



# NITCAR

National Infection Trainee Collaboration  
for Audit and Research

## Newsletter July 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 in-

vited 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 continues to go from strength to strength and our new website is now up and running; it can be found at [www.nitcollaborative.org.uk](http://www.nitcollaborative.org.uk). Here you will find updates about all of our current and future projects and further information on how to contact us and get involved. We had a very positive response following a presentation at the recent British Infection Association training day about NITCAR. We will also be present at the Healthcare Infection Society's trainees day on July 4th in Birmingham, so please come and say hello!

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

This service evaluation is NITCAR's first national project. It is seeking to answer the following questions:

- 1) What is the prevalence of hospital-onset diarrhoea in the NHS?
- 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 are involved. The first round of data collection took place in January; the second round of data collection took place in June. 22 of the original 24 centres were involved again and one that couldn't do it last time joined round 2. Databases are already being submitted back to Dr Mawer and data analysis is to follow.

### Now Recruiting: CABI: Lead trainee: Dr Anne Melhuish.

We are still recruiting for this audit of the management of intra-abdominal infection, focussing on antibiotic choice, duration and how effective our current treatments are. To be involved you will need to recruit a minimum of 7 patients with intra-abdominal infection between August 2016 and February 2017. Please see the NITCAR website for more details, or e-mail : [cabi@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:cabi@leeds.ac.uk), for more information. Please register your interest by **15th September 2016**.

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## Now Recruiting: HCV: Leads: Ms Chloe Eaton & Dr Ben Warne

We are currently recruiting to the first NITCAR national HCV Audit. This retrospective audit aims to estimate follow-up rates for HCV testing. Utilising specimens received during the 36 months from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2011 to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2014, this project has been designed to identify areas for improvement and further characterise follow-up rates. Additionally, a future re-audit will demonstrate any resultant changes following the introduction of the newest generation of multi-genotypic anti-HCV agents.

Multi-centre collaboration will yield publishable data and allow a national view of Hepatitis C testing across the UK. If you work in virology, microbiology or infectious diseases and you are thinking of participating, further information can be found at <http://nitcollaborative.org.uk/wp/projects-hcv/>, please register your interest by **31<sup>st</sup> July 2016** by contacting one of the HCV Audit Team listed below:

- Ms Chloe Eaton, Clinical Scientist (Virology), Trainee: [chloeeaton@nhs.net](mailto:chloeeaton@nhs.net)  
- Dr Ben Warne, Infectious Diseases, Trainee: [b.warne@nhs.net](mailto:b.warne@nhs.net)

### Future projects

**CA-UTI:** *Lead trainee: Dr Sarah Drake.* The aim of this project is to survey current guidelines for catheter associated urinary tract infection and investigate the management of CA-UTI focusing on authorisation of urine samples, indication for why urine samples are sent, treatment choice and catheter management

**Vertebral OM:** A project assessing how this relatively rare infection is managed across the UK. More details to follow.

2016						2017			
July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	
HOODINI									
HCV									
	CABI								
							Vertebral OM		
								CAUTI	

### Dates for the Diary:

- **HIS trainees' Day: 4th July, Birmingham** (<https://www.his.org.uk/education/trainee-education-programme>)
- **NITCAR at FIS: 6-8<sup>th</sup> November, EICC, Edinburgh**
- **Next Annual Meeting: Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017, Leeds**