



NIHR Programme Grant
Improving quality of care and
outcome at very preterm birth

NCTU
Nottingham Clinical Trials Unit



The University of
Nottingham

NIHR Programme Grant

Improving quality of care and outcome at very preterm birth

NEWSLETTER 1

Winter 2011/12

Happy New Year

We are delighted to welcome you to the first Preterm Birth Programme newsletter. Since the programme started in March 2011 there has been a great deal of activity including three steering committee meetings, the recruitment of both a manager and administrator and commencement of the research within many of the work packages.

The quarterly newsletters will keep you informed of the progress of the programme with important dates and information. It will focus on different work packages in every issue.

This newsletter introduces the new programme management team, work package 1 and celebrates an award success by a project.

Important dates

Steering Committee Meeting
22nd February 2012
Liverpool Women's Hospital

Steering Committee Meeting
19th June 2012
The University of Nottingham



Photograph provided by BLISS

Contact the Management Team:

Programme Manager— Charlotte Lloyd

Charlotte.Lloyd@nottingham.ac.uk

+44 (0)115 8844934

Hours of work:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday morning

Programme Administrator— Sarah Smith

Sarah.Smith2@nottingham.ac.uk

+44 (0)115 8844948

Hours of work:

Monday 9:00 – 16:15 and

Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday 9:00 – 14:00.

NCTU

Nottingham Clinical Trials Unit



Introducing the programme management team at the Nottingham Clinical Trials Unit

Now that the programme is under-way there is a team in place at the University of Nottingham to coordinate the operational management, structure and timing of the work.

Charlotte Lloyd has joined the Clinical Trials Unit at University of Nottingham as Programme Manager of the Preterm Birth Programme.

Charlotte started as Programme Manager at the beginning of December 2011. She had a background in university administration before attaining a first class undergraduate degree in management with design as a mature student. Following her studies she has been managing a five year thematic research programme funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council on Landscape and Environment at the University of Nottingham which is now a leading multinational network in the field. She has a lot of experience supporting research projects and will assist with any queries that arise during the programme.

Charlotte works part time and her usual hours of work are Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesday mornings until 1.00pm. You can contact her on +44 (0)115 8844934 charlotte.lloyd@nottingham.ac.uk.



L to R: Charlotte, Lelia and Sarah

Sarah Smith joined the team as Programme Administrator in January 2012 from the School of Nursing at the University of Nottingham at their Grantham Education Centre. Her main duties were looking after the students and teachers and pulling together the adult timetables. Prior to this she worked for Welcome Finance who are based in Nottingham for nearly 14 years and for the last 4 years worked in the Projects Department as their PA and supported the

Projects Director & his Project Managers. Her main duties will be supporting Charlotte and Lelia with all aspects of administration which will involve preparation and co-ordinating of meetings, diary management, maintaining, updating and distribution of various documents.

Sarah works part time and her hours of work are Monday 9:00 – 16:15 and Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday 9:00 – 14:00. You can contact her on +44 (0)115 8844948

Focus on a work package—Identifying and prioritising research gaps for pre-term birth.



Awareness meeting on 14 July 2011. Photo S Uhm

The Work Package 1(WP1) of the NIHR Programme to “Improve quality of care and outcome at very preterm birth” started on March 2011 with the arrival of Seilin Uhm to work with Prof Sandy Oliver at the Social Science Research Unit at the Institute of Education. The aim of WP1 is to identify and prioritise *research uncertainties* and *outcomes* at very preterm birth, which are considered important by both clinicians and service users.

An initial partnership meeting for Priority Setting Partnership (PSP) was held on 14th July 2011 in London and was attended by clinicians, service users and carers involved in pre-term birth and care. The first Steering Group meeting was held on 14 November 2011 at Clinical Trials Unit at Queen’s Medical Centre in Nottingham. Sally Crowe, who chaired this PSP, welcomed representatives from clinical and service users’ organisations. They shared their experience of consulting service users and clinicians through their networks and discussed ways to identify and prioritise research uncertainties around preterm birth

Seilin Uhm said “We had a very interesting discussion on the scope of our PSP. We had been thinking about interventions in the delivery room and during the first hour of birth. However, all members of the Steering Group have agreed that our questions should include both antenatal and post-natal issues on preterm birth.” Seilin is using the partnership as an opportunity to explore methods for how clinicians and service users work together, both face-to-face and at a distance in collaboration with the James Lind Alliance (JLA). This was welcomed by members of the Steering Group.

The Steering Group aim to complete the priority setting by November 2012 and will have three more Steering Group meetings in London and Nottingham.

To keep up to date with progress, please visit the WP1’s website <http://eppi.ioe.ac.uk/pretermbirth>.

For more information, please contact Seilin Uhm (s.uhm@ioe.ac.uk, 020 7612 6532) or follow the Twitter feed @PretermBirth.

Award congratulations

Work package 3.4 is developing a bedside assessment, stabilisation and initial circulatory support trolley, known as BASICS, they have recently won a prestigious award for the

- Bill Yoxall—Liverpool Women's Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
- Andrew Weeks—Liverpool Women's Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

The essential requirements for initial care of sick or preterm infants are warmth, suction and positive pressure ventilation. The project team along with Peter Watt, design engineer at The Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals NHS Trust, have designed The Bedside Assessment, Stabilisation and Initial Cardio respiratory Support (BASICS) mobile trolley at Liverpool Womens' hospital to provide these requirements at the bedside.

The state-of-the-art trolley is a small, portable version of the large resuscitation units used to provide warmth, suction and positive pressure ventilation. Its size allows it to be used alongside the mother and baby even at caesarean section or forceps delivery. It has a built-in oxygen supply, suction and heater and has been developed in the belief that immediate care of the newborn is best done alongside the mother and especially beneficial in the case of premature babies or those who are short of oxygen after labour. It allows doctors and midwives to check for vital life-signs and provide resuscitation at the mother's bedside whilst the baby is still safely connected to its mother via the umbilical cord. The

intact cord provides the baby with an ongoing oxygen supply and maintains the baby's blood volume.

Following the initial development of the first prototype (Mark I) a heat solution company, Inditherm, who specialise in patient warming and heat therapy technology for the medical sector, have been approached to make a prototype of the BASICS trolley that can be used in the evaluation trial (work package 3.5). The company currently has a product called 'Cosycrib' that provides an ideal neonatal nursing system that also has the option of integrated warming. This is now being adapted as a second prototype (Mark II). The design of both of the prototypes has been informed by input from clinicians, including testing with resuscitation mannequins, and with service users (Liverpool Women's Hospital Research User's Group and BLISS). Inditherm are approved for testing of clinical devices by the MHRA, and the prototype will be approved for clinical testing prior to the start of the study in WP 3.5. The aims of this study are: (a) to evaluate whether this trolley allows initial care and stabilisation at the bedside (b) to assess the acceptability of the trolley for the parents whose babies have been managed on this trolley, and for the staff using it.



Mark I BASICS prototype - photo by project team

Congratulations

goes to the team for their success with the BASICS trolley in the 2011 Medical Futures Innovation Awards, winning the title of the 'Best Innovation in Service Redesign in the Cardiovascular Innovation Awards'. A Medical Futures Innovation Award is one of Europe's most prestigious healthcare and business accolades, rewarding innovative ideas from front line clinicians, scientists and entrepreneurs. The award was presented by TV executive, Michael Mosley at a high-profile ceremony in central London in front of 700 leaders in medicine, politics and business. The event was hosted by comedian Rory Bremner and Dynasty actress Emma Samms, founder of the children's charity Starlight.



The team at the Medical Futures Innovation Awards (medicalfutures.co.uk)



Andrew Weeks and Peter Watt receiving the award (medicalfutures.co.uk)

Website

A new website for the programme will be available soon. This will have all the information on each work package plus programme management information. It will contain a restricted access area for programme documents and will publish important news and events. If you have any images or information that you would like to be added to the website please email them to charlotte.lloyd@nottingham.ac.uk.

Logo

A logo has been designed by Charlotte for the Preterm Birth Programme. It would be great if this could be used on documentation relating to the programme when necessary. The jpeg can be requested through Charlotte or Sarah.

Newsletter

The programme newsletter will be published quarterly with the next one planned for April 2012. It would be useful if you could send us any news worthy updates on your work packages that could contribute to the newsletters. We hope to build a database of images for use within the programme and again we would be grateful for any that you can add. Please email them to charlotte.lloyd@nottingham.ac.uk.



NIHR Programme Grant

Improving quality of care and outcome at very preterm birth

NIHR Programme in Applied Health Research Improving quality of care and outcome at very preterm birth

Nottingham Clinical Trials Unit
Nottingham Health Science Partners
C Floor, South Block
Queen's Medical Centre
Nottingham
NG7 2UH

Programme Manager
Charlotte.Lloyd@nottingham.ac.uk
+44 (0)115 8844934

Programme Administrator
Sarah.Smith2@nottingham.ac.uk
+44 (0)115 8844948



NIHR Programme Grant

Improving quality of care and outcome at very preterm birth