



NITCAR

National Infection Trainee Collaborative
for Audit and Research

Newsletter Winter 2019

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

We had a very positive response following our NITCAR session at FIS 2018, where we shared results from the NVO and CABI projects, as well as presenting our current project on the management of meningitis (NAMM).

Our annual meeting this year will be held straight after the BIA spring trainees day on the evening of the 22nd May. Programme to be confirmed.

Grab the opportunity: Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) will soon be upon us, if you are interested in getting more involved in the running of NITCAR then please consider standing for the committee at the next AGM in May. Get in touch if you would like to hear more details on the available committee roles and responsibilities.

Current project

National Audit of Meningitis Management (NAMM), Lead: Dr Fiona McGill, University of Liverpool

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

- 1) To assess clinical adherence to the new, current guidelines
- 2) To assess if any of the 'new' recommendations of i) shorter duration of antibiotics ii) older age cut off for Listeria cover and iii) steroids allowed to be given up until 12 hours after antibiotics – are associated with any worse outcome.
- 3) To evaluate if laboratories are meeting the turnaround times as stated in the Standards for Microbiological investigations (SMI)

Recruitment of new sites for NAMM has now closed. A whopping 71 centres have expressed interest and data collection is now underway!

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



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UPDATE ON PREVIOUS PROJECTS

HOODINI (HOSPITAL Onset Diarrhoea INVESTIGATION), Lead: Damien Mawer

Final draft of manuscript* is on its way and due to be submitted shortly.

Hepatitis C virus (HCV) project, Trainee Leads: Chloe Eaton, Suzie English, Ben Warne
Manuscripts are being prepared ready for submission.

CABI (Complicated intra-ABdominal Infection) project, Trainee Lead: Dr Shadia Ahmed
A draft manuscript* has been circulated to all collaborators for comment with a plan to submit soon!

Native Vertebral Osteomyelitis (NVO), Trainee Leads: Drs Rachel Bousfield, Isobel Ramsay, Ben Warne

Early results were presented at NITCAR@FIS 2018. Project write up is on-going.

**both the HOODINI and CABI project manuscripts are close to submission, if you were involved in either project and have not yet heard from the project leads please get in contact. Contact details can be found on our website.*

Future projects:

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

A project looking at variation in authorisation practice in microbiology laboratories across the country. A protocol is underway.

NITCAR Committee

Consultant chair: Dr Andrew Kirby

Trainee chair: Dr Shadia Ahmed

Deputy trainee chair: Dr Jordan Skittrall

Communications secretary: Dr Razan Saman

Annual meetings secretary: Dr Ben Warne

IT secretary: Dr Clare Anderson

Student liaison: Eloisa MacLachlan

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

Email addresses for committee members are available on the website www.nitcollaborative.org.uk

Dates for the Diary

NITCAR Annual Meeting and AGM: **22nd May 2019**

Venue: Congress Centre, 28 Great Russell Street, London, WC1B 3LS