



# NITCAR

National Infection Trainee Collaboration  
for Audit and Research

## Newsletter Autumn 2016

### 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

NITCAR's 3rd annual meeting is to be held in Leeds on 16th March 2017. The day will be a combination of research training, project updates, discussing new project proposals and electing the next committee. Please see the programme below for details. This will be an excellent training opportunity and has been incorporated into the Yorkshire deanery's regional training programme, but we want to encourage attendance from all over the UK. We are especially keen to hear about new projects, even if its just an idea at the moment, NITCAR can help support its development into a viable project. Register to attend at our website: [www.nitcollaborative.org](http://www.nitcollaborative.org).

#### 10.00 **Welcome**

#### 10.15 **HOODINI:** *Summary of the Hoodini Study (NITCARs 1st collaborative project)*

Dr Damian Mawer, Consultant in Microbiology & Infectious Diseases, York Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

#### 10.30 **Critical appraisal:** *Preparing for the MRCPATH critical appraisal exam*

Dr Miles Denton. Consultant Microbiologist Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, Lead Public Health Microbiologist, Yorkshire & The Humber Region, Health Protection Agency (and Critical Appraisal Examiner 2014).

#### 11.20 **MRCPATH Statistics:** *Are there enough patients? Is there a difference?*

Neil Corrigan, Senior Medical Statistician, Clinical Trials Research Unit, Leeds Institute of Clinical Trials Research, University of Leeds

#### 12.00 **Lunch:** Lunch provided

#### 12.30 **AGM:** *NITCAR selection of officers*

13.15 **Ongoing NITCAR projects:** Complicated intra-abdominal infection, Hepatitis C virus, Vertebral osteomyelitis

#### 13.30 **How NITCAR can support your project**

#### 13.45 **Project proposals**

#### 14:45 **Project selection**

#### 3.30 **Close**

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### **Current project: HOODINI**, *Lead: Damian Mawer*

This service evaluation was NITCAR's first national project and sought to answer the following questions:

- 1) What is the prevalence of hospital-onset diarrhoea?
- 2) What can the diarrhoea be attributed to?
- 3) How are patients with hospital-onset diarrhoea being managed? Specifically, are all those who meet the national criteria for C.difficile infection testing being tested?

25 acute NHS Trusts/Health Boards around the UK were involved, with data collected in January and June of 2016. Data analysis is currently underway.

### **Current project: CABI**: *Lead trainee: Anne Melhuish.*

Registration has closed and data collection is underway for the Complicated intraAbdominal Infections (CABI) audit and service evaluation. The project is aiming to determine current management strategies for CABI and compare them to the national guidelines. In total we have recruited 34 centres across the UK. Data collection will be ongoing over the next 7 months until May 2017. Any queries regarding CABI can be directed to our email address: [cabi@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:cabi@leeds.ac.uk) "

### **Current project: HCV**: *Leads: Chloe Eaton and Ben Warne*

Data collection is currently in progress for the hepatitis C audit. This audit has been designed to estimate follow-up rates for HCV testing and identify areas for improvement. There are a total of 14 recruited centres across the UK. Data collection will continue until the end of October 2016. For any queries please contact one of the HCV NITCAR leads Chloe ([chloeeaton@nhs.net](mailto:chloeeaton@nhs.net)) or Ben Warne ([b.warne@nhs.net](mailto:b.warne@nhs.net)).

### **Future projects**

2016			2017		
October	November	December	January	February	March
HOODINI					
HCV					
CABI					
			Vertebral OM		

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

- **HIS trainees' Day: 10th October, Birmingham (<https://www.his.org.uk/education/trainee-education-programme>)**
- **NITCAR at FIS: 6-8<sup>th</sup> November, EICC, Edinburgh**
- **National Research Collaborative Meeting 2016, 30th November, [www.nrcm.uk](http://www.nrcm.uk)**
- **Next Annual Meeting: Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017, Leeds**