



The Northern Neonatal Network
An Operational Delivery Network
Website - www.nornet.org.uk



December Newsletter 2017



Happy Christmas!

Hello and welcome to what I hope will become a regular Newsletter to help keep everybody informed and up to date with all things related to the Northern Neonatal Network. The aim is to have a bi-monthly bulletin out that will contain items of interest and relevance and also have the dates for training and education days that we are facilitating. Lisa Purves (Network Administrator) is going to be overseeing the content and publication so if there are any specific items that you wish to be included, please send them directly to her – contact details are at the end of this edition!

National News

The long-awaited Report from the National Neonatal Review (now over a year ago!) has yet to be published but we are led to believe this is “imminent” and once published will open up a whole new work stream as we seek to implement its recommendations. Hopefully the first newsletter of 2018 will have more details!

Recent new national initiatives that will start to have an impact on what we are doing as a Network are the Local Maternity Systems (“LMS”) and the National Maternity & Neonatal Health & Safety Collaborative (“MNHSC”). These have been set up to help deliver the Maternity Review “Better Births” recommendation and the target of reducing neonatal deaths & stillbirths by 50% by 2030 (now brought forward to 2025!) respectively but both have a significant neonatal element in them and focus heavily on Term Admissions and implementing the ATAIN (Avoiding Term Admissions In Neonatal units) programme. For more info on this and to see the available resources, follow the link <https://www.e-lfh.org.uk/programmes/avoiding-term-admissions-into-neonatal-units/> (to gain access to these a short once-only registration is required).

New Website

The Network has a new, professionally-designed website ready to go live! After struggling with almost total non-functionality on our current server for many months and a huge amount of work, we are ready to press the button and migrate to our new site. Designed to be much more user-friendly, the plan is to use this as the main resource for keeping everybody up to date and the place we signpost to for information. The address remains the same – www.nornet.org.uk but we have ambitious plans to develop it significantly and have much better 2-way communication with clinicians, nurses and AHPs involved in neonatal care, so check it out in early January and tell us what you think!

Sam Richmond Scholarship

The annual Sam Richmond Scholarship for 2017 is now open for entries. This is the 4th Award and after the success of the RVI’s “PEAPOD” Team last year, we are looking for more new innovative ideas to be submitted for the £1000 prize and trophy. See your local noticeboards and the website for more details. Closing date is Friday 12th January!!!

Northern Neonatal Network Events & Other Training/Education Days

- 9am – 4pm, Wednesday 24th January, Northern Neonatal Network Day and Board Meeting, The Durham Centre, Belmont – your unit Managers will provide an update in team meetings.
- 9am – 4pm, Tuesday 20th February, Northern Neonatal Network Respiratory Workshop, Quality Hotel, Boldon.
- 9am – 5pm, Thursday 1st March, Northern Neonatal Network Stabilisation Training, Bishop Auckland Hospital.
- 9am – 5pm, Monday 12th March, Bliss Baby Charter Conference, Radisson Park Inn, Manchester.
- 9am – 4pm, Thursday 26th April, Northern Neonatal Network Day and Board Meeting, The Durham Centre, Belmont – your unit Managers will provide an update in team meetings.
- Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th June, Bliss Foundation Toolkit, Durham County Cricket Club, Chester le Street.
- 9am – 4pm, Tuesday 10th July, Northern Neonatal Network Day and Board Meeting, The Durham Centre, Belmont – your unit Managers will provide an update in team meetings.
- Thursday 20th September, Northern Neonatal Network 9th Annual Conference, The Durham Centre, Belmont – we expect a very high demand for this conference and would advise you to book early to avoid disappointment, further information will be released in the New Year.
- 9am – 5pm, Monday 1st October, Northern Neonatal Network Stabilisation Training, Bishop Auckland Hospital.
- 9am – 4pm, Thursday 18th October, Northern Neonatal Network Day and Board Meeting, The Durham Centre, Belmont – your unit Managers will provide an update in team meetings.

Further training and events are being planned and will be announced in the New Year. To register your interest or for further information on any of our events please check your notice boards and our website or contact lisa.purves@chsft.nhs.uk

The Northern Neonatal Transport Service

We would like to wish NNeTS a Happy First Birthday. NNeTS was established in 2016 after being commissioned by NHS England to provide the region with a single highly specialised transport service across the northern region; they are hosted at the RVI working alongside the team on ward 35. The team provides a 24hour service and is made up of Specialist Neonatal Intensive Care trained transport Nurses who work alongside Medics and Nurse Practitioners.

As the NNeTS team develops over its second year of active service it will continue to deliver the highest quality, patient focused and family integrated care to many of the most vulnerable patients and their families, from across the region, during some of the most stressful times they face. They are proactively strengthening links with service users, families and colleagues to help make patient and family experience as seamless as possible across organisations.



On behalf of the Northern Neonatal Network, can I just take this opportunity to wish every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy & peaceful New Year. 2018 promises to be a very busy year indeed but we are already starting to discuss our Work Plan for the year and we have some potential for involving more staff in practice development in key areas so watch this space via future newsletters. I also want to thank each and every one of you for all your hard work throughout 2017 and the amazing care you give to the babies and their families throughout the region.

Martyn Boyd – Northern Neonatal Network Manager

Next year's newsletter will be issued in February, please send content to lisa.purves@chsft.nhs.uk