NIPE NEWS
March 2017

Update for all Hospital and Community staff involved in performing or arranging Newborn Infant Physical Examination (NIPE) Baby Checks.

There are 2 major changes for us:

1. From April 1st 2017, across all areas of Cornwall, every Hospital and Community born baby will be entered onto an online newborn screening database at birth. This will identify every baby who is due for a NIPE screen before they are 72 hours old. As part of their routine screening, alongside blood spot and hearing screening, the database will be checked daily to identify any babies who have not yet been screened for arrangements to be made for their examination.

2. The other major change is that from April 1st GPs will no longer have responsibility for the first baby check in their GP Surgeries.

- From 6 to 72 hours of age, NIPE trained midwives will examine babies in the community. Additionally, there will be a midwife led, daily clinic on the Postnatal Ward at RCH.  

This ‘well baby’ clinic runs from 8.30 – 16.30, 7 days a week from 1st April with prebooked appointments. The clinic can be contacted on RCH 2159/2150

- Babies approaching 72hrs old will be prioritised. Any baby causing any concerns - check the NIPE guideline for appropriate contact, timing and referral pathway, not the well baby clinic

Parents who decline screening will be offered a GP routine check as usual at 6-8 weeks. Declines need to be recorded on the baby’s NIPE Smart system database to avoid repeated recalls to the family (as do any neonatal deaths to avoid the same issue)

- Preterm or babies with any complex/unwell history will continue to be examined by the neonatal/paediatric medical team and referrals/queries will be mainly triaged by the Neonatal Registrar, within usual working hours 9-4pm, unless the referral is urgent.

- Details of the agreed process and referral pathways for any problems identified can be found in the NIPE clinical guideline, located in the RCH webpage under the documents library section at: http://www.royalcornwall.nhs.uk
The guideline includes the operational procedure for organising a baby check, details of the NIPE Smart online database system and appendices include exclusion criteria for midwife baby checks and referral pathways for any problems identified at the time of the newborn check. Most referrals will be made directly at the time of the check and will no longer be the responsibility of GPs.

- GPs will continue to perform the 6-8 week routine screening examination and will refer any new or minor anomalies noted at birth concerns as usual.
- Input to the NIPE Smart system generates a printout for the babys’ Red Book PCHR and referral letters for common conditions which are copied to the baby’s medical notes and GP

**MIDWIFE TRAINING UPDATE**

8 RCH, Paediatric Consultant led mentor teams and midwife/maternity nurse ‘trainees’ are working together to support the change for trainees to develop/refresh their competence. Approximately 56 Cornwall midwives are trained/ in training currently

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Community Leads: aarchibald@nhs.net angela.whittaker3@nhs.net helen.ettle.nhs.net

**ALL STAFF WHO PERFORM NIPE CHECKS** Will need to document their examination and any referrals onto the National Database NIPE Smart system from the live date of 1st APRIL 2017 or families will be recalled as part of the screening programme until this documentation is completed https://nipe.northgate.thirdparty.nhs.uk/nipe/ManualLogin.aspx

**If you need training access** - via Jan Clarkson and Jenny Stevenson. Log your details/request training: rch-tr.Screening@nhs.net

RCH ext. 3092 NNU and Postnatal ward ‘Super-users’ can also train/add you to the database.

- Your username format will be: ref_jbloggs for password choose ‘forgotten’ to generate a new one
- You will need to annually update your CPD and print your certificate from: http://cpd.screening.nhs.uk/nipe-elearning or from 3rd April 2017 the NHS England CPD training portal: http://portal.e-lfh.org.uk/

**All other midwifery staff will need to become familiar with SOP for organising NIPE checks for Hospital and Community babies to ensure they are added to NIPE Smart once their NHS number is generated**

This planning should be made by the midwife caring for the mother in labour/shortly after birth so the parents have clear information regarding who will perform the baby check as now NOT their GP as previously
Midwife/nurse ‘NIPE TRAINEEs’ have
a named mentor group but can
contact ANY trained NIPE member of
staff to observe or assess you ad hoc.
You can also contact the NNU before
9am Monday to Friday to inform the
nurse in charge to request afternoon
support from that days’ neonatal
team. Just leave your name and
contact details and we will try to help
you later that day (neonatal unit
workload allowing)

Try to utilise the offered time slots with
mentor Consultants for your benefit for at
least 1-2 of your checks

• If you are a NIPE named MENTOR
please identify your possible
availability projected forward 4
weeks at a time and email your
trainee group ASAP so they know
when you are likely to be around
and can arrange to meet up with
you. 8 Mentor groups of 3 -4 will
have around 6 trainees to
supervise each. You also need to
access the NIPE Smart system
and complete your NIPE online
training.

• Mentors/NIPE trained staff also
please try whenever possible to
support any staff in training to achieve
their observations and assessments
when you are working.

• NIPE trained staff who need a
‘refresher’ observation, contact
any of the named mentors and
complete your NIPE online update
annually.

• All other staff will need to become
familiar with SOP for organising NIPE
checks for Hospital and Community
babies to ensure they are added to
NIPE Smart
[Leads: Jan Clarkson and Jenny Stevenson]

** Any Qs don’t hesitate to
contact one of the team

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Key staff: Judith Clegg, SamPadmanabhan, Jan Clarkson, Jenny
Stevenson, Mairead Archard, Karen Needham, SarahJane
Pedler, Sarah Tabrett, Andrew Collinson, Treena Figg, Avril

Babies should have their NIPE screen
between *6 and 72 hours old. All need to
be recorded on the NIPE Smart database
from 1st APRIL to register the baby’s
screening is completed. The examination
findings can then be printed out for their
Red Book PHCR and notes, and any
referral needs made and recorded with
copies to the GP.

* NHS number needed to record the check on database.
Pulse oximetry can be inaccurate under 6hrs old

Archibald, Angela Whittaker, Helen Ettle