

September 2008

Welcome to the NCEPOD Quarterly Newsletter September 2008

As always it has been a busy year so far at the NCEPOD office. We have launched two reports to date and our report on Systemic Anti-Cancer Therapy is the final report to be launched this year.

The study on Cosmetic Surgery has currently been delayed and will commence in late Autumn. Please review our quarterly newsletters for regular updates on this and all our studies.

If you have any comments about our newsletter, please e-mail Sabah at:

sbegg@ncepod.org.uk

NHS.net

NCEPOD has finally got its nhs dot net address. This is an approved secure email address that will enable us to receive information more conveniently.

All data and confidential information that is sent to us electronically should now be sent to:

ncepod@nhs.net

Recorded delivery

Please try and send all envelopes/packages back by recorded delivery. While the provided business reply envelope will cover the cost of the postage it will only cost your Trust a small additional fee to send it by recorded post.

Additionally if you use your own paper/polythene envelopes, jiffy bag or box then please use our freepost address below:

Freepost RRHX-RSJT-HHJG. NCEPOD. PO BOX 5662. LONDON, W1A 5WP

When returning any questionnaires & case notes, please ensure all are packaged securely and that spreadsheets are password protected.

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20 Years of NCEPOD!!!

This year NCEPOD is celebrating 20 years of promoting improvements in health care. We have published over 20 reports derived from a vast array of information about the practical management of patients.

Our recommendations have covered everything from individual clinical practice to national healthcare organisations, always with the aim of improving patient care and safety.

On Tuesday 23rd September 2008 we held our first Annual Lecture at One Great George Street where we had invited Professor Sir Bruce Keogh, the NHS Medical Director as the guest speaker. The evening was a great success with a large turn out.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and contribution to the work of NCEPOD



Systemic Anti-Cancer Therapy report launch

The aim of the study was to examine the process of care of all patients who died within 30 days of Systemic Anti-Cancer Therapy (SACT); looking for areas where their care could have been improved. The study ran between 1st June 2006 to 31st July 2006

Why not join us at the launch which is taking place at Leith's Conference Centre, at The British Library on 12th November from 10am until 4pm. Please see our website on how to register or email Sabah at sbegg@ncepod.org.uk for more details.

www.ncepod.org.uk

Deaths in Acute Hospitals

Data collection for this study is well underway, and both clinical and anaesthetic questionnaires have been sent to the relevant consultants for completion. If you have any outstanding data for this study, we would ask this be returned to NCEPOD as soon as possible. Advisor meetings are now taking place, and are expected to run until March 2009. The study is due to be published in November 2009.

hospitaldeaths@ncepod.org.uk

Acute Kidney Injury

NCEPOD is examining the process of care of all patients who die with a diagnosis of acute kidney injury (AKI: formerly known as acute renal failure) following admission to hospital, looking for areas where their care might have been improved (remediable factors). We are currently chasing the outstanding clinician questionnaires and photocopied casenote extracts. Please note the last advisor meeting is scheduled for the end of October so we *will not* be able to include cases returned after the **24th October 2008**. The organisational questionnaire for this study will be disseminated later this month. The findings of the study will be published in June 2009.

acutekidneyinjury@ncepod.org.uk

Parenteral Nutrition

NCEPOD have begun work on a new study on Parenteral Nutrition (PN), which is the administration of nutrition intravenously. PN is administered to patients with a non-functional, inaccessible or perforated gastrointestinal tract. It is also used to improve and maintain the nutritional status of severely malnourished patients who are being prepared for surgery, radiotherapy, or chemotherapy. The study will include patients of all ages. The pilot study has been slightly delayed and will run later this month/the beginning of October. The main purpose of the pilot will be to test the method of patient identification and obtain feedback on the clinician questionnaire. If your hospital(s) is interested in taking part in the pilot please contact the email address below. Further information on the study will be available from our website in October and we will also contact NCEPOD Local Reporters directly at this time. Specific questions regarding the study should be directed to:

parenteralnutrition@ncepod.org.uk

Emergency and Elective Surgery in the Elderly

NCEPOD will be carrying out a study to examine the processes in care of elderly patients undergoing elective and emergency surgery. Data collection for this study will start in Autumn 2008 and questionnaires will be sent out in January 2009. We will shortly be advertising for advisors to work on this study, and further information will be made available on the website in due course. If you have any queries regarding this study, please contact NCEPOD at the email address below.

surgery@ncepod.org.uk

Radiotherapy

NCEPOD will be carrying out a pilot study to examine the processes of care of patients experiencing adverse incidents during the delivery of Radiotherapy. This will be piloted in the autumn. If radiotherapy is currently delivered or has previously been administered at your hospital, and you have not let us know as yet, we would be grateful if you could inform us at the address below as soon as possible.

radiotherapy@ncepod.org.uk

Celebrating **20 YEARS** of NCEPOD

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