

Happy New Year!

Welcome to the third issue of the Scottish Perinatal Network newsletter.

We hope you find it useful for keeping up to date with the work of the Networks, wider developments, conferences, training and other opportunities.

Strategic Fertility Network for Scotland

We are delighted to introduce Fertility Scotland; the new Strategic Fertility Network for Scotland commissioned by NHS National Services Scotland on behalf of Scottish Government. Having only recently been established and with recruitment into the Programme Team completed in January 2021, we have already agreed on our logo and discussed some ambitious work streams. We are developing our website where you will shortly be able to find more information about the Network and its work.

Network stakeholders and target audience are wide ranging and include the clinical community in primary, secondary and tertiary care as well as professional societies and regulatory authorities (such as the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority). Our Lead Clinician (Abha Maheshwari - abha.maheshwari@nhs.scot) and Lead Scientist (Joanne Leitch - Joanne.Leitch@ggc.scot.nhs.uk) have already been reaching out to professionals, charities, and patient groups to help us better understand their work and what's important to them.

N Prathalingham (Rez - n.prathalingam@nss.nhs.scot) is the Programme Manager, working with Carsten Mandt as Senior Programme Manager for both the Perinatal and Fertility Networks. The Network will work very closely with Sarah Corcoran, Louise McCue and Anthea Taylor as Scottish Government policy leads.

If you would like to share any thoughts and/or be included in our distribution list please contact nss.fertilityscotlandnetwork@nhs.scot

National Strategic Networks Senior Information Manager

We are also delighted to welcome Shruti Babre to the National Strategic Networks (NSN) Team. Shruti said, 'I am thrilled to be joining the NSN team as a Senior Information Manager, with a mission to build strong working relationships with the network teams and our data partners and to co-create the design and ongoing delivery of a high-quality information management service within the NSN portfolio. My ambition is to work closely with the networks and our data providers to ensure key deliverables tell compelling stories visually and justify our raison d'etre, while maintaining a focus on quality improvement.'

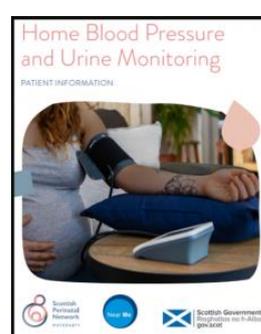
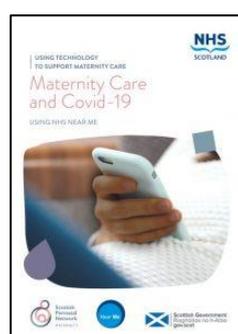


National Maternity Network Update

NHS Near Me and Home Monitoring – Updated Guidance

We are pleased to let you know that the suite of documents supporting NHS Near Me and Home Blood Pressure Monitoring has been updated on the [Technology Supporting Maternity Care](#) section of the Scottish Perinatal Network website. The key changes are:

- Covid context has been removed from all documents as the technologies have demonstrated benefits beyond scope of safeguarding against the virus. This is the only change to the [Maternity Care and NHS Near Me leaflet](#).
- [NHS Near Me Guidance](#): Now includes learning from the Technology Enabled Care Team's Public Engagement Report and Equality Impact Assessment of September 2020.
- [Home BP and Urine Monitoring leaflet](#): The 'high normal' BP range has been merged with the 'normal' range. A 'My normal' option has been added, where range(s) can be tailored for each woman, and a space to write or type in when they'd like women to report their results
- [Home BP and Urine Monitoring Implementation / Systems Guidance](#): An 'Expected Date of Delivery' column has been added to Appendix 2 to help Boards track devices and get them back after baby is born.
- [Home BP and Urine Monitoring Clinical Guidance](#): Information about safety and accuracy has been expanded. The guidance now allows for any woman to be offered Home Monitoring, if considered clinically appropriate by her pregnancy care team and if stock of monitors allows.



The leaflets will not routinely be printed, and instead content will be added to the ['Your Antenatal Care'](#) section of Ready Steady Baby on NHS Inform by the end of February. We're also exploring other options, including adding the leaflets to BadgerNet/TrakCare libraries and women's digital maternity records, developing posters with QR codes directing to the relevant web pages which women could scan at clinics and a national approach to translations.

We welcome any ideas or feedback, including if you would like to share learning about local approaches working well or which you think could have national potential.

Virtual Visits with Maternity Services

The Maternity Network Team would like to thank Heads of Midwifery, Clinical Directors of Obstetrics and other colleagues who have made the time to meet with us during December and January; especially given the many competing priorities of the current situation. We've made introductions, discussed successes and challenges faced and what the Network might be able to do at national level, to relieve some local pressures. We look forward to meeting with the final few Boards in February.

Our next steps will include collating and theming what you've told us, in discussion with policy colleagues, to develop a draft work plan which we hope reflects your priorities. We still hope to visit units and chat with front-line colleagues, when restrictions allow, to hear your views on our proposed work and how you'd like to be involved.

National Neonatal Network Update

NNN Group Meetings February 2021

- **National Neonatal Network Consultant Forum Meeting** - Tuesday 16th February, 2-3.30pm
- **Neonatal Core Data Dashboard Discussion** - Tuesday 9th February, 1.30-3.30pm
- **Saturation Screening Mtng; Pulse Ox Working Group** - Wednesday 17th February, 2.30-3.30pm
- **Covid-19 National Planning Call** - Fortnightly occurrence, Thursday 11.30am-12.30pm

Allied Health Professionals (AHP)

The first meeting of the National Neonatal Network Core Steering Group took place in December where we felt it would be valuable to explore how we may incorporate effective AHP representation within the network.

One thought was to create an AHP forum and we will be in touch with more detailed plans in the coming weeks.

The Maternity and Neonatal Data Hub for Scotland

One recommendation of '[The Best Start – A Five Year Forward Plan for Maternity and Neonatal Care in Scotland](#)' was to establish a **Maternity and Neonatal Data Hub**. Best Start also recommended that "...national level maternity and neonatal dashboards should be developed to facilitate benchmarking and reduce variations in care".

Over the last couple of years, we have worked on five broad tasks, and updates are provided for each below.

However, the COVID-19 pandemic has affected the Maternity and Neonatal Data Hub for Scotland, as it has everything else. Work has differed from planned activities, to allow for Public Health Scotland to meet urgent demands for surveillance data on maternity, neonatal and paediatric care. As part of our COVID-19 response, Public Health Scotland created a [data dashboard showing wider impacts of COVID-19](#). This includes data on many aspects of maternity care in Scotland including: breastfeeding; stillbirths, neonatal and infant deaths; antenatal booking appointments (numbers and average gestation); terminations of pregnancy (numbers and average gestation), and deliveries (gestation, mode (including C-section) and whether induced). Programme workstreams are:

1. Establish a visible, managed Maternity and Neonatal Hub for Scotland

The hub is a collaboration involving five delivery partners (Public Health Scotland, NHS Scotland Managed Clinical Networks Service, Healthcare Improvement Scotland, Scottish Government, and National Records of Scotland). We are also developing close links to UK-wide audits and IT system suppliers.

2. Align Maternity and Neonatal Data Collection

We have established a Maternity and Neonatal Data Access Liaison Group for Scotland (MaNDALS). The purpose of the group is to align multiple parallel conversations involving organisations who require all-Scotland-consistent data for national purposes from clinical information systems (mainly BadgerNet). We have engaged with Clevermed, who provide the BadgerNet systems, to establish a formal service agreement.

3. Review existing all-Scotland maternity data returns and establish new maternity data returns

We have established a new routine antenatal booking data collection; data from this is published monthly on the [wider impacts dashboard](#) mentioned above. As well as considering additional future antenatal booking data items, we are thinking about other potential modules of an Enhanced Maternity Dataset for Scotland (EMaDS). These include early pregnancy, fetal scans, immunisations, and delivery episodes. After input from our Programme Board we are currently focussing on booking and delivery episodes.

4. Routine collection of a new national (all-Scotland) minimum dataset on specialist neonatal care.

We have completed analysis of a one-off specialist neonatal care data extract received from Clevermed and have finalised a dataset for routine submission. We are discussing how this dataset can be submitted and how data should be presented. Discussions are ongoing with the National Neonatal Network on how best to support their needs.

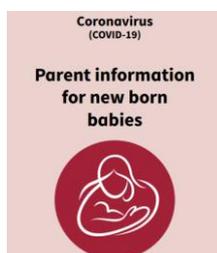
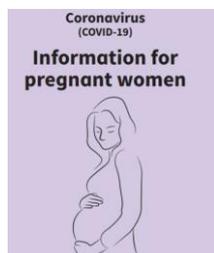
5. Maternity and Neonatal Dashboards for Scotland – explore new data displays and agree dashboard core

We developed a [dashboard demonstrator](#) that provides links to existing data displays. To extend this, we have developed a “Topics Index”. This catalogues individual maternity and neonatal measures already available, including those on the [wider impacts dashboard](#), [Discovery](#), [NMPA](#), and [PHS websites](#). We are currently exploring the best approach to make the Topics Index available. We are continuing to consider IT options to make maternity core measures available on data dashboards. Members of the programme team are contributing to a group, organised by the National Neonatal Network, to explore the development of a companion neonatal dashboard core.

If you have any queries or comments, please get in touch with Laura Hayes (Project Manager) or Alastair Philp (Programme Lead) via phs.matneodatahub@phs.scot and we will be happy to help.

See <https://scotland.shinyapps.io/phs-covid-wider-impact/> and see <https://readymag.com/PHIDigital/MatNeoDemonstrator/>

COVID-19 Information Leaflets



The Scottish Government has updated the [Information for Pregnant Women](#) and [Parent Information for New Born Babies](#) leaflets. They contain lots of useful information, frequently asked questions and updated guidance on vaccination for pregnant and breastfeeding women.

NHS Near Me Webinars

The NHS Near Me team is holding four regional webinars in January and February 2021. These will offer regional examples and speakers of how Near Me is being used by GPs and primary care staff. The January webinars have now past but for more information on the February webinars, click [here](#).



For webinars specific to maternity services, please watch or re-watch the [Technology Shaping the Future of Maternity Care \(NHS Near Me\)](#) and [Home Monitoring Learning from Implementation](#) webinars which were hosted live by HIS colleagues in May / June 2020 and are still relevant for our current situation. Other resources shared by Boards 'Learning from Implementation' can also be found on the [Scottish Perinatal Network](#) website.

Baby Sleep Info Source (BASIS)



BASIS online training packages are free for NHS staff in Scotland. Find out more about these packages [here](#). The courses get booked up very quickly so if you would like to be added to their mailing list and receive alerts for future training sessions, opt-in for communications: [here](#).

Maternal Medicine Symposium

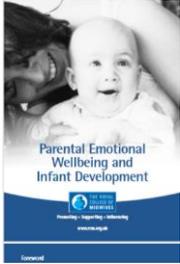
The Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh is holding a Maternal Medicine Symposium on 28th April 2021. Find further information and book your place [here](#).

Neonatal Expenses Fund

Neonatal Unit staff have been asked to encourage parents or guardians with a baby in neonatal care to avoid travelling by public transport to visit during the Covid-19 pandemic. As part of this conversation, colleagues may wish to remind parents or guardians they can claim for the costs of travel and food during this time from the Neonatal Expenses Fund.

Find details of what can be claimed, how to claim and download a claim form: [here](#)

Maternal Emotional Wellbeing Guidance



Parental Emotional Wellbeing and Infant Development guidance has been published by the Royal College of Midwives. Download the full guidance: [here](#)

MBRRACE-UK 2020 Report

MBRRACE-UK published their Perinatal Confidential Enquiry of Stillbirths and Neonatal Deaths in Twin Pregnancies report for 2020 on 14th January 2021. Access the report and more information [here](#).

Update from the Scottish Obstetric Cardiology Network (SOCN)



As you will be aware, the Scottish Government recently reinstated shielding guidance for those who are at highest risk of severe illness from coronavirus. This includes 'people who are pregnant with significant heart disease, congenital or acquired'. You can find the latest guidance from the British Cardiovascular Society to assist in identifying and shielding women in this category [here](#).

We value your feedback to help us make the newsletter work for you.

Please forward any comments or suggestions to us at:

nss.perinatalnetwork@nhs.scot

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