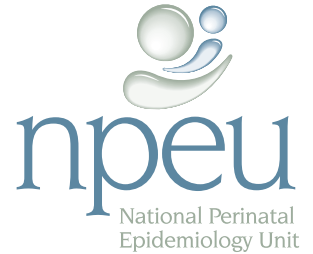




British Association of Paediatric Surgeons Congenital Anomalies Surveillance System (BAPS-CASS)



Newsletter 4: November 07

The national system to study the surgical management of a range of neonatal conditions

Oesophageal Atresia study to commence next year

Thank you all for contributing to BAPS-CASS and helping to establish this unique surveillance system. The BAPS Research Committee has approved the next BAPS-CASS study to commence in April 2008 when the gastroschisis study finishes. Oesophageal atresia (OA) includes a group of congenital anomalies comprising a discontinuity in the oesophagus with or without a trachea-oesophageal fistula (TOF). Five sub-types of oesophageal atresia are described, but as yet no national or population-based survey has been conducted to assess the incidence of each sub-type and the variation in management of each. The management of long-gap OA, defined as OA without a distal TOF, remains particularly controversial. Because of the difficulty in creating a primary oesophageal anastomosis, surgery for long-gap OA tends to be delayed and may include the fashioning of an oesophageal conduit from stomach, small bowel or colonic tissue. No single technique has been identified as the gold standard, and individual surgeons tend to adhere to their own preference.

This study will estimate the birth prevalence of each sub-type of OA, record the percentage of associated anomalies, and how these are screened for. It will also describe the surgical management and the short and medium term outcomes after corrective surgery.

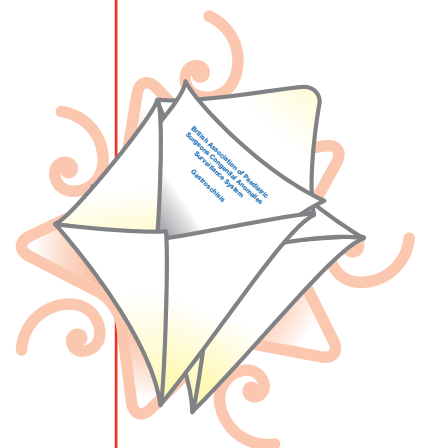
David Burge from Southampton is the Clinical Lead for the study, assisted by Clinical Academic Fellow Natalie Schenker from Oxford.

Case Report Summary to 31/10/2007

Condition	Cases Reported	Forms returned	Confirmed Cases	Unconfirmed Cases	Duplicate Cases
Gastroschisis	267	151 (57%)	147	0	4

Data Collection Forms

Please can we remind all of you to complete and return data collection forms as soon as you receive them? Currently less than 60% of forms have been returned, and although some of these have been sent out only recently, there are 38 forms still outstanding from infants born more than six months ago. The failure of a few to complete forms invalidates the hard work of the many that have made the effort. Without complete return of data the study results may not be unbiased or generalisable and therefore one of the main aims of BAPS-CASS will not be achieved.



Thank you to the unit coordinators who have returned cards over the last three months:

Addenbrookes Hospital
 Birmingham Children's Hospital
 Bristol Royal Hospital For Children
 Chelsea and Westminster Healthcare Trust
 Edinburgh Royal Hospital for Sick Children
 Glasgow Royal Hospital for Sick Children
 Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children
 Hull Royal Infirmary
 John Radcliffe Hospital
 King's College Hospital
 Leeds General Infirmary
 Leicester Royal Infirmary
 Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital
 Nottingham University Hospitals
 Our Lady's Hospital for Sick Children
 Queen Charlotte's & Chelsea Hospital
 Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital
 Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital
 Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children
 Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital
 Royal London Hospital
 Royal Manchester Children's Hospital
 Royal Victoria Infirmary
 Sheffield Children's Hospital
 Southampton General
 St George's Hospital
 University Hospital Lewisham
 University Hospital of Wales

Returned all three cards.

Returned two cards.

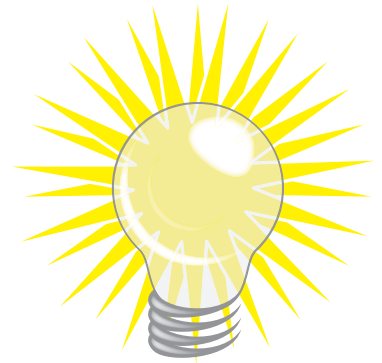
Returned one card.

Returned no cards

If you think you have returned all your cards and are not listed in green, please let us know. We are also happy to receive email notifications if you are missing cards.

Reminder

Remember when you notify a case to note the patient's name and hospital number on the half of the blue card you keep, so that when the data collection forms arrive you can easily retrieve the notes without having to re-identify the patient.

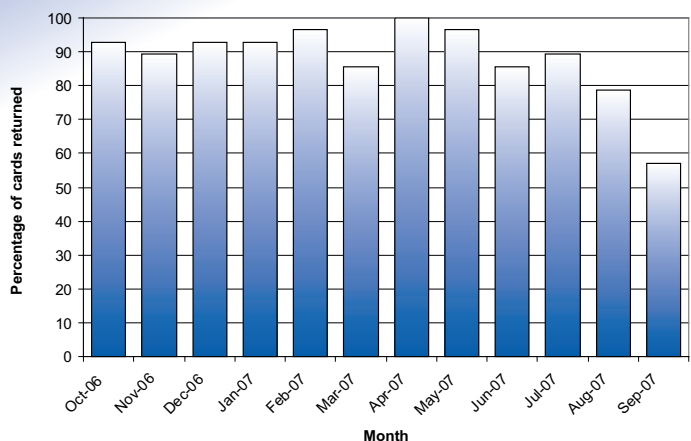


The Chocolate Box

Special thanks to all SpRs/STs who have been fantastic at completing data collection forms and coordinating card returns.

With this in mind, chocolates this month to Chris Parsons from Cambridge for lots of hard work and to Stephanie Warne and Boma Adikibi in Edinburgh. And just to show it can be done without the help of an SpR, to Sanja Besarovic from Hull for fast and reliable card and form returns. Thank you all once again!

Card return rates October 2006 to September 2007



Marian Knight/Sean Marven (Clinical Coordinators): **01865 289727**

Carole Harris (Administrator): **01865 289714**

email: **BAPS-CASS@npeu.ox.ac.uk**

web: **www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/BAPS-CASS**