

Autumn 2026

NITCAR News

Project updates

Many of the projects are **looking to recruit more sites**. If you're interested in setting up the study at your hospital, then please visit the [NITCAR website](#) for more information and get in touch with the study teams. Project leads frequently offer opportunities for authorship of published work where appropriate.

PET-IE UK

PET-IE UK is a **UK-wide multicentre audit evaluating the utilisation and clinical impact of PET/CT in the diagnosis and management of infective endocarditis (IE) and cardiac device-related infections (CIED)**.

Expression of interest form is [here](#).

All UK centres managing patients with suspected or confirmed IE or CIED infection are encouraged to participate. Data collection is designed to be simple and time-efficient, with each site contributing up to 15 eligible cases. Email huseyin.bilgin@uhnm.nhs.uk to find out more.



NITCAR

National Infection Teams Collaborative
for Audit and Research

Newsletter Highlights

[Project updates](#)

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Get involved!

nitcollaborative.org.uk

nitcar.contact@gmail.com

[Mailing list sign-up:](#)

discussions.britishinfection.org

Recruitment ongoing

POET-UK

UK survey on the use of an early switch to oral antibiotics (partial oral treatment) for left-sided infective endocarditis (IE) – POET-UK

This survey is designed to evaluate current UK practice in IE management, focussing on the use of an early switch to oral antibiotics in left-sided (i.e. aortic, mitral valve) IE cases.

Currently the team have received around **50 submissions** and extend their thanks.

An early switch to oral antibiotics (two antibiotics in combination) was used in the “Partial Oral Treatment of Endocarditis (POET)” randomised controlled trial ([N Engl J Med 2019;380:415-424](#)) and included as a strategy in the European Society for Cardiology guidelines for the management of endocarditis (2023).

Although survey responses will be collected anonymously, we are hoping to aggregate the data and publish a summary of this survey.

Please email mark.campbell@ouh.nhs.uk and nicole.stoesser@ndm.ox.ac.uk if you have completed the survey and would like your name to be included as part of a group authorship listing on any outputs, and if you would be happy to be contacted about future similar opportunities. Your name will **NOT** be linked to any survey responses.



The survey should take about 15-20 minutes to complete, and you can save it and return to complete your answers if you are unable to fill it out in a single go.

The link for our survey is: <https://redcap.medsci.ox.ac.uk/surveys/?s=L3FDHMHAMMX8YFLL>

Thank you very much for taking the time to participate in this survey! The POET-UK team



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Results and updates

Invasive candidiasis in ICU survey

This combined effort conducted a survey of critical care units across the UK of current practice for diagnosis and management of IC; understanding real world ICU approaches and identifying opportunities for antifungal stewardship. The survey is now closed, with results expected before the end of 2026. The team would like to extend a huge thankyou to those who contributed.



PADL-UK Survey



PADL-UK collected data on penicillin allergy de-labelling undertaken by non-specialists, defined as clinicians who are not allergists or immunologists. The results were presented as a poster at ESCMID Global 2026 which you can see [here](#), and write up is ongoing for publication.

IONOE

This study aims to describe the demographics, clinical characteristics, surgical and medical management of prospectively identified cases of Necrotising Otitis Externa (NOE) presenting to UK NHS sites. 356 patients were recruited across 23 sites. Related work has been [published](#) and a new poster presented at ESCMID 2026 which you can view [here](#).



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Funding Opportunity—Opened 1st October

BIA NITCAR Audit Grant

The BIA and NITCAR are pleased to invite applications for Grant Awards of up to **£10,000** to support **high-quality clinical audit projects/service evaluations and subsequent quality improvement work.**

This scheme aims to promote excellence in quality improvement, improve patient care, and support clinician development.

Key Dates

Application opens: 1st October 2026

Closing date: 31st January 2027

Funding Available:

Up to **£10,000 total**, Funding duration: up to **12 months**

Multiple awards may be made, subject to quality and available funds

Eligibility - Applicants must:

- Be a clinician(s) or healthcare professional(s) working within the UK
- Be a member of the BIA
- Be the named lead applicant
- Confirm necessary governance approvals will be obtained

Applicants will be required to complete the BIA NITCAR Grant [Application Form](#) which should be submitted electronically by MS word or .pdf document to the NITCAR committee at nitcar.contact@gmail.com.



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NITCAR at FIS

26th November 2026 Main Auditorium 15:00-16:30



The NITCAR Team will be Chairing the Late Afternoon Session in the Main Auditorium at FIS 2026 in Glasgow.

We would love for you to join us there, there will be presentations from NITCAR projects and an excellent opportunity to ask questions and network with other trainees. The session overview is below. Click the headline for the full conference programme.

From Local Action to Global Networks: Accelerating High-Quality Collaborative Infectious Diseases Research

One Protocol, Multiple Threats: using ISARIC Clinical Characterisation Protocol to conduct Rapid Research in Emerging Infections

Prof Antonia Ho, Professor of Infectious Diseases, MRC-University of Glasgow Centre, UK

Building successful clinical collaboratives to maintain value of UK infection specialists

Andrew Kirby, Associate Clinical Professor, The University of Leeds, UK

NITCAR project showcase: PET-IE

Huseyin Bilgin, Microbiology Specialty Doctor, University Hospitals of North Midlands, UK

Management of invasive candidiasis in critical care in the UK - a national survey by BIA/ICS working group

Claire McCue, Consultant in Intensive Care Medicine and Anaesthesia, Glasgow Royal



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New Committee Members!

We are pleased to welcome four new members to the NITCAR Committee

NITCAR Vice Chair & Secretary

Dr Suzie Lant

Clinical Research Fellow in Oxford



Funding Lead

Dr Adam Hinchcliffe

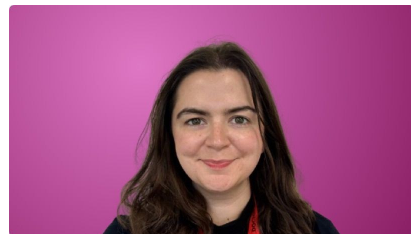
Internal Medical Trainee in Mersey Deanery



Governance Lead

Dr Lisa King

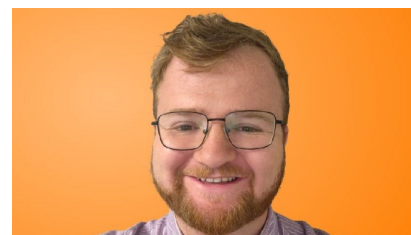
Internal Medical Trainee in South London



Communications Lead

Dr Alexander Scott

Clinical Research Fellow in Hull



The current (2026-27) committee is:

- **NITCAR Chair:** Jonathan Cattrall (Previously Communications Lead)
- **NITCAR Vice Chair & Secretary:** Suzie Lant
- **Consultant Chair:** Andrew Kirby
- **Academic meeting lead:** Catherine Dominic (Previously Charity Lead)
- **Communications lead:** Alex Scott
- **IT lead:** Ronak Shah
- **Governance lead:** Lisa King
- **Funding lead:** Adam Hinchcliffe



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Other news

NIHR Associate Principal Investigator (API) Scheme

The [NIHR Associate Principal Investigator \(API\)](#) scheme is a 6 month practical training opportunity, providing formal recognition of engagement in research. It is aimed at people starting their research career who may not normally have the opportunity to take part in clinical research and is a great opportunity for any interested trainees.



NIHR | National Institute
for Health Research

BIA Early Career Researchers

The BIA Early Career Researchers is a group and initiative looking to help those considering or starting their career in Research. Look out for more information on the [BIA website](#) and sign up to their e-list through this [page](#).

BIA
British Infection Association

WE ARE LOOKING FOR NEW PROJECTS!



If you have an idea for a study then please get in touch via nitcar.contact@gmail.com. We can offer you help to develop the project, and help you to disseminate the idea through a UK wide network of infection specialists. We'd love to hear from you.



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