

National Confidential Enquiry into Patient Outcome and Death

'Improving the quality of medical and surgical care'

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Our thanks go to the Royal College of Nursing and the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists for hosting the events and to all the external speakers who took part.

Surgical Outcome Risk Tool (SORT)

A new surgical risk prediction tool has been developed and validated as part of a collaborative effort between NCEPOD and the UCL/UCLH Surgical Outcomes Research Centre.

The work describing this was published in the British Journal of Surgery in November 2014, and a website housing the tool was created: www.sortsurgery.com an app is also being developed. At the time of publication, this work represents the largest analysis of risk prediction tools in a UK cohort of patients undergoing inpatient surgery in multiple surgical specialties.

Contract Awards

We are very pleased to announce that the Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership (HQIP) has awarded NCEPOD the contract to continue undertaking the Medical and Surgical Confidential Enquiry (Clinical Outcome Review Programme) for the next 3 (+2 possible) years and in addition we have also been successful in winning a contract to undertake a similar work programme in Child Health (this will build on previous work by the RCPCH and CMACE) over the same time period.

This new project will be designed to review pathways, quality of care, and transition into adulthood. The study will focus on children and young people with complex neurodisability and adolescent mental health. This is an exciting time for NCEPOD as it will allow us to expand our work programme into Scotland. It will also allow us to tread new ground in that data will be collected from primary care and social care as well as secondary and tertiary care. And if that was not enough, we will also be working with a research team at Cardiff University on this project, as they will be developing a large data linkage programme to complement the case note review method.

Next Report Launch

Gastrointestinal Haemorrhage will be published on the 3rd July 2015 at the Royal College of Physicians, London

Further details will be available shortly, but if you would like to reserve your place for the launch, please email your details to: reportlaunch@ncepod.org.uk

Study updates

Gastrointestinal Haemorrhage

gih@ncepod.org.uk

This study has explored remediable factors in the processes of care of patients, aged 16 or over, who suffered a gastrointestinal haemorrhage (GIH) and received 4 or more units of red blood cells. Both upper and lower GIH were included in the study. Data collection for this study is now closed. The report is currently being drafted and will be launched at The Royal College of Physicians on Friday 3rd July 2015. Further details of the report launch will be available on our website soon. We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who participated in the study.

Sepsis

sepsis@ncepod.org.uk

The aim of this study is to identify avoidable and remediable factors in the process of care of patients with sepsis. Due to the inaccuracy of the ICD10 coding, patients were identified for the study prospectively by study contacts on critical care (ICU and HDU) and on the critical care outreach team (CCOT) in each hospital during the case identification period: 6th - 20th May 2014. A sample of 5 cases was randomly selected from each hospital for peer review, and for these cases, questionnaires and case note requests were sent out in August last year. We will shortly be disseminating the second reminder letter for the return of questionnaires and case notes still outstanding. Advisor meetings started last summer and will continue until April 2015. Organisational data is being collected for this study from all hospitals with inpatient beds. A reminder email has recently been sent out. The new deadline for the return of organisational questionnaires is 27th February 2015. This study is due for publication in Autumn 2015.

Acute Pancreatitis

ap@ncepod.org.uk

The aim of this study is to explore remediable factors in the processes of care of patients, aged 16 or over, who are admitted to hospital with a diagnosis of acute pancreatitis. The incidence of acute pancreatitis ranges from 150 to 420 cases per million population in the UK. Gallstones and alcohol account for the majority (50% and 25% respectively). In order to determine the aetiology and monitor progress, further investigations and imaging are necessary – there is often disagreement between clinicians about whether these should occur. Severe pancreatitis should be managed in a HDU/ITU setting, but the patients condition and co-morbidities will determine access. Mortality rate is 14-25% increasing to 47% with complications, half the deaths occurring within 2 weeks of onset. Data collection for this study is ongoing. A patient identifier spreadsheet was sent out to NCEPOD local reporters in December (also available to download from the website) and is due for completion by 13th February 2015. The questionnaires for the study are currently out for review with the Study Advisory Group and will be ready for dissemination by the end of February/beginning of March 2015. We are also recruiting Case Note Reviewers for the study, the deadline for applicants has been extended until 27th February 2015 (please see the website for details).

Provision of Mental Healthcare in Acute Hospitals

mentalhealth@ncepod.org.uk

Poor mental health is the largest cause of disability in the UK and closely connected with poor physical health. Patients with a mental health disorder have more medical illness, longer hospital stays, poorer outcome and shorter life expectancy. There is concern that for a number of reasons, mental health patients may receive poorer quality of care in acute hospitals than those without a mental health disorder. This study was proposed to examine the provision for mental health care of patients with mental health problems in acute hospitals and to explore remediable factors in the care received by this group of patients. The Study Advisory Group that will design and steer the study will meet this month. Data collection for this study is scheduled to start around May 2015. We will soon be recruiting Case Note Reviewers for this study, further details will shortly be available on the website.

	Apr-14	May-14	Jun-14	Jul-14	Aug-14	Sep-14	Oct-14	Nov-14	Dec-14	Jan-15	Feb-15	Mar-15	Apr-15	May-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Aug-15	Sep-15	Oct-15	Nov-15	Dec-15	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	May-16	Jun-16	Jul-16	Aug-16	Sep-16	Oct-16	Nov-16	Dec-16	Jan-17	Feb-17	Mar-17	Apr-17	May-17	Jun-17	Jul-17	Aug-17	Sep-17	Oct-17	Nov-17						
Study Advisory Group meeting																																																		
Write the protocol																																																		
Design the questionnaires																																																		
Advertise the study																																																		
Advertise for Reviewers																																																		
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GASTROINTESTINAL BLEEDS
SEPSIS
ACUTE PANCREATITIS
MENTAL HEALTH CARE IN ACUTE HOSPITALS
NEW TOPIC 1
NEW TOPIC 2

Call for abstracts

- Q1. Have you completed an audit based on an NCEPOD report?
Q2. Would you like to share the results?

If you have answered YES to both questions then read on...

NCEPOD invites you to submit your abstract for a poster to be displayed at the next NCEPOD report launch
3rd July 2015 - at the Royal College of Physicians—London

TO ENTER:

Download the abstract form at <http://www.ncepod.org.uk/events.htm>
Submit it by email to poster@ncepod.org.uk by midday Friday 1st May 2015

Job Vacancies

We currently have the following job vacancy:

Consultant Mental Health Nurse - to help clinically lead the mental health in acute care study we are already undertaking, and also the adolescent mental health study we will start as part of the Child Health Enquiry.

Details of the vacancy can be found at :
<http://www.ncepod.org.uk/vacancies.htm>

Mortality Reviews

Last year NCEPOD undertook a survey across hospitals in England to determine how mortality reviews are currently undertaken. This was at the request of NHS England.

The report we submitted to them can be found at:
<http://www.ncepod.org.uk/papers.htm>.

Website

We are developing a new website. Would you be interested in popping in to our office to test it for us? If so contact Rob, our IT Manager at ralleyway@ncepod.org.uk

Quality Accounts

By the end of February 2015 we will send a summary of your participation in NCEPOD studies during 2014/15. Please check these for accuracy and let us know quickly if you believe anything to be incorrect. This summary can be kept for your records, or where relevant, be used as part of your Quality Accounts submission.

General call for topics

If you have an idea for a new study - you can suggest a topic at any time by downloading a form from
<http://www.ncepod.org.uk/events.htm>

Disability Matters

<http://www.rcpch.ac.uk/Disability-Matters>

A new report published by the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health.

Disability Matters provides free, practical online resources for those who work or engage with disabled children, young people and their families.

NCEPOD Local Reporter & Ambassador

Training Days

If you are interested in attending an NCEPOD training day, please send your interest to the below email address

DJarman@ncepod.org.uk

If you are interested in becoming an Ambassador contact us at info@ncepod.org.uk and we can tell you whether your Trust has an Ambassador and guide you on what to do next if they don't.

Contact details

Ground Floor
Abbey House
74-76 St John Street
London
EC1M 4DZ

Telephone: 020 7251 9060

Fax: 020 7250 0020

Freepost licence number is RTBS - XCXG - RGLA

Please use this licence number, along with our full address to send any correspondence to us.

As always, we recommend that all case notes are sent via recorded delivery. To use Royal Mail recorded delivery, you will need to add £1.10 onto the freepost envelope.

Please ensure envelopes are security sealed when sending case notes by post or with courier.

Alternatively...scan your case notes to us!

NCEPOD can accept scanned case notes rather than you returning them in the post.

Email them to us, in a sensible order, to ncepod@nhs.net and don't forget to password protect the file! And please inform us that they will be/have been sent.

On receipt of questionnaires we will email Consultants to acknowledge the receipt and that it was completed fully so that they can record the activity for their CPD. We will also automatically acknowledge case notes as soon as they are logged on our system so that Local Reporters know we have received them.

Staff news: We are very pleased to announce that we have recruited Nick Mahoney as a new Admin Officer, and we are also very much looking forward to Heather Freeth returning in the summer following her maternity leave.

Non-Clinical Staff

Marisa Mason
Chief Executive
mmason@ncepod.org.uk

Neil Smith
Clinical Researcher
Deputy Chief Executive
nsmith@ncepod.org.uk

Robert Alleway
IT Manager
ralleway@ncepod.org.uk

Heather Freeth
Clinical Researcher
hfreeth@ncepod.org.uk

Hannah Shotton
Clinical Researcher
hshotton@ncepod.org.uk

Karen Protopapa
Researcher
kprotopapa@ncepod.org.uk

Kathryn Kelly
Researcher
kkelly@ncepod.org.uk

Aysha Butt
Research Assistant
abutt@ncepod.org.uk

Dolores Jarman
Administrative Officer
djarman@ncepod.org.uk

Eva Nwosu
Administrative Officer
enwosu@ncepod.org.uk

Donna Ellis
Administrative Officer
dellis@ncepod.org.uk

Anisa Warsame
Office Co-ordinator
awarsame@ncepod.org.uk

Nick Mahoney
Administrative Officer
nmahoney@ncepod.org.uk

Clinical Staff

Surgery
Mr Martin Sinclair
msinclair@ncepod.org.uk

Medicine
Dr Mark Juniper
Lead Co-ordinator
mjuniper@ncepod.org.uk

Dr Vivek Srivastava
vsrivastava@ncepod.org.uk

Anaesthesia
Dr Kathy Wilkinson
kwilkinson@ncepod.org.uk

Dr Alex Goodwin
agoodwin@ncepod.org.uk

Radiology
Dr Simon McPherson
smcpherson@ncepod.org.uk



NCEPOD Green Policy

We are always and will continue to be committed in helping to reduce our carbon footprints and do our best to help save the environment. In 2014, NCEPOD has recycled/shredded; 1,300kg of mixed paper, 1,817kg of confidential and white paper, 102kg of cans and plastics and 10kg in other waste. Saving a total of 36 trees and 4,582kg of CO₂ emission savings.