



**NITCAR**

National Infection Trainee Collaborative  
for Audit and Research

# Newsletter Winter 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. We are especially keen to hear about new projects, even if its just an idea at the moment, NITCAR can help support its development. Project ideas can cover any aspect of infection.

**Register to attend at our website: [www.nitcollaborative.org.uk](http://www.nitcollaborative.org.uk).**

**If you have a project idea please let us know prior to the meeting by emailing our chair at [chair@nitcollaborative.org.uk](mailto:chair@nitcollaborative.org.uk).**

The 2017-2018 committee selection will also take place during our March meeting. The committee roles are:

**Trainee chair** ([chair@nitcollaborative.org.uk](mailto:chair@nitcollaborative.org.uk)):

*Overseas running of NITCAR and chairs monthly meetings*

**Deputy trainee chair:**

*Assists chair person*

**Communications secretary** ([comms@nitcollaborative.org.uk](mailto:comms@nitcollaborative.org.uk)):

*Responsible for newsletter and advertising of NITCAR*

**Annual meetings secretary:**

*Organisation of annual meeting and liaising with infection societies to have a NITCAR presence at conferences/training days*

**IT secretary** ([webmaster@nitcollaborative.org.uk](mailto:webmaster@nitcollaborative.org.uk)):

*Oversees website administration and mailing lists*

To find more out about these roles please contact us via the website or by email and we will be happy to provide more information about what is involved in being on the committee.

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

[comms@nitcollaborative.org.uk](mailto:comms@nitcollaborative.org.uk)

[chair@nitcollaborative.org.uk](mailto:chair@nitcollaborative.org.uk)



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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:

What is the prevalence of hospital-onset diarrhoea?

What can the diarrhoea be attributed to?

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 have been analysed and the team are currently writing a manuscript. Results will be presented at our March meeting.

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

An audit of the management of complicated intra-abdominal infection focusing on antibiotic choice and duration and how effective our current treatments are. Forty sites across the UK have registered to collect data from NITCAR and a surgical collaborative. Data collection is on-going 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 and over 1000 patients have been included so far. 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 project: Vertebral OM: Leads:**

The protocol is currently being finalised for this project assessing the current management of vertebral osteomyelitis and discitis across the UK. The project will be launched at our March meeting, but to express interest now please contact: [b.warne@nhs.net](mailto:b.warne@nhs.net)

## **Future projects**

2017					
January	February	March	April	May	June
HCV					
CABI					
Vertebral OM					

## **Dates for the Diary:**

- **NITCAR Annual Meeting: Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017, Leeds**