



# NITCAR

National Infection Trainee Collaborative  
for Audit and Research

## Newsletter May 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 second newsletter of 2018!

Our latest AGM was on the 22nd March in Cambridge this time. It was very well attended and featured useful talks on medical statistics, journal publication and lessons learnt from projects such as the OVIVA and ARREST trials.

### New Committee members

We would like to thank the 2017 committee members for their hard work through out the year. Following on from the AGM Dr Shadia Ahmed has now taken over as trainee chair with . We would like to welcome two other new members: Dr Razan Saman who is the new Communications secretary, Dr Clare Anderson IT secretary and Eloisa MacLachlan our student liason.

### Current project

National audit of meningitis management (NAMM)

*Lead: Dr Fiona McGill*

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)

We are about to start recruitment for this project and are keen to increase the number of participating centres. If you would like to know more or get involved, please see the NIT-CAR website or email [fiona.mcgill@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:fiona.mcgill@liverpool.ac.uk)

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 @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.

**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 and manuscripts are being prepared ready for submission.

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

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

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

Data collection is in its last stages and preliminary results were presented recently at the AGM. The data is being analysed and written up and is due to be submitted for publication soon.

### Future project proposals for 2018

**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

**Surgical prophylaxis audit: Trainee lead Dr Shadia Ahmed, Leeds**

An audit on prophylactic surgical antibiotic use.

### **Current Committee 2018**

**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](http://www.nitcollaborative.org.uk)

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

Next Annual Meeting: March 2019 Venue TBC

NITCAR at FIS: 4th November 2018