

**North West & North Wales Paediatric Critical Care Operational Delivery Network:**  
**Nursing and AHP Sub-Group**  
**Meeting 11am – 1pm via Teams**

**Attendees**

Nicola Longden (NWTS/Co-Chair)	Corrine Roe (Warrington)
Lucy Allton (PCC ODN/ Co-Chair)	Elizabeth Hooper (Wigan)
Mica Davey (NWTS/Co-Chair)	Charlotte Nixon (Leighton)
Sophie Graves (NWTS)	Panisha Patel (Stepping Hill)
Vicky Wilcock (NWTS)	John Horley (Wigan)
Danielle Wood (NWTS)	Michael Sheffield (Warrington)
Katie Higgins (NWTS)	Katie Ceraldi (Preston)
Chris Walker (NWTS)	Nicola Howard (Blackpool)
Emily Coup (Stepping Hill)	Emily Thomas (Arrowe Park)
Carrie Bowen (Wrexham)	Saadia Rizvi (Salford)
Becky Martin (Bolton)	Anna Parry (ODN Educator)
Naomi Harrison (NMGH)	Janice Fauset-Jones (LTV Lead Nurse)
Isabelle Cliffe (Warrington)	Sharon Jackson (Leighton)
Victoria Gate (Blackpool)	Catherine Andrew (Barrow)
Leonie Hardman (Warrington)	Rebecca Leeming (Blackpool)
Jessica Berry (Warrington)	Kerry Little (Furness)

**Apologies:**

Catherine Pollit (Chester), Catherine Boone (Blackburn), Georgina Haddock (Warrington), Helen Gray (Whiston), Jill Tomlinson (Warrington), Katie Phillips (Whiston), Laura Reynolds (NMGH), Pamela Slaughter (Wigan), Ricky Barber (Oldham), Jade Holman (Whiston), Hannah Roberts (Bangor), Gail Parr (Wigan), Penny Hartley (Whiston), Kate Dear (Fairfield)

1. Welcome (MD)
2. Introductions & Apologies (MD)
3. Minutes shared from last meeting (MD)
4. Update from the region

**4a. NWTS – (NL)**

<b>Update</b>	<b>Actions</b>
Clinically continued to be busy recently with no specific illnesses/conditions identified as most common. Lots of sick children in region being moved, lots of arrhythmias and arrests.	

<p>Continue to have the ability to move level 1&amp;2 children with 10-10 team having year round funding. Contact us if needing a move for uplift of care. Tertiary centres struggling for HDU beds but we will help where we can. Surge shifts continue until the end of February. NWTS may repatriate children from ICU to DGHs either self ventilating if nurse only or on high flow if medic joining team. Education – grand round continues on 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month. Email <a href="mailto:NWTSgrandround@gmail.com">NWTSgrandround@gmail.com</a> for access to link. Yesterday’s session was on measles by Paddy McMaster and was interesting. There will unfortunately be no recording for this session as there were slides of a sensitive nature. Outreach booking open for 2024/2025 – please contact Nicola to book.</p>	<p>Contact Nicola/liaise with anaesthetic/medical colleagues to arrange a date for outreach</p>
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#### 4b. Update from Network – (LA)

Update	Actions
<p>PCC L1 &amp; L2 audit – started 04.12.23 with 6 pilot sites submitting 2 weeks of data on 18<sup>th</sup> Dec. all other sites commenced 11.12.23 and we have had 16 submissions for December so far. There are numerous niggles with the spreadsheet and with submissions so still chasing some data before the reports are sent out. Will be making tweaks to the spreadsheet as we go along to hopefully help with this. Data showing L2 activity across the region and a variety of interventions. Will provide us with really useful data. Massive thanks to all for completing this.</p> <p>Will be starting a workforce audit also and will be sending this out with other networks once collated (PCC and Surgery in children, LTV and children’s cancer networks) Regional educators post advertised and closed so reviewing applications – will provide ODN opportunity to support region with educational resources etc.</p> <p>Last national call was end of November but RSV noted to have spiked early and then plateauing. Measles remains of concern in areas with lower vaccine uptake where outbreaks may be seen (areas of NW included in area with lower vaccine uptake). RSV vaccine coming – next year. Mycoplasma – requested data re admissions to PCC areas.</p>	

#### 4c. Update from Greater Manchester region (DGH perspective)

Hospital / Name / Department / Update	Actions
<p><b>Bolton</b>  <b>Ward</b> No update received  <b>A&amp;E</b> No update received</p>	
<p><b>North Manchester</b>  <b>Ward</b> No update received  <b>ED</b>            Busy over Christmas. Lots of Flu A/B in the last few weeks.            Had a few transfers out recently via NWTs.</p>	
<p><b>Oldham</b>  <b>Ward</b> No update received  <b>ED</b> No update received</p>	
<p><b>Salford</b>  <b>Panda</b>            First meeting attended by Saadia – welcome! Had a few respiratory patients in recently but no issues to raise different to other DGHs yet.</p>	
<p><b>Stepping Hill</b>  <b>Ward</b>            Seems to be calmer on the ward. Seeing some older children with persistent oxygen requirements for LRTIs taking a long time to wean down.            Had a couple of patient presenting with ?Meningitis with symptoms of bulging fontanelle etc., swabs back positive for COVID  <b>ED</b> No update received</p>	<p>All: Consider COVID as a differential diagnosis for patients with meningitic symptoms</p>
<p><b>Tameside</b>  <b>Ward</b> No update received  <b>ED</b> No update received</p>	
<p><b>Wigan</b>  <b>Ward</b>            Busy few months. January seems better so far. Similar patient 4/12 with meningitic symptoms and clear LP – will chase COVID status. Seen some DKAs. HDU audit showing 80 bed days on Airvo.            Discussed Hamilton vents and escalation for NIV – consultants not wanting to use T1s for NIV in case needed for intubated patients. Looking into alternatives  <b>ED</b> Looking at getting a Hamilton T1. No other issues to report</p>	

<b>Wythenshawe</b> <b>Ward</b> No update received <b>ED</b> No update received	
<b>Fairfield</b> No update received	

#### 4d. Update from Cheshire & Mersey (DGH perspective)

Hospital / Name / Department / Update	Actions
<b>Arrowe Park</b> <b>Ward</b> - No update received <b>ED</b> No update received	
<b>Chester</b> <b>Ward</b> No update received <b>ED</b> No update received	
<b>Leighton</b> <b>Ward</b> Busy recently, seen Flu A, Mycoplasma and a case of Steven Johnsons that was sick but was able to be managed locally. Had 5 different ventilators in use at one point for NIV so now streamlining this. Using the EVE ventilator but having problems with this so using the Fabian now. <b>ED</b> No update received	
<b>Ormskirk</b> <b>Ward and ED</b> Ok in Nov/December however January very busy. Escalating beds on the ward from assessment unit. Lots of respiratory patients with an oxygen requirement for longer than usual. Lots of staff sickness. Aware that Whiston are using the Willomed ventilator instead of Sipap machine, assume will be introduced at Ormskirk too. Piloting an inhouse HDU course thanks to Emily Coup's information about theirs – thank you.	
<b>Macclesfield</b> <b>Ward</b> No update received <b>ED</b> No update received	
<b>Warrington</b> <b>Ward</b>	

<p>Seeing higher acuity patients in November. Things have calmed down after Christmas and New Year. Had some new starters so staffing is getting better.</p> <p>Similar to Leighton have had multiple different ventilators to looking to streamline.</p> <p><b>ED</b> No update received</p>	
<p><b>Whiston</b></p> <p><b>ED</b> No update received</p> <p><b>Ward</b> No update received</p>	

#### 4e. Update from Lancashire and South Cumbria (DGH perspective)

Hospital / Name / Department / Update	Actions
<p><b>Barrow-In-Furness</b></p> <p><b>Ward</b> Similar to elsewhere, seeing lots of RSV and respiratory illnesses and with longer oxygen requirements than usual.</p> <p><b>AICU</b> Catherine Andrews is the new Paediatric Link Nurse from AICU. Planning lots of joint education with HDU and AICU staff to ensure all on same page with looking after children.</p> <p>Ensuring resus trolleys are aligned across ED, wards, AICU etc.</p> <p><b>ED</b> No update received</p>	
<p><b>Blackburn</b></p> <p><b>Ward</b></p> <p>Really busy Oct/Nov/December Calmer since. Lots of patients on BIPAP and lots with cardiac problems. Lots of cardiac arrests, 3 over the weekend over ward/ED. Using SIPAP still but no consumables available. Having problems with other ventilators.</p>	
<p><b>Blackpool</b></p> <p><b>Ward</b></p> <p>Busy December. Lots of RSV, COVID and flu. Seeing RSV in patients &lt;28 days old. Lots of patients on high flow. Also reporting taking longer to wean children from oxygen. Multiple admissions of children taking mixed overdoses needing transfer to ICU.</p> <p><b>ED</b> No update received</p>	
<p><b>Lancaster</b></p>	

<b>Ward</b> Similar to elsewhere, seeing lots of RSV and respiratory illnesses and with longer oxygen requirements than usual. <b>ED</b> No update received	
<b>Preston</b> <b>Ward</b> No update received <b>ED</b> No update received	

#### 4f. Update from North Wales (DGH perspective)

Hospital / Name / Department / Update	Actions
<b>Bangor</b> <b>Ward</b> No update received <b>ED</b> No update received	
<b>Glan Clwyd</b> <b>Ward and ED</b> Seeing Rhino and Enterovirus, on high flow taking a long time to come off oxygen. Some poorly cardiac babies. Had a patient in cardiac arrest Christmas eve that had a local team transfer. No Sipap available currently – machine undergoing repair.	
<b>Wrexham</b> <b>Ward</b> Really busy struggling with patient flow. Christmas was very busy. Poorly baby admitted with whooping cough – 10 day admission. Patient with presumed Guillan-Barre transferred to ICU. <b>ED</b> No update received	

#### 5. Nomination of deputy chairs X4 = one for each region.

Nominated candidates:

**Lancashire and South Cumbria:** Elizabeth Cotton (Lancaster ED) (NB Nicola Howard – Blackpool and Cathy McGee – Blackpool have also expressed interest but have since withdrawn for now)

**Greater Manchester:** Emily Coup (Stepping Hill)

**North Wales:** Carrie Bowen (Wrexham)

**Cheshire and Mersey:** Gina Haddock (Warrington)

Any objections to any nominations please let me know but in lieu of any objections, the nominated Deputy Chairs will begin their roles ASAP.

#### 6. Terms of reference

We will share a draft of these with the minutes. If anyone has any comments or things they would like to see in the terms of reference, please reply to [lucy.allton@mft.nhs.uk](mailto:lucy.allton@mft.nhs.uk).

## **7. Education Update**

### **Link Nurse Day**

17th July Face to face only at Engine Rooms Warrington 10am – 4pm. Sub group meeting followed by lunch and an afternoon of education and networking for sub group members – save the date and book study leave now! The event will be free for sub group members as a thank you for your hard work and commitment to the group.

Mica will need numbers and any dietary requirements a few weeks before – follow up email to be sent.

HDU Education: Running 3 x days this year, Intro and Advanced will be the same as last year but both will have a pre-read element online with a quiz to test knowledge (not a test!) that needs to be done prior. Also adding a Specialist day in September with a 5 year rolling topic base to provide ongoing education.

Dates:

Intro 1<sup>st</sup> May <http://tinyurl.com/nwtsintro24>

Advanced 12<sup>th</sup> June <http://tinyurl.com/nwtsadv24>

Specialist 18<sup>th</sup> September <http://tinyurl.com/nwtsspec24>

Booking will be 3 nurses per hospital across ward/ED. Each link to nominate 3 names and we will send booking links to those successful. If you have more than 3 to nominate, let Mica know. Each hospital guaranteed 3 places but if we have spare places, we will offer to waiting list nominees.

Please send me your nominations on the links above. There is also a poster attached if you want to display in your departments but please don't print the page with the links!

Deadline for nominations Monday 5<sup>th</sup> Feb

The nominees will then have 2 weeks to book their place via Eventbrite, the deadline for this will be Monday 19<sup>th</sup> Feb.

## **8. Education Section**

Mica delivered a case presentation on a patient with a pneumomediastinum and the immediate management required.

## **9. Future Meeting date & Education Plans**

**Dates for 2024:**

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January** (Virtual only)

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April** (Virtual only)

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July** (Face to Face)

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October** (Virtual only)

## **10. AOB**

We had discussion of NIV for older children listed for AOB but discussed this during the updates from each region.

Note: There is ongoing work by the Network by Anna Parry to produce a document detailing how to set up the Hamilton T1 for non-invasive ventilation with modes comparable to the Sipap.

Ventilators mentioned in use that are working well currently are the WILAmed and the Fabian.

We also discussed the consumables that are used at NWTS for NIV on transfer. We use the Philips Respironics masks which are scuba style face masks available in XXS, XS and S. We then use the nose/mouth full face masks for older children/teenagers. We will send the order codes for these.

We also discussed the possibility of medical education for NIV. It was felt that it may be more appropriate for junior doctors to be taught about establishing on NIV from people other than the ward nurses who know how to physically set up the machine. Lucy will take this to the oversight board meeting in February and feedback the results from this.