

## **NCEPOD**

### **Blood Sodium Study - Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **Which organisations should be participating in the study?**

Data will be collected from hospitals in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland, in which patients can be admitted/treated for abnormal blood sodium and/or hospitals that undertake elective procedures. This study will also include patients who meet the criteria treated at independent hospitals.

#### **What is the study period for this study?**

1<sup>st</sup> October 2023 and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

#### **What is the patient sample?**

Patients aged 18 or over who were admitted to hospital between 1<sup>st</sup> **October 2023 and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023** and diagnosed with Hypernatremia or Hyponatraemia will be included in the initial patient identification.

Retrospective ICD10 coding will be used to identify patients.

Patients who develop abnormal sodium levels after an elective procedure during the study period are also included.

#### **What patients are excluded from this study?**

Patients who had an elective procedure as a day case admission.

#### **Which ICD10 Codes are relevant to this study?**

The following ICD10 codes (in any position), will be used to identify patients.

E87.0	Hyperosmolality and hypernatraemia
E87.1	Hypo-osmolality and hyponatraemia
E27.2	Addisonian crisis
E23.2	Diabetes insipidus (AVP-deficiency and AVP-resistance)
G37.9	Demyelinating disease of central nervous system, unspecified

*You may also liaise with colleagues from Clinical Biochemistry and Lab Medicine who may have records of extreme blood sodium levels.*

#### **What is the deadline for returning the data collection spreadsheet?**

The deadline for returning the data collection spreadsheet is 7th June 2024. If there are any issues or queries regarding the deadline, please contact the NCEPOD office as soon as possible.

#### **How do I return spreadsheets to NCEPOD?**

Please return the completed data collection spreadsheet to [ncepod@nhs.net](mailto:ncepod@nhs.net) with password protection. You can also share the spreadsheet with [NCEPOD@NHS.NET](https://www.nhs.uk/itservices/secure-connections/secure-connections-to-nhs-net) via MS Sharepoint.

Please do not include the passwords in an email – instead, call the NCEPOD office on 0207 251 9060 where someone will take the password for you.

**What will happen once we have submitted our data collection spreadsheet?**

NCEPOD will import the information you have provided into our study database. We will then randomly select up to 8 cases per hospital for in depth review. For each of these selected cases there will be a corresponding clinician questionnaire uploaded to the online system. We will also request the case notes relating to the patient's admission to be sent to us for peer review.