. Reasons for admissions are varied and include: extreme prematurity; jaundice and infection. Lengths of stay in neonatal care are varied with some babies only requiring a few hours whilst others may need several months. Survival of babies admitted for neonatal care has improved in recent years.

After discharge from neonatal care, if a child requires specialist care again this will be received in a paediatric intensive care unit (PICU). The number of admissions to PICU has been increasing in recent years. We do not know how many children who were admitted for neonatal care are also admitted to PICU. In this research project, we will investigate what happens to children who needed neonatal care in the first two years of their life.

**What information will be used about babies and children in this work?**

In this research we will use information collected about babies and children who received care in England and Wales. We will not require parents or families to provide any new information, it has all been collected already. Data is collected about the babies and the neonatal care they receive in the National Neonatal Research Database (NNRD). Similar information is collected about paediatric intensive care by the Paediatric Intensive Care Audit Network (PICANet). We will also use data about the hospital care that these children receive (e.g. on children’s wards). Further information about hospital data can be found on the NHS Digital website: [https://www.nhs.uk/your-nhs-data-matters/](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.nhs.uk%2Fyour-nhs-data-matters%2F&data=04%7C01%7Csarah.seaton%40leicester.ac.uk%7Cf0b839d7dbc3452cc5b108d897823c29%7Caebecd6a31d44b0195ce8274afe853d9%7C0%7C0%7C637425932900780324%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=SgHDlaBtBJS8lxZ2PL5vLAUe4s%2BsAERLLeRIU%2BUFcy0%3D&reserved=0). The data sources will be linked together using personally identifiable information (e.g. NHS number) by NHS Digital, not by the research team.

**I do not want my child’s data included in this work or I have additional questions**

If your child was admitted to paediatric intensive care from 2013-2020 their data may be included in this work. The research team will not have any identifiable information about your child (e.g. their name). If you have any questions or concerns about this work, or if you would like to discuss having your child’s data removed from the study, please contact the research team: sarah.seaton@leicester.ac.uk

Information is also available at : <https://www2.le.ac.uk/departments/health-sciences/research/timms/staff-pages/ses26/home>