



Necrotising Enterocolitis (NEC)

- NCEPOD is undertaking a study to improve the **quality of acute care** provided to **babies born before 32 weeks gestation** who **develop Necrotising Enterocolitis (NEC)**.
- Participating Providers: All acute hospital providers with a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), Local Neonatal Unit (LNU), Special Care Unit (SCU), or a Paediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) on-site across England, Wales, Northern Ireland, and Jersey.
- Retrospective Study Period: Babies who were **discharged/died** between **1st January 2024 - 31st December 2025**.
- Babies will be identified for inclusion via the National Neonatal Audit Programme (NNAP) and via hospital Patient Administration Systems (PAS):
 - **Via NNAP:** where a unit does not return data to NNAP, a study contact will be set up in the neonatal department to identify patients.
 - **Via hospital PAS:** local reporters will be asked to populate a patient identification spreadsheet with the details of babies with an ICD10 code for NEC (P77).
- **Additional data collection will include:**
 - Clinical questionnaires (neonatal and surgical).
 - Organisational questionnaires.
 - Case note review.
 - Parent/carer and clinician surveys.
- **Clinical reviewers will be recruited for the peer review of case notes.** Please email nec@ncepod.org.uk for more information.



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NCEPOD is a registered charity in England and Wales: **1075588**
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