



18 November 2020

## Hello!

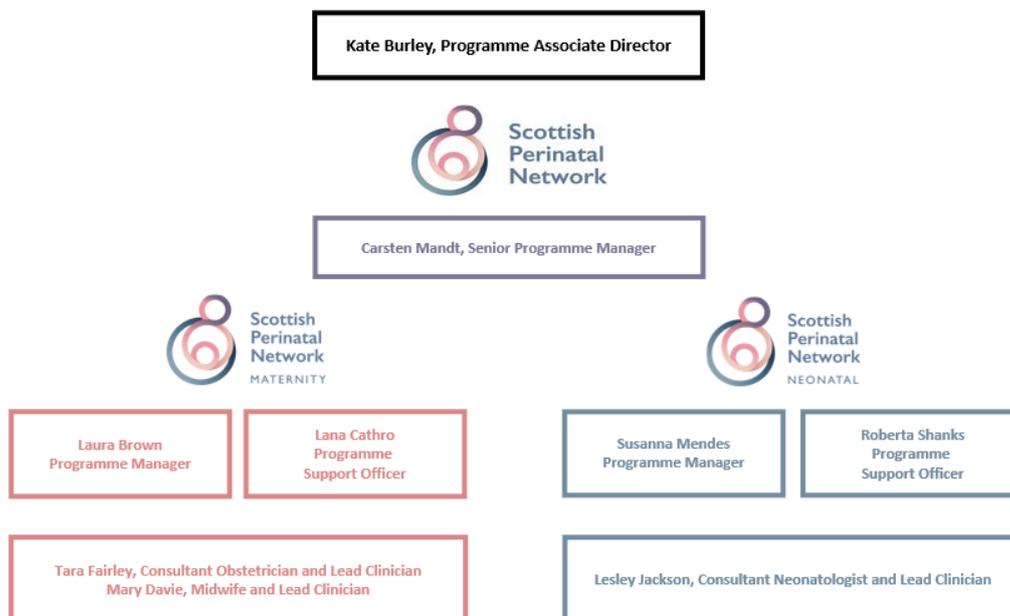
Welcome to the first issue of the Scottish Perinatal Network's newsletter. We hope you will find it useful for keeping up to date with the work of the network, developments, conferences, training and other opportunities. We greatly welcome your feedback to help us make the newsletter work for you. If you have any comments or suggestions, please email us at [nss.perinatalnetwork@nhs.scot](mailto:nss.perinatalnetwork@nhs.scot).

Please follow us [@ScotPerinatal](https://twitter.com/ScotPerinatal) and let us know if you'd like us to follow or Tweet things for you.

## Scottish Perinatal Network

### Meet the Team

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves as the Programme Team supporting the work of the National Maternity and National Neonatal Networks, coming together under the umbrella of the Scottish Perinatal Network. You can read our bios and 'meet the team' at [www.perinatalnetwork.scot](http://www.perinatalnetwork.scot). In particular, we welcome Susanna Mendes who has joined as Neonatal Network Programme Manager and completes our Perinatal Network team.



We look forward to collaborating across maternity and neonatal services to support the best possible outcomes for mothers, babies and families in Scotland.

### Wider Impacts of Covid-19 Dashboard

Public Health Scotland has created a data dashboard to provide an overview of changes in health and use of healthcare during the COVID-19 pandemic in Scotland, drawing on a range of national data sources. You can access the dashboard at: [www.scotland/phs-covid-wider-impact](http://www.scotland/phs-covid-wider-impact)



## Perinatal and Infant Mental Health

Mental health and well-being during the perinatal period (from conception to 18 months after the baby is born) is of crucial importance for mothers, babies and families. Mental ill-health at this time, when it is not recognised and supported / treated, can have long-term impacts on physical and mental health outcomes for mothers and babies and presents a major public health concern.

Over the last few weeks, we've been speaking with colleagues from [The Perinatal Mental Health Network](#), [Perinatal & Infant Mental Health Programme Board](#) and [Maternal Mental Health Scotland](#) to learn how we can join up to wrap services and care around women and babies.

### Perinatal and Infant Mental Health Champions

In collaboration with NHS Education for Scotland, a range of professional educational and training resources has been developed and can be accessed at [learn.nes/perinatal-and-infant-mental-health](https://learn.nes/perinatal-and-infant-mental-health)

NES and PMHN are currently liaising with health visitors, midwives and other colleagues to develop further training, based on the 'train the trainer' model, to support primary care professionals in Scotland to become **Perinatal Mental Health Champions**. Please email [nss.pmhn@nhs.scot](mailto:nss.pmhn@nhs.scot) if you'd like to find out more about this work or get involved.

### New PReCePT: Prevention of Cerebral Palsy in Preterm Labour e-learning

Health Education England e-Learning for Healthcare (HEE e-LfH), in partnership with the ASHN Network, have developed a new, free e-learning programme for perinatal healthcare professionals.

The PReCePT: Prevention of Cerebral Palsy in Preterm Labour e-learning programme has been designed for perinatal healthcare professionals to support education around the administration of magnesium sulphate to mothers in preterm labour for neonatal neuroprotection. This module will guide clinicians through the clinical benefits of administering magnesium sulphate (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) to mothers who go into labour before 30 weeks gestation. It will provide information on the neuroprotective qualities of this cost-effective and readily available drug, the detail of how it is administered and the positive impact it can have on the lives of neonates and their families.

You can learn more about the e-learning programme here: <https://www.e-lfh.org.uk/programmes/prevention-of-cerebral-palsy-in-preterm-labour/>.

## National Maternity Network Update

### Hello from our Lead Clinicians

The Maternity Network is in the process of setting aims and ambitions for the next 12 months and beyond, and we're keen to ensure the work taken forward has potential to add most value to our colleagues within Boards and units, and to the women and babies they look after.

Our Lead Clinicians, Mary Davie and Tara Fairley, have been reaching out to Heads of Midwifery and Clinical Directors of Obstetrics within Boards to discuss what they think these aims and ambitions should include, and how we may be able to work together to reach them. Some dates are in diaries already. Over the next few months, we also hope to visit units (virtually, or in person if circumstances allow) to hear what front-line colleagues think. We look forward to meeting you!

## **Maternity Service User Engagement**

Following a request from Scottish Government, the Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS) Community Engagement team gathered information about the existence, role and support for Maternity Services Liaison Committees across NHS Scotland. The report was published in October and you can access it at [www.hisengage.scot/maternity-service-engagement](http://www.hisengage.scot/maternity-service-engagement)

We are looking forward to working together with HIS, NHS Boards and third sector colleagues to improve how we listen to expecting and new parents and include their views in what we do.

We'd love to hear your ideas. Please email us at [nss.perinatalnetwork@nhs.scot](mailto:nss.perinatalnetwork@nhs.scot).



## **National Neonatal Network Update**

### **British Paediatric Surveillance Unit Study**

This month marks the start of a new BPSU project aiming to describe the outcome of term babies who receive resuscitation at birth and have no detectable heart beat at 10 minutes. The study will identify the incidence of these infants, describing the demographic characteristics, clinical features and initial management of this population; describe the mortality rate, timing and cause of death for infants who die, and describe the neurodevelopmental outcome at one and two years of age for survivors.

The study team would like to acknowledge the support of the BPSU, as well as colleagues at PBPP, CAG, MBRRACE, and Public Health Scotland in reaching this important milestone.

The lead investigators are Dr Gemma Sullivan and Dr Ewen Johnston from Simpson Centre for Reproductive Health, Edinburgh. The rest of the team are: Dr. Julie-Clare Becher (SCRH), Professor Ben Stenson (SCRH), Professor Elaine Boyle (University of Leicester), Professor Colm O'Donnell (National Maternity Hospital, Dublin).

Full study information, including details of approvals and protocol can be accessed through the BPSU website [here](#).

### **Development of National Guidelines**

The Network National Guideline group, chaired by Dr Andrew Powls and Dr David Quine is developing national guidance for the identification, testing and follow up of premature babies with chronic lung disease requiring domiciliary oxygen. The group is multi-disciplinary with representation from medical staff, trainees, neonatal nursing liaison services and service users. The responsibility of all group members is to ensure two-way communication with the units/groups they represent to assist in developing guidance that is representative of the requirements of services across Scotland. Developing guidance in this collaborative, iterative and inclusive manner should, we hope, also support local implementation and governance processes.

The group is keen to hear of suggested topics for future national guidelines. Please email us at [nss.perinatalnetwork@nhs.scot](mailto:nss.perinatalnetwork@nhs.scot) with your suggestions.

## Neonatal Views on Referrals to the Coroner or Procurator Fiscal

It would be great if you could please complete this NHS England survey, if you haven't already, to contribute your neonatal clinical views on referral to the Coroner or Procurator Fiscal.

The background is that previous data, now over 10 years old, have indicated variance in clinical and coronial decisions. Therefore, the survey aims to explore the current position and update information. You can access the survey at [www.surveymonkey.co.uk/Coroner2020](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/Coroner2020)

## BLISS Scotland Trustees

BLISS Scotland are currently recruiting trustees. For more information, please see the advert here: <https://www.bliss.org.uk/about-us/jobs/bliss-scotland-trustee>

## First Paper on UK BPSU Neonatal Covid-19 Cases

A research paper on the incidence of neonatal Sars-CoV-2 infection in neonates who received inpatient care in the United Kingdom from 1 March to 30 April 2020 has now been published at: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-4642\(20\)30342-4](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-4642(20)30342-4)

## New BAPM Publication – Advanced Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Capabilities Framework

The draft BAPM 'Advanced Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Capabilities Framework' is currently open for consultation until 17<sup>th</sup> December. To review the draft document and respond to the consultation please visit the [BAPM website](#).

## National Neonatal Audit Programme 2020 annual report publication

The National Neonatal Audit Programme (NNAP) 2020 annual report on 2019 data is now available. The report can be accessed at: [www.rcpch.ac.uk/nnap\\_report\\_2020\\_final\\_pdf2.pdf](http://www.rcpch.ac.uk/nnap_report_2020_final_pdf2.pdf)

## Save the Dates

- ENGAGE: Neonatology Winter Webinars on **24 November and 1 December 2020**  
<https://cfsevents.eventsair.com/engage-neonatology/register>
- This month's online [ACES conversation](#) focuses on poverty, **25 November, 7.30pm – 8.30pm**.
- The 2020 Scottish Neonatal Nurses Virtual Conference will be held on **26 November 2020**.
- MCQIC Maternity and Neonatal Care Webinar - Term Admissions, **2 December 2020, 2.00pm – 3.20pm** Register [here](#)
- BAPM and BMFMS are holding a virtual two-day Perinatal Update conference on **14 and 15 December 2020**  
<https://www.bapm.org/events/169-perinatal-update-virtual-conference>