



# NITCAR

National Infection Trainee Collaborative  
for Audit and Research

## Newsletter January 2018

### What is "NITCAR"?

NITCAR brings together infection trainees from across the UK to facilitate multi-centre audit, service evaluation and research, with the aim of improving patient care within the field of infection. All infection trainees are invited to get involved. We are keen to hear from you so please **get in touch** if you are interested in any of the projects here, have an idea for future projects or if you would just like to know more.

### NITCAR News

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2018!

Overall, 2017 was a successful year for NITCAR. Our HOODINI and HCV projects were presented at ECCMID and at the BIA Spring meeting respectively. In addition to this, we had a dedicated NITCAR session at FIS 2017, where our completed projects were all presented.

You can watch the presentations here—  
[event.federationinfectionsocieties.com/](http://event.federationinfectionsocieties.com/).

Alternatively, you can find the abstracts for the talks on both the NITCAR website and the FIS 2018 website.

**REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN** for the 2018 annual meeting which will take place on Thursday 22nd March in Cambridge. Details of the meeting, as well as the registration form can be found on our website.

### Current project: Native Vertebral Osteomyelitis (NVO)

Leads: Drs Rachel Bousfield, Isobel Ramsay, Ben Warne, Student lead: Deevia Kotecha

This is our latest national project, seeking to answer the following questions:

- 1) *To evaluate the service we provide nationally to patients with NVO against guidelines from the IDSA.*
- 2) *To establish the characteristics of this patient group including demographic, microbiological and radiological information to help us target our future service more effectively.*

Data collection is now complete and data analysis in progress. A total of 32 sites submitted data. Thanks to everyone who collected data, in particular medical students, who have been key to the success of this project.



NITCAR team at FIS 2017.

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[@NITCAR\\_UK](https://twitter.com/NITCAR_UK)



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### Update on last year's projects

**HOODINI (HOspital Onset Diarrhoea INvestigation), Lead: Damien Mawer**

Two manuscripts have been prepared and are due to be submitted shortly. Watch this space for updates!

**Hepatitis C virus (HCV) project, Trainee Leads: Chloe Eaton, Suzie English, Ben Warne**

The HCV project also completed data collection last year with data presented recently at the AGM. The data has been written up and is due to be submitted for publication soon.

**CABI (Complicated intra-ABdominal Infection) project, Trainee Lead: Dr Anne Melhuish**

Statistical analysis is almost complete and a manuscript is currently being written up.

### Future project proposals for 2018

**Maternal Sepsis: Trainee lead: Anna Jarchow– MacDonald, Dundee**

A national audit looking at maternal sepsis protocols, the quality of their information and their implementation in practice.

**Urine sample authorisation audit: Trainee lead Dr Sarah James, Cambridge**

A proposed project looking at variation in authorisation practice in microbiology laboratories across the country

**BIA national meningitis audit: Trainee lead Dr Fiona McGill, Liverpool**

A project to support the national meningitis audit.

### **Current Committee 2017**

**Consultant chair:** Dr Andrew Kirby

**Trainee chair:** Dr Anne Melhuish

**Deputy trainee chair:** Dr Shadia Ahmed

**Communications secretary:** Dr Isobel

Ramsay

**Annual meetings secretary:** Dr Ben Warne

**IT secretary:** Dr Jordan Skittrall

**Student liaison:** Deevia Kotecha

**Advisory Panel:** Drs Jonathan Sandoe, Damian Mawer and Fiona Byrne

Email addresses for committee members are available on the website [www.nitcollaborative.org.uk](http://www.nitcollaborative.org.uk)

### **Dates for the Diary:**

Next Annual Meeting: Thursday 22nd March 2018 Cambridge